

**THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY**

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**Study and Collection of**

**COINS AND MEDALS**

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**TRANSACTIONS OF SOCIETY**

**(AND INDEX)**

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(Prepared by Mr. W. D. Ferguson.)

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THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.THIRTYFIRST MEETING - 27.6.1936.

"THE IDENTIFICATION AND VALUE OF COINS" and "The Wyon Family" were the subjects of two short papers read before the thirtyfirst meeting of the Society held at the Turnbull Library on 27th June, 1936. Sir James Elliott, President, occupied the chair.

BANK NOTE AND COIN DESIGNS: A letter was received from the Hon. Mr. Nash, Minister of Finance, intimating that before any changes were made in the designs of bank notes or coins, (which was not immediately contemplated,) the N.Z. Numismatic Society would be given an opportunity to express its views.

BINDING OF REPORTS: The Hon. Secretary reported that the cost of binding reports of the Society covering five years would be from 3s.6d. to 4s.6d. for stiff cardboard covers, and 8s.6d. to 9s.6d. for full cloth. Some new members desired to obtain back copies of reports, and any members who could spare early reports were asked to send them to the Hon. Secretary for issue to new members who desired to complete their records for binding.

Mr. A. R. McLean, Mt. Pleasant, Porangahau, was elected a new member.

Dealing with "THE IDENTIFICATION AND VALUATION OF COINS" Mr. H. R. Ford said, the Society was primarily concerned with the study and identification of coins collected and as only the favoured few would ever be able to visit the sites of ancient civilizations and unearth or obtain ancient treasures for themselves, members had to purchase coins in the world's markets and for that reason coin values and the identification of the genuine from the spurious were of special interest to them.

Numismatists were frequently shown alleged golden guineas by people unaware that metal card counters - imitations of a Spade Guinea of George III - have been in existence for sixty or seventy years, having the legend "In memory of the Good Old Days, 1797" struck on the reverse. No master of the Royal Mint would put such a statement on a current coin of the realm, Guineas being current coin in 1797. That variation of the genuine legend was used to prevent the manufacturers from being indicted for manufacturing and issuing spurious coins. In 1797 what "Good old days" would that legend have referred to -- The days of "Bluff King Hal", or of William the Conqueror? A genuine Spado Guinea bears the style and title of His Majesty King George III on the reverse. The brass "Spado Guinea" card counters were sold throughout the British Empire at from 7/6d to 10/- per gross box.

Mr. Ford also stated that a canard had been persistently circulated in Wellington that a fictitious value had been placed on the 1914 bronze pennies of Great Britain due to their supposedly high gold content because of the fiction that either a gold ingot or a crucible of gold had fallen into the pot of molten bronze at the Royal Mint and those pennies were being called in to help to recover the lost gold!

A more fantastic and ridiculous story of the Royal Mint could hardly be imagined, it being a highly-organised factory and those conversant with factory organisation, especially where precious metals were dealt with knew that the raw materials were carefully checked and that the scissel cuttings, the floor sweepings, the residue from the wash-hands were carefully treated to recover the utmost particle of gold and silver. It was unthinkable that such a mishap could occur at the Royal Mint, as the Gold and Silver were melted in a separate department from the bronze.

One story was that the 1914 bronze penny was worth over £7! A bronze in mint state weighs six-twentieths of an ounce and if it were of solid gold throughout it would only be worth £2 today, but would be much thinner owing to the greater atomic weight of gold.

The Bank of England issued to the Mint gold in bars of 500 ozs. and silver in bars of 400 ozs, and before issue these were weighed on the Great Balance, the most sensitive balance in the World, costing £2,000. The weight of a postage

stamp would make the pointer move six inches on the scale. Commencing with so much accuracy the Mint followed up its checks on the gold and silver until they were produced as finished coins and all the precious metals were accounted for.

Bronze pennies were struck in millions every year from 1860 onwards not only for currency, but also to operate the thousands of gas meters and slot vending machines throughout Great Britain.

The only copper coins of Great Britain between 1700 and today that were worth something more than face value were the "cartwheel" penny and two-penny pieces of George III, 1797, and were obtainable in London for 2/- to 5/- according to condition.

No collector in his sane senses would give £7 to £9 for a copper penny of 1860 or a bronze penny of 1914, no matter how scarce they might be, when a silver Tetradrachm of Ptolemy I of Egypt with one of the most beautifully executed portraits of a ruler who lived 2,200 years ago could be purchased in London to-day for 15/-. The whole story of the mishap at the Royal Mint could be dismissed as being unworthy of any serious thought.

Mr. M. Hornblow referred to another statement, often made and published, that 1914 pennies were worth £7.19.6, and said that it was only necessary to divide 1914 by 12 and 20 to explode that theory, which had its origin in a practical joke and had since gained wide "currency".

Mr. A. Bland said that the coiffure in the design of the young head of Queen Victoria resembled an elephant, if the features were covered, and this was said to be emblematic of India.

On the motion of Sir James Elliott, seconded by Mr. J. G. Tandy, Mr. H. R. Ford was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his most interesting and topical paper.

The history of the Great Wyon family which had, for over 200 years, provided England with a distinguished line of goldsmiths, medallists, and die engravers was dealt with by Mr. Frederick Wyon Simms, a descendant of the Wyon family. The history unfolded showed that the family had for generations almost inherited positions on the staff of the Royal Mint, and that they had left behind them examples of their work that would live as memorials to masters of the art. The family was of German origin, George Wyon being the first to visit England in 1714 as one of the suite of George I to whose person he was attached as Chief Goldsmith.

One remarkable feature was the early age at which successive generations of Wyons distinguished themselves and were appointed to positions of responsibility at the Mint. At the age of 23 Thos. Wyon, Junr., had been appointed Chief Engraver to the Mint, carrying out the great recoinage of 1816. At 21 William Wyon had been honoured for his skill in medallist portraiture and appointed Assistant Engraver; at 25, L.C. Wyon, in 1851, succeeded his father as Chief Engraver, and at 35 had carried out the great 1861 recoinage. The New Zealand Maori War medal was the work of J.S. and A.B. Wyon. The head of Queen Victoria on the penny black stamp of 1840 was taken from a Wyon medal design.

Pistrucci, the designer of the famous St. George and the Dragon design on the sovereigns and crown pieces of England, succeeded a Wyon as Chief Engraver at 33 years of age and was himself succeeded by another Wyon. Pistrucci was born at Rome in 1784 and at 16 he had acquired such proficiency in the art of gem and cameo cutting that his works were often disposed of by dealers in antiques. There were Wyons still living who carried on the traditional association with the medallist's, the engraver's and the sculptor's art of England.

Mr. Wyon Simm was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his address.

CORONATION SET OF COINS OF KING EDWARD VIII: Mr. G.C. Sherwood said that he assumed that the first set of British coins of King Edward VIII would be a coronation set, and he asked whether any coronation sets of New Zealand coins would be issued. The Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. Sutherland, undertook to consult with the Treasury in regard thereto. Advices from American sources indicated



that there had been a delay in issuing the new British coinage and he read the following paragraph from "The Reader's Digest" June 1936, on the subject:-

"There is a tradition that successive British rulers face in opposite directions on the coins of the realm. Queen Victoria faced left, King Edward VII right, King George V left. The new Edward, then, should face right, thus showing his right profile. But he doesn't want to. He parts his hair on the left and prefers the left view. This, we have been informed has delayed the new coinage. When they told His Majesty that, by not facing about, he was breaking an immemorial tradition, he replied, "Why shouldn't I?" It is a good answer."

It was decided to discuss the proposed N.Z. Centennial Coins and Medals at next meeting.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,

Hon. Secretary.

MEETING, MONDAY NEXT.

The next meeting will be held at the Turnbull Library, Bowen Street, Wellington, at 8.0 p.m. on

MONDAY NEXT, 31st AUGUST, 1936.

when short papers will be read as follows:-

"Historical References on coins of the Roman Empire"

by

Archdeacon G. H. Gavin, F.R.N.S., (Vice President), New Plymouth,

and

"Indian Coins" and "The Sikks"

by

Mr. A. Quinnell, Wellington.

At the commencement of the meeting a discussion will take place regarding the proposed N.Z. Centennial coins and medals.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,

Hon. Secretary.

Report of 32nd Meeting - 31st August, 1936.

The proposed CENTENNIAL COINS AND MEDALS, 1940; "HISTORICAL REFERENCES ON COINS OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE" and "INDIAN COINS" were the main subjects discussed at the 32nd meeting of the New Zealand Numismatic Society held on 31st August, 1936. Sir James Elliott, President, occupied the chair. There was a good attendance of members.

Reports of the Australian Numismatic Society, various coin catalogues, and numismatic literature were tabled for the inspection of members. A report was received from Sir John Hanham, who represented the Society at the WORLD NUMISMATIC CONGRESS in London. In the course of an interesting review, a resume of which was given to the meeting, Sir John Hanham stated that he would forward a printed report of the proceedings in due course. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to him for his representation of New Zealand at the Congress. It is hoped to arrange for Mr. Willi Fels to give his impressions also, when he returns to the Dominion.

NEW MEMBERS (5) were elected as follows: Mr. Owen C. Fleming, 30, Fernhill Street, Hurlstone Park, Sydney (English and Colonial); Mr. Harry C. Renkin, 14, Sargood Street, Toorak, Victoria (Medals relating to aeronautics), and Messrs. C. Brandt (general), F. Wyon Simms, (medals) and A. Gedy (medals and military badges), Wellington. To date, eleven members have taken advantage of the COMPOSITE LIFE SUBSCRIPTION PROPOSAL. Three members were struck off the roll as unfinancial or having left without address. A DONATION of £1.1.0 was received from Mr. John Robertson, Vice-President, Invercargill, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to him.

Moved by Mr. H.R. Ford, seconded by Mr. R. Cooper "That the Trustees of the Savings Bank Account No. 608213 be altered from Messrs. S.P. Ward and R. Cooper to Messrs. A. Sutherland, H.S., and Mr. R. Cooper, H.T. Agreed to. Moved by Mr. A. Sutherland and seconded by Mr. R. Cooper, "That a composite subscription Trust Account be opened within the main account of the Society, to which Trust Account all Composite Subscriptions be credited. (2) That the Society grant the sum of £10 from its accumulated funds for the purposes of establishing the Composite Subscription Trust Account. (3) That no money be withdrawn from the special Trust Account without the consent of the Council." Agreed to.

EXHIBITS: A set of the New Guinea silver coins 1935 - 1s., 6d. and 3d. silver and holed in centre, were exhibited by Mr. H.G. Williams, Dunedin. A series of Indian and British Colonial coins was exhibited by Mr. M. Hornblow.

In the last report covering the 31st meeting of the Society the date was erroneously given as 27th June, 1936, instead of 27th July, 1936.

CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE COINS AND MEDALS: It was decided to recommend for the consideration of the Government that a commemorative half-crown be issued at face value to commemorate the centennial of New Zealand in 1940. The President, Sir James Elliott, said that the Annual Report crystallised the views of the Society in regard to coins versus medals for modern commemorative purposes. It was desirable that this important event in the history of the country should be fittingly commemorated, and there was nothing better than coins which were durable and illustrative keys to history; they had a wider geographical distribution than statuary, and throughout the centuries had remained the best and most convenient form of commemorating historical events. Mr. Allan Sutherland advanced the view that a commemorative half-crown, issued at face value, would be a popular means of commemorating the centennial; such coins would flow as currency and everyone would share in the commemoration, and be enabled to retain specimens as permanent mementoes of the event. If a decimal system of coinage were adopted, as had been suggested for 1940, the proposal would be subject to review. Mr. A. Quinnell, Miss U. Tewesley, and Mr. H. G. Williams advocated the issue of a complete series of new designs for the Centennial year. Mr. H. G. Mayer favoured the issue of a commemorative half-crown, with, perhaps, a medal for limited circulation. The cost of new dies for a complete series of new designs would be considerable, and the present designs had not been in use long enough to warrant a complete change. Sir James Elliott said that the New Zealand coin designs had been carefully chosen as emblematical of New Zealand and he assumed that they would long remain in use, with, perhaps, minor alterations.

Questions were asked regarding coronation sets for New Zealand, and it was explained that the Treasury had received no advice in that connection from England and therefore it was likely that the head of the new King would appear on New Zealand coins only as fresh supplies were required. Press reports indicated that a complete series of new reverse designs had been prepared by G. Kruger Gray for the Imperial Coronation set, whilst H. Paget and P. Metcalfe had prepared the uncrowned and crowned effigy of His Majesty King Edward VIII to appear on all new Imperial and Dominion issues. Mr. C. Berry asked when New Zealand pennies and half-pennies would be issued to replace the Imperial bronze coins in use, and to complete the New Zealand series. It was explained that the Society had made no definite representations on the subject. Some members had refrained from pressing for any change because in the event of the decimal system of coinage being adopted, such as the Crown-cent scheme, the penny and the half-penny would be the only coins abolished, to be replaced by a cent, whilst all the silver coins now circulating could be fitted into the decimal system (Crown, 100 cents; Half-crown, 50 cents; Florin, 40 cents; Shilling, 20 cents; Sixpence, 10 cents; and Threepence, 5 cents). It was agreed that the matter would have to be settled before the centennial year.

Mr. Sutherland said that some New Zealand historians had expressed the view that Governor Hobson should be commemorated in some enduring way, preferably on a medal similar to the Society's attractive Waitangi-Bledisloe Medal, 1935. He explained that the bust of Hobson could not be shown on a coin, as it was not usual to have two heads on a coin, and therefore the Waitangi-Hobson Medal proposal, additional to the commemorative coin, seemed an attractive one. He suggested the matter might be decided by a committee representative of the Centennial Committee, the Waitangi Trust Board, the New Zealand Numismatic Society, and the Government. Sir James Elliott considered that the medal proposal should be held over meantime, and subsequently it was decided to make a definite recommendation to the Government that a commemorative half-crown be issued at face value and that the Society offer its co-operation in respect of any further coins or medals decided upon by the Government to mark the Centennial of New Zealand in 1940.

"HISTORICAL REFERENCES ON COINS OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE" was the subject of a short paper read on behalf of Archdeacon G.H.Gavin, F.R.N.S., New Plymouth. He said that the importance of numismatics in the study of history was being increasingly recognised by the wide use of illustrations of ancient coins to adorn standard works on history. The coinage of the Roman Empire from its beginning to the days of Romulus Augustulus, stretching over a period of four centuries, was issued by no less than 200 rulers. The obverse portraits presented faithful likenesses, particularly in the days of Nero and Trajan, but deteriorated in the later Empire. The reverse designs faithfully reflected political, religious and social history of the Roman world; indeed, the designs resembled a series of official archives and were of value to the historical student in corroborating facts already recorded by historians, and in giving additional information enabling historical science to fill up gaps. For example, Magnia Urbica, consort of Carinus, was known only by her coins and she did not otherwise appear on the pages of history. Some coin designs contained statements contrary to known fact due largely to undue optimism of short-lived rulers.

Chronological sequence was most important in drawing historical conclusions from coins. In Cohen's work on Roman Coins, the types were arranged alphabetically, thus facilitating cataloguing, but confusing the chain of history. The work, "The Roman Imperial Coinage" by Mattingly and Sydenham, and contributed to by Mr. Percy Webb, was destined probably to supersede Cohen's work as the standard authority, for the reason that it rested on a chronological basis.

About one-third of the coins of the Roman Empire reflected Imperial history and referred to the Emperor, his family, Rome and other cities, the provinces, votive offerings, games, sacrifices, public monuments and events, and practically to everything not grouped under gods and goddesses and personifications. Coin designs recorded that Caesar had attained the purple and commemorated such events as the adoption of a successor, setting out on a campaign or returning victorious. The Emperor was often shown in military uniform. Nero was shown in a toga, accompanied by staff officers, haranguing the troops. On special occasions the Emperor presented food and money to the populace, and this practice is commemorated in coin designs commencing with Nero. Other Eastern Emperors were represented on coins. Augustus placed Julia on his coins; Tiberius, Livia; Caligula, his three sisters; Nero, Agrippina; Trajan, Plotina; and so on through a long line of noble women. The permanent wave was not new for it appeared throughout this series. Posthumous coins were sometimes minted by an Emperor in memory of his predecessor as an act of reverence before issuing his own coinage. Caligula thus commemorated

Augustus, Trajan his father, and Hadrian even his mother-in-law. Coins issued by authority of the Roman Senate bore the letters "S.C.". Coins issued to pay troops usually bore an eagle between two military standards with the symbol of each legion, such as Neptune, the eagle, lion, stork, wolf, wild boar. Administrative innovations, games and extraordinary happenings, all left their mark upon Roman coins, such as "Aegypto Capta" and "Judaea Capta." Galba records the remission of taxes, and Nerva his lightening of taxes on Jews. In the reign of Philip I, 247 A.D. fell the 1000th anniversary of the foundation of Rome (753 B.C.). One coin possessed by Archdeacon Gavin showed an elk standing to r. with Roman figure V in exergue, indicating that this was the fifth curious animal brought to Rome to be hunted in the amphitheatre on a Roman holiday. Another showed the wolf suckling the twins, Romulus and Remus. Interesting public monuments were shown on coinages of the Republic and Empire, such as temples, aqueducts, Trajan's column, the circus, the baths, the Coliseum, triumphal arches. There was a wealth of divinities and allegorical personifications, and these made the coins very human records. Under Constantine, the pagan Spes became the Christian Hope symbolised by the labarum with the sacred monogram - the Chi rho of Christ.

In moving a vote of thanks, Sir James Elliott said that the outstanding feature of Roman coins was their historical value. Unlike the Greeks, whose coins were strikingly beautiful, Roman coins had little artistic merit, but presented a fine portrait gallery of Roman Emperors and a record of contemporary events. Indeed, historians were more familiar with the lineaments of the rulers of ancient Rome than of many rulers in comparatively recent British history. To this day tourists in Rome were often pressed to buy reputedly ancient Roman coins, many of which, he feared, were made in Birmingham. Archdeacon Gavin was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his interesting paper.

In a paper on "INDIAN COINS" Mr. A. Quinnell said that the earliest Indian punch-marked coins dated from about 500 B.C., or about 200 years after the issue of the first staters of Greece. Caravans brought the idea of coins to India. When Alexander the Great reached India he found a high state of civilization. The Macedonians and Greeks were better fighting men but were inferior in the refinements. Following the death of Alexander, to whom the Indian princes gave nominal allegiance only, there was a period of anarchy. Taxiles ruled from Babylon towards the Indus, but curiously it was not Taxiles but Seleucus who lived in Indian history. Mr. Quinnell described the prodigious number of elephants, men, and war chariots used by Seleucus and Chandragupta in battle, and in showing how early connections with Greece and Rome were kept up, described a request from an Indian prince for "some baskets of dried figs, wine and a Greek sophist." Knowledge of India of the next succeeding periods came, curiously enough, from Chinese State records. From coin designs, however, the reigns of twenty-seven Kings of the Western Kshatrapas of Malava and Gujerat from 119 A.D. to 388 were fixed, also of the Guptas who overwhelmed them - 13 Kings to 510 A.D. - were similar known. Speaking generally, the coins of India bore inscriptions first in Greek, then Sanscrit, Arabic and then Persian. The Greek lost its meaning about 200 A.D. Foreign coinage had currency - Persian and Athenian. The earliest punch-marked copper coins bore Indian characters. In the designs the Indian Moneyer substituted the Indian eagle for the Athenian owl. Bactrian influence was the most powerful on the designers. As the Greek influence declined the Attic silver standard gave way to the Persian. About 10 A.D. Hooemo Kadphises extended the Kushana power and coins of Roman gold appeared bearing the deities of the Greeks - the Avesta, the Vedas and Buddha - a somewhat incongruous mixture. Passing reference was made to the coins of the Andhras, in Southern India, of the White Huns who conquered the Kushanas, of the Kashmiri, the Shahi coins, the Pandya (fish type), the Cola coins with the emblem of the tiger, the boar coins of Chalukya and the Vijayanagar, which retained the old character long after the Mohammedan Conquest. The Pathan Kings of Delhi issued a gold mohur and a silver rupee bearing the profession of Islam on the one side and the titles of the King on the other. The famous Shah, Akbar, who fought his way to the Delhi throne, issued square shaped gold and silver coins, and his son, Johanjir, issued Zodiacal Mohurs and rupees, also the astonishing bacchanalian Mohurs, with the King holding a wine cup. Queen Nur Johan issued beautiful coins, and Aurangzib issued coins of the modern style.

Mr. Quinnell exhibited several plates illustrative of early Indian rulers, and showed the Suttlej Campaign medal of the Second Sikh War (belonging to his grandfather). Mr. Quinnell was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his most interesting paper, which was the first given on Indian coins.

14, Clifton Terrace,  
WELLINGTON, N.Z., C.1.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,

Hon. Secretary.

REPORT of 33rd MEETING -- 28th SEPTEMBER, 1936.

"DECIMAL COINAGE", "THE ARMORIAL BEARINGS OF NEW ZEALAND" and "NEW ZEALAND MEDALS" were the main subjects dealt with at the 33rd meeting of the Society held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on 28th September (Dominion Day). Sir James Elliott, President, occupied the chair.

NEW MEMBERS were elected as follows: Mr. L.R. Harris, Bank of New South Wales, Wellington (British and Colonial) and Mr. J.K. de Rouffignac, 2 Pickering Terrace, Kaiwarawara (British and Colonial Coins and Medals).

The Hon. Secretary reported that Mr. J.A. Bland, Hon. Lanternist, had left for a two years' tour abroad and before leaving had been farewelled by six learned Societies in Wellington, including the N.Z. Numismatic Society, which was represented by the President, Sir James Elliott, and himself.

FIVE-SHILLING NOTES. A letter was received from Mr. H.G. Williams, Dunedin, relative to the proposal to issue five-shilling notes in Australia. Mr. Williams stated, inter alia, that five-shilling notes might with advantage be adopted in New Zealand. Five-shilling notes would prevent the weighing down and wearing out of pockets with heavy silver coins. One reason why crown-pieces were not popular was that they were too heavy, and to overcome that it had been suggested that square five-shilling pieces, with corners rounded and about the size of half-a-crown, would provide a light coin of handy value, readily recognised in the dark. Similar coin shapes had been used in Ceylon. The cost of printing five-shilling notes would be less than minting crown-pieces and the Government would get greater profit. The function of coins and bank notes was to provide convenient forms of exchange, and the five-shilling note would contribute materially towards that end.

THE ARMORIAL BEARINGS OF NEW ZEALAND were briefly discussed by Mr. Allan Sutherland, F.R.N.S., who described the competitive method of securing the design, and the merits and demerits of the design adopted as the symbol of a new country. The designer was the late Mr. J. McDonald, Wellington, and the prize granted was £10. The Armorial Bearings were first published in the Year Book of 1911. With the 1926 change in nationality status of New Zealand, he contended that wider use should be made of the Dominion Armorial Bearings, and that the Royal Arms should be reserved mainly for the use of the Vice-Regal representative in New Zealand and those connected with the Imperial Government. The Dominion Bearings should be the supreme badge of the Government of New Zealand and some uniform procedure should be adopted to ensure that the Dominion Bearings were used on Government buildings and on Government stationery instead of leaving the matter to local choice or custom. Certainly the design should be smartened up, and the words "New Zealand" should be included in the scroll as originally approved. In a discussion that followed, the Bearings were rather severely criticised by the President, Sir James Elliott, and others, who contended that a more representative and attractive design could have been adopted as the supreme symbol of New Zealand.

"NEW ZEALAND MEDALS" were briefly but <sup>interestingly</sup> ~~interestingly~~ dealt with by Mr. Robert Cooper. Commencing with the Captain Cook medals (bearing portrait of George III on obverse and sailing vessels "Resolution" and "Adventure" on reverse) which were distributed to the Maoris by that explorer, Mr. Cooper then made passing reference to the Maori War personal war decorations - the Military Medal and the New Zealand Cross and went on to discuss the outstanding commemorative and scientific award medals issued in New Zealand to-day.

The Hutton medal (for research in zoology, botany and geology), the Hector Medal, the Ulrich Medal (for scientific research School of Mines), the Summer-time Sidey Medal (research in radiation), the Bledisloe-Waitangi Medal, and other medals were discussed and described. The 50th anniversary of the Colony was commemorated by a medal depicting sailing vessels in the Wellington Harbour, but few specimens were known. Dominion Day and Coronation Days were also marked by medals of base metal issued to school children. The quality of such medals was not in keeping with the occasions they sought to commemorate.

In discussing portraiture on medals, Sir James Elliott commented on the very good likeness captured on the Bledisloe-Waitangi medal, the dies of which were hand-sunk locally, as compared with the less faithful likeness of the late Sir Thomas Sidey mechanically prepared by a master of the art in the Homeland.

In a paper on DECIMAL COINAGE, Mr. Allan Sutherland, F.R.N.S., said that the advantages of a decimal system of coinage, and money of account, in comparison with the fractional system of £.s.d. were so overwhelming that one was almost inclined to apologise for seeking to establish that fact. Many people had given such little thought to the matter, having grown up with the present cumbersome system, that it was necessary to state the salient advantages of the decimal system in order that they might join those who were convinced that the only question to be considered was the date on which that desirable reform should be introduced in New Zealand. With the return to prosperity many people contended that there was justification for an immediate decision, and in view of the fact that two-years' notice of change-over was usual, they considered that this notice should be given in 1938 (one year from now) so that the change to decimal coinage could become effective in New Zealand in 1940, the Centennial year.

In discussing the report of the Coinage Committee of 1933 on the subject, together with reports of an inter-Empire movement (headed by Sir Isidore Salmon, M.P., (U.K.) to complete the decimalisation of British Empire currencies, the Editor of "The Accountants' Journal", in an able review, had recently urged accountants, actuaries, and business men to do their part in advocating the change to a SIMPLIFIED FORM OF ACCOUNTING, but the Editor of that journal considered that the change could hardly be brought about without Australia and England coming into line. Mr. Sutherland said that although concerted Empire action was most desirable, he would endeavour to show that New Zealand could adopt a decimal system of coinage, just as Canada and eighteen other countries or protectorates within the Empire had already done without disrupting commercial ties with the United Kingdom, and with material advantages to internal business efficiency, not to mention a closer attachment to the decimal coinage bloc which encircled the whole world, with the exception of the United Kingdom. Even China had recently adopted a decimal system of coinage and was now not so backward as Great Britain in the basis of her coinage structure.

In collecting and studying coins, numismatists were able to compare forms of currency used and discarded in all parts of the world, and any representative coin cabinet was an object lesson on THE SPREAD OF DECIMAL COINAGE throughout the world. The British fractional system had been evolved in times vastly different from the present, and had practically outlived its usefulness in these times of monetary interdependence. The system was largely based on tradition, and not on utility, which was the guiding factor in the business machinery and methods today.

As was well known, a decimal system of coinage was any currency in which the denominations or coins were arranged in multiples or submultiples of ten, with reference to a standard unit. If the standard unit be 1 (one), the higher coins (or notes) would be 10, 100, 1,000, etc., and the lower coins would be .1, .01, .001, etc. For convenience, intermediate denominations could be adopted. The New Zealand bank-note structure was on a decimal basis, there being no notes for £3, £6, etc.

Since 1800 no less than 30 countries, with a population today of 300,000,000, had voluntarily adopted the METRIC SYSTEM OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES, as well as coinage. That wonderful sociological phenomenon was an impressive one, having been effected after discarding unrelated national systems, and a change to the decimal system of coinage alone in Great Britain and New Zealand was of small importance in comparison with such a change. Greater simplicity and a freer flow of international commerce and communications had been the deciding factors, and after a century there had been no suggestion of a return to local or national standards. It was estimated that 75 per cent of the English-speaking peoples used the decimal system, and that 85 per cent of British business was done with countries using a decimal system. A decimal system of coinage in New Zealand would facilitate foreign exchange conversion calculations. One authority claimed that the ideal was that the whole world should buy from the same price-list, but failing the realization of that ideal, which was a long way off, the decimal system offered a rational and uniform system understood in most parts of the world.

Most educationists were in favour of a decimal system of coinage, being convinced that hours of needless toil could be saved during school life that could be more profitably devoted to other subjects. At one time decimal coinage tables were included in New Zealand school arithmetic books, and in view of the pressure for reform, it would seem desirable to restore this method of acquainting children with the coinage structures of other parts of the world. In a decimalised currency CALCULATIONS WERE EXTREMELY SIMPLE. Casting up was simple addition all

through, and there was no division by four, twelve and twenty to lead to wrong carry-forwards and remainders. To some extent this system was inherited from the Romans. It was not English, but we alone retained it. All amounts normally expressed in percentages, such as interest, dividends, discounts, commissions, could be more readily ascertained under a decimal system of coinage.

That there was a definite **COMMERCIAL DEMAND FROM THE BRITISH COMMERCIAL COMMUNITY** for an immediate change to decimal coinage for the whole Empire was evidenced by the fact that at the last Congress of the Federation of Chambers of Commerce of the British Empire, the forerunner of the Congress now being held, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"That whereas the use of decimal coinage promotes commercial efficiency and simplifies international exchange, and whereas the various national monetary units in all foreign countries and also in several parts of the British Empire are now divided on the decimal system, it is desirable that the decimalisation of the pound sterling be completed without delay."

The British Institute of Bankers, too, during the war period, welcomed the idea of a decimal coinage, but hoped that the change would be delayed until peace time, to which Reginald Buckley, an English authority, replied:

"Any such change in the coinage system would seem likely to cause less confusion now, when the whole subject of prices and international relations are in the melting-pot, than at a later date, when each nation will be concerned with developing its trades and printing its revised price-lists and catalogues. We have seen above that some authorities favour postponement, but once the house is in order there will be a general reluctance to pull up the currency carpet."

The history of decimal coinage proposals in the United Kingdom has been one of **APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE, BUT POSTPONEMENT**. The War and the depression having passed, it is presumed that the objection of the British Institute of Bankers has passed with them.

In New Zealand there was a wide cross-section of informed public opinion in favour of a change, and that was evidenced by the signatories to a request to the Parliamentary Monetary Committee that any change being recommended in the monetary system should be based on the decimal notation. The signatories included big business men, economists, university professors, a banking representative, accountants, a member of the staff of the Controller and Auditor-General, an ex-Government Statistician, the Controller of Customs, Parliamentary Secretaries, and numismatists.

There were several standard decimal coinage systems worthy of consideration, notably the **POUND-MIL SYSTEM** (£1 equal to 1,000 mils, instead of 960 farthings), the **POUND-PENCE SYSTEM** (£1 equal to 200 pence, with the shilling divided into ten pence - the Allcock scheme - and the **CROWN-CENT SCHEME** advocated before the New Zealand Coinage Committee (Crown of 5s. equal to 100 cents; 2s.6d equal to 50 cents; 2s., 40 cents; 1s., 20 cents; 6d., 10 cents; 3d., 5 cents, and a new one-cent coin in place of the penny and half-penny). This system would enable all the silver coins in circulation to be fitted exactly into a decimal system. The £1-mil scheme involved calculations to three decimal places as against the two decimal places for the other schemes, which were largely favoured by accountants for that reason.

The finer gradations with small decimal coins tended to keep small-priced articles cheap by enabling increases to be expressed in coins of lower value than the penny or halfpenny. In adding sales-tax on small-priced articles a smaller low-unit would be preferable. With a **MORE SENSITIVE RANGE OF DENOMINATIONS OF COINS**, percentage increases or decreases would present little difficulty. In modern merchandising, the penny low unit was too high. He quoted a grocer who stated that when sugar was increased by 10s. per ton, the rise was too small to pass on, and consequently he had to carry the increase or put on a price per pound more than he was entitled to, showing that the present coinage system was unable to meet price fluctuations in a scientific manner. Similarly, prices for wool, rabbit-skins, meat, butter and cheese (our principal exports) were often expressed in eighths, sixteenths and other **AWKWARD FRACTIONS**, when they could be expressed more simply and exactly under a decimal system which would allow of any grade of fineness in value being extended beyond the decimal point. Obviously the decimal system was the most scientific measure of value, and it was used by most of our competitors in the world's markets.

In 1933, the New Zealand Government Coinage Committee, of which he was a member, had made a superficial examination of decimal coinage only, and did not call evidence, mainly for the reason that coin-smuggling to save exchange had depleted coin supplies so seriously as to create an urgent need for silver coins of a New Zealand design without waiting for the decimal system which, if recommended, would have required a period of NOTICE OF CHANGE-OVER of about two years.

The claim that New Zealand should wait until Australia and the United Kingdom adopted a decimal system of coinage was not necessarily sound, because the pound sterling was now at a different level from the New Zealand and Australian pounds, and even under a decimal system that disparity would continue. If Empire currencies were rigidly tied at par, there would be logic in awaiting a change to decimal coinage in England, but in the face of economic nationalism, even within the Empire, there seemed no prospect of an Empire fixed monetary standard. The retention of the VARIABLE TERM "POUND" outside of the United Kingdom was of doubtful value, inasmuch as that term applied to the Australian, South African, New Zealand, and English pounds, which were at different levels. Dr. Neale, of the Auckland Chamber of Commerce, suggested that in order to avoid confusion from this circumstance, a change in names would be helpful. At different times "Kiwi" (N.Z.), "Kangaroo" (Australia), and "Rand" (South Africa), had been suggested by economists as distinctive local terms. The term "pound" as a measure of weight, from which the term "Pound" in value was derived, added to the confusion. Rather than overwork the term "pound", a new term should be adopted.

A decimal system of coinage was easily understood by visitors to decimalist countries. All that was necessary was to find the English, or New Zealand, equivalent of the foreign unit, whether it be in francs or crowns, or dollars, and immediately DIVISIONS, ADDITIONS AND MULTIPLICATIONS WERE SWIFTLY CALCULATED, whereas in the reverse process those not fractionally-minded complained of their difficulty in mastering "the archaic English coinage." The dollar or crown value was the most popular standard, and only in England and Egypt were the units of value so high.

The decimalisation of weights and measures must also be considered in the future, and this question might well exercise the attention of the Standards Institute of New Zealand when it adopts STANDARDS conforming to the interlocking requirements of international trade. A WORLD METRIC BASIS OF MEASURES had been adopted in the electrical industry, and to some extent in connection with chemistry, thus giving the world ready access to new inventions or discoveries, and was a forerunner of the inevitable world standardisation, within limits, of weights, measures and values, and even language. That might be far off, but the metrically divided radio dial would do more than anything else to bring this about.

The commercial efficiency of decimal coinage was unquestioned and for most people it was only a question as to when the reform should be introduced. Obviously, the longer the change was delayed the greater would be the difficulty. If early British statesmen had been less insular when practically the rest of the world adopted the metric system, they would have SAVED POSTERITY MUCH LABOUR, TIME AND MONEY. If the present-day statesmen of the United Kingdom were not prepared to act on the advice of business Parliaments, such as the Federation of Chambers of Commerce of the British Empire, and leading opinion throughout the Empire, then it was for our own statesmen to tackle the question, and not to saddle posterity WITH AN ARCHAIC SYSTEM that had survived mainly on account of the immediate inconvenience that would be caused to those who had the power of effecting the change. With the return to times of prosperity, and with the approach of the Centennial year, the time seemed opportune for a full investigation to determine when the decimal system of coinage should be adopted in New Zealand.

The evening concluded with a social hour and supper.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,  
Hon. Secretary.

Reminder:

MEETING TONIGHT - MONDAY, 19th SEPTEMBER:  
"Designing of Coins" - Mr. P. Watts Rule, Timaru.



NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.REPORT of 34th MEETING - 19th OCTOBER, 1936.

"THE DESIGNING OF COINS," "SYMBOLS," and "A SHORT HISTORY OF MONEY" were the subjects of papers read at the 34th meeting of the N.Z.N.S., held on 19th October. Professor J. Rankine Brown (Vice-President) occupied the chair in the unavoidable absence of the President, Sir James Elliott.

**AUSTRALIAN COIN DESIGNS:** The Secretary reported that new designs were being prepared for the reverses of the Australian Commonwealth coins to be adopted next year coincident with the change to the head of the present Monarch, King Edward VIII. Pleasure was expressed that at last Australia was to have a representative series of coin designs.

**OBITUARY:** Advice was received (from Sir John Hanham, our Honorary Corresponding representative in England) of the passing of Mr. A.H. Baldwin, F.R.N.S., London, one of the original founders of the B.N.S., and a member of the N.Z., American and Indian Numismatic Societies, and of the American Numismatic Association. Born in Fairford (Glos.) 1858, Mr. Baldwin first started collecting Roman coins locally found in 1866. His interest developed in all fields and especially in English and Colonial medals and tokens and especially Australasian, in which he became a foremost authority. He catalogued many notable collections. He was a schoolmaster from 1881-1903, opened as a numismatist in London in 1903 and amassed a vast and encyclopaedic knowledge which was always at the service of any student. He died on 24th July, 1936, leaving a widow, three sons and a daughter. His death would be a great loss to every branch of numismatics. A motion of condolence was passed, to be conveyed to the relatives through his son, Mr. A.H.F. Baldwin, also a member of the N.Z.N.S.

An OLYMPIC CONGRESS BRONZE MEDAL, 3 inches in diameter, was exhibited by Mr. J. Heenan. Inscription "Internationaler Olympischer Kongress Berlin 1930" around a representation of a Greek temple incuse and on reverse five symbolic Olympic linked circles (linking five Continents) and inscribed "Citius Altius Fortius."

In a paper on "THE DESIGNING OF COINS" Mr. P. Watts Rule, F.N.Z.I.A. (Vice-President) said that the broad principles of good designs might be applied to everything that was conceived by the human brain and made by the human hand, whether it be a large building, a steamship, a wooden chair, a coin, or a medal. For thirty years, as an architect he had been endeavouring to learn some of the principles of design, which, briefly, were, correct proportion, fitness for the purpose (our modern "functionalism"), suitability of the design for the technical processes of manufacture, and, above all, that indefinable touch of human genius which could impart beauty to the slightest object. In mentioning "beauty" he knew that he was treading on dangerous ground, for who could define "beauty"? Certainly his conception of beauty would not appeal at all to the ultra-modern "surrealists." His ideal designers were the Greeks with their perfect sense of proportion and that touch of genius for making the slightest object beautiful. The idea persisted that the word "design" meant "putting on decoration", whereas what it really meant was knowing how much of it to take away. The true designer knew where to begin and where to stop. Sometimes no embellishment was needed because the object to be designed was perfectly and beautifully efficient without it.

Discussing the beauty of Greek art as reflected on Greek coins, Mr. Watts Rule quoted G.B. Rawlings as follows: "Greek coins are in almost every case faithful mirrors of contemporary art, and pass upwards from archaism until they attain most beautiful and exquisitely finished forms. It was about 400 B.C. that numismatic art reached the highest point of development it has ever seen, and the coin types of that time exhibit a wide range of examples of inspired designs and cunning execution. About a century later the glory of Greek art begins to fade, and the Greek coins share in the decline. As a body, however, they stand preeminent above all other coins, ancient, mediaeval, or modern." Dr. R.S. Poole, too, extolled the art interest of Greek coins, maintaining that "Greek coins are the grammar of Greek art. In them we may trace its gradual growth, the stern grandeur of the last days of archaism and the sudden outburst of full splendour, more marked in coins" than by sculpture. "Whilst the original sculpture of this age, in marble and bronze, might be contained within the walls of a single museum, the coin types may be counted by thousands. No restorer has touched them, nor are they late copies, like the Latin translations of Greek originals, which confuse the judge of statues. Small indeed they are, yet large in treatment and beautiful in material, whether it be rich gold or the softer-toned electrum, or cold silver, or bronze glorified by the unconscious colouring of the earth in which the coins have lain for centuries."

The precious-metal coins of ancient Greece did not come into general use. In modern coins, art in design was sacrificed in the interests of utility and durability, hence the raised protective rim and the inscribed edge. The commercial necessity for stacking coins in piles restricted the relief, a feature which made Greek coins so beautiful. It was unlikely that anything so lovely as the old Greek coins would ever again be designed. When one possessed a fine coin of the period of antiquity he possessed a true work of art from the hand of a contemporary sculptor, and so it was down through the centuries. One could not hope to possess - except visually - the Perseus of Benvenuto Cellini, but one could hope to possess a gold zecchino from one of the dies cut by Cellini's own hand, an exquisite work of art from every point of view. One might similarly find joy in possessing a silver testone of Sforza (1466-1476) designed by Leonardo da Vinci, one of the notable European coins. Mr. Watts Rule quoted passages from the memoirs of Cellini in preparing coin dies for Pope Clement VII, about 1530, showing the encouragement Cellini received from the Vatican, and the design of a golden doubloon bore testimony to this encouragement in the design depicting Christ naked with hands tied on obverse and on the reverse a Pope and an Emperor propping up a cross on the point of falling.

The gossiping recorder Pepys was a coin collector, and interesting extracts were quoted from his diaries describing a visit to the Mint in 1663, wherein he discoursed on mint workers smuggling "bollyfuls" of silver, and on the counterfeiting or "coining money as good and as passable and large as the true money is" and he "did beg two of the groats for rarities," finally remarking that the counterfeiter was "neither hanged nor burned, the cheat was thought so ingenious."

**MODERN COINS:** Passing on to modern coins, Mr. Watts Rule said that today coins must inevitably be mass-produced. They provided the perfect example of the application of artistic method to things mechanically made. It was not the slightest use asking for old hand-cut dies, such as were used to strike the exquisite coins of ancient Greece. Although the Greeks struck coins in thousands, modern coins were struck in millions, and handiwork would not serve for such an output. Machinery must come to the rescue, and here was the crucial test for art - a test which would show whether art could genuinely join forces with the aims and outlook of a mechanised age. Coins were the only objects that came into the hands of every man, woman and child of the realm, and as such provided a splendid means of educating public taste in art. Art in coinage designs, however, was strictly confined within fixed and immutable limits. The setting must be circular and the design must be reasonably flat to permit of stacking the coins; the design must be conceived in relation to the circular frame and not be made frameless or in a square setting and then transferred to the circular disc. The coin must be considered as an object of three dimensions and not as two faces joined together. The thickness must be incorporated with the designs into a unified whole.

The subjects for coin designs should reflect the artistic taste and feeling of the time. It should be possible in later generations to say at a glance "This is a coin of the twentieth century by its style" just as it was possible to date an Elizabethan or Georgian coin, by its style of design irrespective of inscriptions. Stanley Casson recently criticised the British Imperial coins from that angle, stating that the existing designs reflected nothing of the style of the present, except the uncertain baroque manner of the Edwardian age, and that the designs were neither truly derivative from the past nor yet creative or invigorating in the manner of present day art. Another distinguished numismatist, the late G.C. Brooke, also condemned the "quasi-canting symbol" of the British crown piece as "a poor substitute for Pistrucchi's St. George and the Dragon," which fortunately had reappeared in subsequent issues. The modern Irish coins by Mr. Percy Metcalfe were, for the most part, admirably suited to the frames, being in harmony with present day art. The relief was good and the clear-cut designs against plain backgrounds emphasised the subjects treated in an attractive manner. The horse and the bull did not succeed in accommodating the design to the frame and might well have been designed for a rectangle, and the baseline emphasised that weakness. The actual subjects - various animals - were chosen for topographical interest (as reflecting industries mainly) rather than for sentimental allegory. Being broadly rendered in swift lines sharply raised, the designs picked up the light easily and had all the merits of the early Greek coins of Italy. The 1933 Chinese dollar depicting Dr. Sun Yat-Son, was a pleasing example of a modern flat design to meet modern conditions.

The coin designs of the modern coins of Southern Rhodesia and New Zealand, by Mr. Kruger Gray, were briefly dealt with and praised, particularly the crouching warrior on the N.Z. shilling, and the kiwi on the N.Z. florin, both of which filled the circular space excellently. The Maori carved design to the shield on the half-crown was well done and the only disappointment in the N.Z. set was the Crown piece (the only one not by Kruger Gray). The flat wooden figures might be historic, but they were not artistic.

In discussing **THE TECHNIQUE OF DESIGNING COINS AND MEDALS**, Mr. Watts Rule said that the general principles of composition both in cast and struck coins and medals were similar to sculpture so far as filling in the area in two dimensions was concerned, but the small size of coins emphasised the undesirability of certain features which were tolerated in larger sculpture, such as the pictorial touch, the highly complicated design, or the attempt at realistic representation. Coin designs should not be merely pictures translated into metal, but they should arouse the feeling that they are suited to the medium used and no other. A crowd of figures or a battle scene on a coin became a curiosity, and it was no recommendation to say that in order to see its quality a magnifying glass should be used. Some of the finest designs were built up on the most simple lines with the severity of composition of a Greek relief. Medal designs could be shown in higher relief than coins for practical reasons. Lettering was usually the last thing designers learned, and yet lettering could make or mar a design. All lettering should harmonise with the design.

Coins produced in great numbers must necessarily be struck from dies because casting was too slow and expensive. In hand-cut dies a model was not an essential part of the process for the best engravers could cut direct into the steel dies with nothing but working drawings as guides. Few modern engravers had the skill for such a task, although the freshness and liveliness which resulted from hand-cut dies were ample rewards. Punches were usually used for lettering in dies, and some medallists actually carved punches in steel in relief and drove them into the surface of the steel die which was then hardened ready for striking the coin or medal. The worst effects of such methods were to be seen in cheaply produced medals. The breaking of dies and the need for re-cutting, as in the ancient times, resulted in slight variations which added to the charm of ancient coin designs, but modern conditions placed a premium on uniformity for commercial reasons, and the result was that with a master die mechanically reduced no variation was to be found in modern issues.

Large scale modelling of coin designs for mechanical reduction through the reducing machine which actually cut a die to any scale, had a bad influence on designs. Large scale modelling up to 18 inches diameter tended to encourage the designer to forget that the ultimate result was to be embodied in metal, and that the spatial relations which were correct in a large scale model might be quite wrong in a design one-tenth of that size. The reducing machine was unintelligent and reduced proportions with mathematical exactitude often with unsatisfactory results, whereas in hand-cut dies the necessary corrections were instinctively introduced. On whatever scale the drawings or models were made, the final drawings or models should be actual size, and if the artist can cut his own dies so much the better. Even with powerful modern presses, every millimetre added to the height of relief necessitated extra blows in striking, increasing cost of production and increasing the risk of fracture. Smeary modelling was unsuitable for metal work. The first and foremost lesson experience had taught die sinkers was to be true to their metal. The refreshing candour of the Deputy Master of the Royal Mint in regard to the poor workmanship of some of the Jubilee Medals issued to school children, was praised, and the high standard set by the Royal Mint was commented upon. The N. Z. Numismatic Society's Bledisloe Waitangi Medal, 1935, was described as easily the finest example of medallic art yet produced in New Zealand. The portraiture was excellent, and the depth of relief (cut by hand) improved the effect very much. The issue of the medal was a worthy suggestion excellently carried through to execution. No doubt a New Zealand Centennial Medal would be issued in 1940, and it was to be hoped that unsuitable symbols - such as those shown on the Victorian Centenary Medal (a wheat ear and ram's skull, suggestive of starvation and death) - would not be copied in New Zealand. Mr. Raynor Hoff, the designer, was a fine sculptor, but the symbols chosen were inappropriate as symbolising a triumphant record of 100 years.

Passing on to a description of symbolism in design, Mr. Watts Rule quoted from "Symbols for Designers" by Arnold Whittick. Symbolism was inextricably interwoven in the fabric of social life. Language, money, mathematics and ceremonies attending the government of a State, and of religious worship, were among the many important types of symbolism. Symbols were really a form of visual language, as in Egyptian hieroglyphics, or, even better still, the early pictography of China. To be of any use they must be easily understood. It was generally better, instead of inventing symbols, to rely on traditional subjects with widely current or easily ascertainable meanings, and to let originality be devoted to the decorative treatment of the familiar object. A few emblems used symbolically on coins were -- **THE CROSS**, the chief symbol of Christianity, which actually was older than Christianity, being mentioned in the Hindu Veda. The Assyrians thus symbolised their god of the sky, Anu, and the cross was also employed by the Babylonians, Persians and Greeks. It was not until the ninth century that the cross was regarded as the chief and most universal symbol of Christianity. **THE CADUCEUS** was a symbol of

peace and commerce, and also, curiously enough, of healing. THE DOLPHIN was an ancient Greek symbol of the sea, and the silver decadrachma of Syracuse, said to be the most beautiful coin ever made, on one side showed a female head surrounded by dolphins and a Chariot on reverse. THE EAGLE, with serpent in talons, symbolised Victory. THE FASCES was an ancient Roman symbol of authority. It originated the name of Fascism, of which it was the principal symbol. The rods represented the power to scourge, the axe to behead malefactors, and, in a sense, the design was a symbol of administration and punishment. The silver dime of U.S.A. depicted the fasces in good modelling. THE LAUREL in ancient Greece was expressive of achievement in poetry and song. Now it was the symbol of victory and achievement in the arts generally. THE OAK was a symbol of strength, glory and honour. THE OWL was traditionally a symbol of wisdom, because it was sacred to Athena, the goddess of peace, learning and the arts and thus logically of wisdom. THE PEACOCK was a pagan symbol of immortality. THE SWASTIKA in modern symbolism was second to none. Considered by most archaeologists as originally a diagrammatic depiction of the sun's course in the heavens, it became an ancient symbol of revival and prosperity. In ancient times it was employed in most countries and in various religions from Western Europe to India and China. The only countries in which it seems never to have been adopted were Egypt, Babylon and Assyria. It occurs on the coins of Crete, Rhodes and Etruria; in representations on the feet of Buddha and on numerous ornaments connected with Indian religions; on ancient coins of Gaul, and in Roman mosaics. Often, as on Cretan coins, the sun is shown in the centre of the swastika, which suggests its unmistakable association with the sun. In Germany the Swastika was regarded as a national symbol emblematic of resurrection and the revival of national life. That was probably the ancient traditional significance of the symbol - the regeneration and the revival of life. THE TORCH was a symbol of immortality in a secular sense, and the inverted torch was employed by the Greeks and Romans as a symbol of death. THE TRIDENT was a symbol of the sea, and, whether held by the Roman Neptune or by the symbolical figure of Britannia, it symbolised dominion over the sea. THE TRISCELE, a symbol of the sun and the revival of life and prosperity, was the badge of the Isle of Man and Sicily. Instead of the three legs, some Lycian coins showed three crescent-shaped curves radiating from a disc, suggesting a rotary motion, and on a Celtiberian coin the disc from which the legs radiated was marked with a face in the manner of modern representations of the sun. PROFESSIONAL AND TRADE SYMBOLS could be as numerous as the subjects they symbolised. They represented the simplest forms of symbolism. Symbolical objects readily suggested themselves for trade or other modern forms of symbolism, such as a building or scaffolding for a building institute, a plough for a farmers' association, an aeroplane to commemorate an airman, and so on. All were examples of associative symbolism. Although it was simple to select subjects for associative symbolism, it was not easy, judging by results, to arrange such objects into effective designs.

In a GENERAL CONCLUSION, Mr. Watts Rule said that the word "design" had a more precise meaning than "art." When anything was well designed it was well fitted for its purpose, and when there was not good design there could not be art. Some people imagined that an object was a work of art only if it were ornamented, for they supposed that beauty consisted in ornament. But ornament only made an object more ugly if it was not well designed and made. Good design and workmanship produced beauty in all objects of use. In the Middle Ages the quality and workmanship was kept high by guilds, but in modern times, with mass production and the use of machinery, the position had changed. Nothing was to be gained in taking up the attitude that machinery was a device of the devil so far as art was concerned, destroying all beauty and joy of life in a spread of uniformity. Machinery was a device of man, without which progress would not be possible. There was no reason why an object of use made by machinery should not be well made, or that it should not have the functional beauty of good design and workmanship. The enjoyment of art, or good design and good workmanship, like the enjoyment of other kinds of goodness, was one of the things that made life worth living, not only for the public or the user, but also for the producer, and that was equally true of small things like coins and medals as it was of the larger items of our daily lives.

Mr. Watts Rule's paper was admirably illustrated by plates and photographs, and by a representative series of coins and medals depicting the evolution of coin and medal designing.

In moving a vote of thanks, the Chairman, Professor J. Rankine Brown, said the Society was indebted to Mr. Watts Rule for his most interesting and informative paper, which displayed careful research and original thought, and which was one of the most complete papers read before the Society. An examination of coin designs illustrated the fact that in modern times machinery was, perhaps, the greatest enemy of beauty. Machines tended to make everything the same with monotonous

regularity. No two Greek coins were exactly similar, as every coin had to be struck individually, whereas the modern half-crown of Britain was the same in a series of a million. Variety was the charm of the designs of Greek coins. Actually, most of the so-called Greek statues were merely Roman copies, whereas the coins of Greece were originals, giving an accurate conception of Greek art. They came direct and untouched from their original source. Greek coin designers made a special study to fit their designs into circles. The origin of various designs was an interesting study. For instance, the American dollar sign, the Professor said, came from the design on the old Spanish dollar or piece-of-eight, depicting the pillars of Hercules linked together with a wreath, or ribbon. These pillars were said to represent the strait of Gibraltar, and that design, the two upright pillars, linked together by a ribbon arranged in the form of a letter "S", was the origin of the dollar sign of America.

Mr. A. Quinnell seconded the motion.

Mr. H.G. Mayer said the paper illuminated aspects of coin designing not often appreciated. One would not expect an architect to have such a grasp of the practical and technical aspects of modern coin designing and striking. Mr. Watts Rule had made a careful study of the subject and his paper had been enjoyed by all.

Mr. Allan Sutherland said bold simplicity seemed to be the keynote of modern coin-designs and that the New Zealand and Southern Rhodesian coins were good examples of that trend.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Watts Rule for his most interesting and instructive paper.

"A SHORT HISTORY OF MONEY" was the subject of a paper read by Mr. J. Berry, who discussed the evolution of money from the days of barter until modern times. As an instrument of trade, he said, money had assumed a variety of interesting forms before arriving at the stage of circular metal coins now used in most civilised countries. Oxen, slaves, sheep, fishhooks, nails, beads and shells all served as a medium of exchange during the march of civilisation. In the period 1000 B.C. in the area comprising Egypt, Greece and Palestine - the cradle of civilisation - the people were mainly engaged in pastoral pursuits, and their wealth was for the most part represented by sheep and cattle, which formed the basis of barter in trading. Values were measured by the unit of the herd - the ox. The modern word, "pecuniary" was derived from the Latin "pecus", meaning cattle - the money of the early days. Livestock as money, however, had obvious disadvantages; it consumed food and there was always the risk of loss or straying. In addition, there were difficulties regarding small change for the purchase of goods of less value than one sheep.

Cowrie, or shell money, the most widely-circulated one-time rival of the metal disc, was now used only in isolated communities. The shells were white or straw coloured, about one inch long, and were used mainly by the dense populations on the shores of the Indian Ocean, in Africa, and in the South Seas.

Metal-disc money was first used in Lydia (Asia Minor) about 2,600 years ago, although China was stated to have used inscribed metal coins in the period 1115-1070 B.C. The Chinese "tao" was one of the first metal coins used. "Tao" meant "knife" and was descriptive of the razor shaped coins of old China. Perforated coins, or cash, tied on a string, had long been a favourite form of carrying Chinese coins. Bars of crystal salt were used as money in parts of Ethiopia, and when meeting a friend it was the custom there to offer a "coin" to be licked. Money naturally lost weight by such friendly hospitality. On the Island of Yap, in the Caroline Group, coins of stone were sometimes twelve feet across and weighed hundreds of pounds. Wealthy Polynesians often deposited large coin stones in front of their homes as a permanent indication of their financial standing. The out-size Yap money presented a problem to the ardent coin collector. Cyprus first discarded oxen and sheep as money in favour of copper-pots, which evolved into copper strips called "obolus." Italy first adopted a unit of copper as a measure of value, an "aes" - a Roman pound of twelve ounces - had the value of a pound of copper.

Precious-metal money first came from Lydia, the home of Croesus, in the Near East, about 700 B.C., where the half-Oriental, half-Greek inhabitants obtained from the gold-bearing sands a metal called electrum, which was a gold having an alloy of about 30 per cent silver, and from this metal coins were made. The metal seems to have been poured out into puddles, which naturally took a circular shape, and in that way the disc or circular coin seems to have developed. At the right moment in cooling, these small puddles of electrum were impressed with seals in much the same way as seals were impressed on wax.

The precious-metal coins of ancient Greece reflected the glory of a magnificent civilisation whose standards of art, sculpture and architecture had not been equalled since. Coins circulating in Greece centuries before the time of Jesus Christ were more beautiful than any minted to-day, despite the advantages and the accessories of science. In the modern world the utility and durability of coins were considered more important than artistic designs.

As copper became plentiful, and too bulky in proportion to value, silver was used for money, and for 2,000 years the silver standard was supreme; maps were made and re-made in a desire to obtain silver. The old Spanish Empire was built indirectly on gold and silver found in abundance in Mexico and Peru. In her quest for precious metals, Spain extended her sway over two-thirds of the Western Hemisphere, and it was the continued search for money metals that unrolled the larger part of the map of North and South America. Much of this silver won by Spain was coined into pieces-of-eight, or Spanish dollars, which became so plentiful that this coin dominated World currencies, even beyond Spanish domains, and greatly facilitated Spanish rise to power. Although the Spanish sun had long set in America, her influence still remained in the New World in the Spanish language, Spanish names, and even in the United States' unit of value - the dollar.

From 200 years before the time of Julius Caesar until the end of the 19th century, silver reigned supreme until displaced by gold as the international standard of value. Gold always had existed in the background as a universal symbol of the highest value, but the use of gold in trade had been rare. A plentiful supply of silver reduced silver values, and with a large increase in business, silver coins became unsuitable for larger transactions, with the result that gold came into favour as a medium of exchange, particularly following the discovery of gold in California in 1848 and, later, in South Africa, Australia and New Zealand. The bank-note and cheque system was a natural corollary. The early and rapid colonisation of the overseas sections of the British Commonwealth of Nations was closely linked with the quest for the most valuable of all money--metals - gold.

Mr. Berry was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his most interesting and informative survey of the evolution of money.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,  
Hon. Secretary,  
N.Z. Numismatic Society,  
14 Clifton Terrace,  
Wellington, C.I., N.Z.

N E X T M E E T I N G .

The final meeting of the year will be held at the Turnbull Library, at 8 p.m. on TUESDAY, 1st DECEMBER, 1936.

An illustrated address will be given by Professor J. Rankine Brown on "REVERSE DESIGNS OF GREEK AND ROMAN COINS" and opportunity will be taken to welcome home Mr. and Mrs. Johannes C. Andersen.

Supper will be served, and members may invite friends, the Secretary ('phone 43-710) to be advised of the number of visitors, if possible.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,  
Hon. Secretary,  
N.Z. Numismatic Society,  
14 Clifton Terrace,  
Wellington, C.I., N.Z.

21st November, 1936.

REPORT OF 35th MEETING - 1st DECEMBER, 1936.

"REVERSE DESIGNS OF GREEK AND ROMAN COINS" was the subject of an illustrated address given by Professor J. Rankine Brown (Vice President) at the 35th Meeting held at the Turnbull Library on 1st December 1936. Sir James Elliott, President, occupied the chair. Apologies were received from Lady Elliott and Mr. Sheriff.

In view of the postponement to welcome home Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, a short paper on Scottish Coins, appropriate to St. Andrews Day, was held over.

**EXHIBITS:** An interesting range of SCOTTISH COINS was exhibited by Mr. J. B. Ward, Hokitika, including a bawbee of Mary, (depicting a crowned thistle, and St. Andrews Cross on the reverse) a plack of James VI, a bodle of William III, 1695, a silver crown of Anne, 1708, (Edin mint) a lion of Francis and Mary, and a copper halfpenny, 1791, of Edinburgh, depicting St. Andrew bare-footed (holding a St. Andrew's Cross) between two large thistle plants; also a Scott medal,

Mr. H. D. London, Christchurch, exhibited a facsimile of the PROCLAMATION OF KING EDWARD VIII at St. James's Palace, 21st January, 1936, bearing the signatures of nearly 200 leading "Lords Spiritual and Temporal", Privy Councillors, "with numbers of other Principal Gentlemen of Quality" and the Lord Mayor and Aldermen and leading citizens of London. The array of signatures of present-day Empire leaders attracted much attention.

The Silver MEDAL OF THE ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY, Centennial Congress Medal 1936 was presented and exhibited by Sir John Hanham, Bt. H.C.M., England; Mr. Fredk. Wyon Simms, Wellington, exhibited a bronze medal commemorating Queen Victoria's first visit to the City of London, 1837, showing the portrait of the Queen by W. Wyon (a relative of exhibitor) copied from the medal to the penny black stamp of 1840, the first ordinary postage stamp of Britain,

Mrs. H. Kirkcaldie, 1 Sefton Street, Highland Park, Wellington, (Heraldry), was elected a member of the Society.

**WELCOME HOME TO MR. JOHANNES C. ANDERSEN;** Sir James Elliott extended a welcome to Mr. & Mrs. Johannes C. Andersen who had just returned from an extended tour abroad. Mr. Willi Fels, of Dunedin, another Vice President, had also returned from an extended tour. Unfortunately his ship called at Wellington for a few hours only and a special welcome was not possible in his case. Members were hoping to hear some interesting impressions from these travellers. Mr. Johannes Andersen had journeyed far, and members had enjoyed occasional press advices of his progress and contacts with leading literary men abroad. When in South America Mr. & Mrs. Andersen had crossed the Andes and made some interesting excursions in that vast country so little known to New Zealand although washed by the same ocean. Mr. Andersen's visit to Denmark, his birthplace he had left so long ago, must have awakened unforgettable memories, and he must have come back rich in impressions and experiences so interesting in an ever-changing World. Members extended to Mr. and Mrs. Andersen a sincere welcome home.

Mr. Johannes C. Andersen in replying expressed his appreciation of the welcome accorded him. In six months he had travelled far and seen much. It was a hurried tour but worth while. When abroad he had not forgotten the Numismatic Society, as the exhibit of modern coins before him would show. He collected a set of current coins in each country visited, and he was pleased to say that in the whole range of coins exhibited the New Zealand coins held their own for beauty and attractiveness of design. In handling foreign coins as he travelled from country to country he was impressed by the fact that, with the exception of England, the coinage of every country was on the decimal basis, and this basis greatly assisted tourists in calculating in tens and submultiples of ten. In Denmark, for instance, if an article in a shop window was marked 2 Kroner, 75 ore, and if the krone was worth 1/- it was simple to calculate that the cost would be 2/9d in English money. Money calculations were greatly simplified under this decimal system. The Uruguay 1930 10 cents in a gold-coloured metal, depicting a jaguar, was the most beautiful coin he had encountered abroad. Argentine appeared to work on three coins only, and the paper peso, worth about one shilling was widely used. At some future meeting he would be glad to give further impressions of things unusual in the World abroad.

Dealing with the DESIGNS OF GREEK AND ROMAN COINS Professor J. Rankine Brown said that when metal took the place of cattle or sheep as the standard of value, the metal used was that which was most accessible. In the West this was copper and in the East gold and silver. But though it was clear that from very early times gold and silver were used in the East as standards of value no piece of money had come down to us from that early period, and there was no mention of coins in the Old Testament before the Persian period. Originally the metal was weighed, but it was natural to imprint on the metal some simple device as a guarantee of value. This was easy, for private seals and signet rings, with engraved devices, had been used for signing contracts and as a mark of possession from the remotest antiquity. As soon as a device or mark is put on a piece of metal used to facilitate the exchange of goods we have a coin.

It is probable that the earliest coins were issued by individuals not by states; no doubt they were issued by bankers and marked by private seals as a guarantee of value. It is significant that the earliest inscribed coin that has survived has on it, in Greek letters, words that mean "I am the mark of Phanes", the mark being a stag, and Phanes being more likely to be a wealthy banker than an unknown tyrant or king. Owing to the profits involved, the right of coining was soon taken over by the states which naturally put the public seal of the town on their coins - such as the owl, the emblem of Athena, at Athens. The older and more orthodox view as to the origin and nature of Greek coin types is that they have religious significance. In his book on "The Origin of Currency and Weight Standards" (1892) Professor Ridgeway attacks the orthodox theory and considers that in the case of the earlier coins, types are better explained as "being the representation of some animal, natural product, or utensil which had been used as a medium of exchange before the introduction of money" and this view has received some recognition from more orthodox numismatists. Silphium was the main export of Cyrene, a Greek colony in the north of Africa, and it is very difficult to believe that it stands on the coins of Cyrene on account of a shadowy connection with Aristaeus - the son of the nymph Cyrene - and not because of its importance to Cyrene as an article of export.

The first coins have a device only on one side. On the other side is the mark of the punch. Then punch-marks assumed different shapes, the most interesting, though rare, being the swastika, and what is called the triskele or three-legged device now associated with the Isle of Man. In the case of some of the towns in Magna Graecia the device on the obverse appears in incuse on the reverse, but before long all coins had devices on both sides. The free and liberty-loving character of the Greeks shows only on their coinage which was issued from an extraordinarily large number of mints. There were as many as sixty mints in Sicily alone. The artistic character of the Greeks led the cities to vie with each other in the excellence of their coinage. The coins of the insignificant town of Terina in south Italy were amongst the most exquisite of the Greek coins. An exception was Athens which retained its old coins, only slightly modified, as late as 229 B.C., when a new issue was introduced. The coins of Athens had become a general medium of exchange all over the Aegean area, and in the case of most widely used coins, changes are not acceptable.

Generally speaking the reverses of Greek coins related to the deity whose head, as a rule, appeared on the obverse. One interesting type was the agonistic type which had some connection with public games. Games in Greece were religious and the device had some religious significance, but the appearance of four-horse chariots on the coins of Sicilian towns was mainly due to the fact that many were governed by tyrants whose wealth enabled them to take part in the costly chariot races and who celebrated their victories by placing on their coins a design showing a chariot surmounted by a representation of the goddess "Victory". It seems certain, that from references on Greek coins of the Roman Imperial age, that there were extensive issues of coins to meet the requirements of the crowds which gathered at the games and this may also have led to the use of agonistic types.

Greek art is essentially ideal, and pays little attention to the transient or temporary; It is only after the time of Alexandra when the great Eastern Monarchies were established that the Kings put their portraits on their coins, but neither Alexander nor his father Philip did so. Therefore there is very little reference to history on Greek coins as there is on Roman coins. Greek coins have to be arranged according to their artistic character and such references to history as do occur on them are expressed symbolically. After the battle of Marathon, for instance, a wreath of laurel appears around the head of Athena. There are several "punning" reverses - such as the seal (phoca) on the coins of Phocaea, and the rose (rhodon) on the coins of Rhodes. On the second issue of the coins of Thurii, a raging bull takes the place of the peaceful bull, and the lecturer suggested that this may be a pun too, Thourios being the Greek word for "raging". Greek coin designers had great freedom in connection with



the details of the types. The hare on the coins of Rhegium and Messina is said to have been put there by the tyrant Anaxilas, (494) who introduced the animal into Sicily. The hare was, to the Greeks, the main animal of the chase.

The Lecturer had only time to touch on the wide subject of reverses on Roman coins. As the Romans had at first only access to copper, their first coins were made in that metal, the chief of which was the well-known libra "as", a copper coin originally a pound in weight but very soon reduced in weight so that before the end of the republic it had become a subordinate coin weighing little more than half-an-ounce. This early copper coinage had, as a rule, on the obverse the double head of Janus, the god of "openings" and on the reverse the prow of a war galley. Why this device was chosen is not known, as the Romans, when the "as" was first struck, and after, had no connection with the sea. The coinage of silver by the Romans began when the Romans came into contact with the Greeks in the South of Italy, and after their victorious career in Italy had given them sufficient silver. This coinage was probably required for military purposes in order to provide Roman troops with a coinage with which they could purchase commodities in the region where they were campaigning. These silver coins were naturally modelled on Greek coins having the head of Rome on the obverse and at first the type of two galloping horsemen on the reverse. This probably represented Castor and Pollux, the patron deities of the Roman cavalry. Another common type was a four-horse or two-horse chariot. These coins were followed by a coin called the "Victoriatum" or victory piece, stamped on the reverse with a victory and a trophy of arms. At first the variety of reverse types was limited but then followed an almost unlimited variety when the officials in charge of the mints began to put their own devices on the coins - types which suggested their family histories. The state appears to have given them perfect freedom of action in this matter.

Mattingley, in his standard work on Roman coins classifies the reverses of the coins of the Republic under five headings (a) religious types, (b) Personal types, (c) Historical Types, (d) animate and inanimate objects, (e) Architecture, art, etc. This list of types holds good for the Empire with the important difference that the coinage now centres round the Emperor and his family. There are also types relating to the Senate and the people of Rome. The Senate had control of the Copper coinage and the letters "S.C." (Senatus Consulto) so often found on copper Imperial coins bears witness to this fact. There were also types relating to the Army, for the Roman Empire even from its start was almost a military despotism. The religious types received some additions from the growing recognition of Eastern religions and from the worship of the Emperor, but the great change there was brought about by the recognition of Christianity as the state religion. When this took place the well-known monogram of Christ begins to appear on coins, and after the reign of Julian, called the Apostate, (361-363) the coinage was invaded by christian types. The cross and the labarum, the standard adopted by Constantine after his conversion to christianity, regularly appears and the Emperor is hailed as the Defender of the Faith. The coinage of the Eastern or Byzantine Empire which lasted long after the Western Empire had collapsed, is predominantly, if not entirely, christian in its types.

Some magnificent Greek and Roman coins, and Greek vase paintings were then screened illustrating some of the most beautiful survivals of Greek art. The designs on the bottoms of the drinking cups illustrated the capacity of the Greeks to arrange designs to fill admirably a circular space. Some slides of Greek seals probably 1400-1500 B.C., long before the introduction of coinage, were also shown. The magnified coin designs screened attracted much attention, and the running commentary by the lecturer filling in a wealth of historical background gave great pleasure to all present. Describing the torch design Professor Rankine Brown said that the torch race, a prominent feature of classical Greece, was revived in the modern Olympic Games, and the Professor wondered how the torch would be carried next Olympic Games from Greece to Japan. A portrait of Cleopatra, as shown on a coin screened, depicted a long nose and neck and angular features suggesting, said the Professor, that her personal conquests were due to charm of manner rather to any suggestion of physical beauty. One notable historical Roman coin depicted two daggers between a cap of liberty over 'Ides Mar' - the Ides of March - commemorating the 'righteous' assassination of Julius Caesar on the Ides or 15th March, 44. The cap of liberty was usually red, hence the origin of the term 'Red Fed'. Similarly a wealth of historical background was unfolded as each ancient or historic coin passed in review.

In proposing a vote of thanks, Sir James Elliott said that the address and the slides illustrated the amazing standard of culture and beauty of the art of ancient Greece.

The coins screened brought to mind great events in history commemorated in coin designs, and even ranged back to the mythology of the ancients. Heracles strangling a lion, a classical coin design, captured the imagination as did the daggers and the cap of liberty symbolising the acts of Brutus immortalised by Shakespeare. The past came nearer as the Centuries were bridged with pictorial presentation of historic coin-designs, imparting knowledge in an arresting manner by visual as well as auditory methods. What better method could there be of teaching history to college boys and girls than by illustrated addresses such as the one just given?

Mr. Johannes O. Andersen, F.R.S.N.Z., said that the Professor had the happy faculty of making the apparently dry dust live. His illuminating address illustrated the wealth of history, poetry, and romance, that lay behind the study of numismatics. As the great figures of fable and history passed in review on the screen the name of Arethusa immediately recalled the lines of Shelley:-

"Arethusa arose  
"From her couch on the snows  
"Of the Acroceraunian Mountains",

and so name after name awoke visions historical, poetical and mythological. The magnificent standard attained by the ancient Greeks was perhaps due to the fact that they lived in imagination as much as in reality, and perhaps they accomplished so much in reality because they lived so much in imagination.. That imaginative and idealistic quality had been well reflected on their coins that had lived after them.

Mr. Allan Sutherland, F.R.N.S., expressed appreciation of the interesting and diverse information imparted by Dr. Rankine Brown who had used notable coins as a means of ranging into various fields in a survey that had greatly interested his hearers. It was a pleasure to watch the coins of classical Greece and Rome pass in retrospect as keys to contemporary events. Many ancient classical designs had been revived on modern coins, notable examples being found on the beautiful series of modern Italian and Albanian coins which showed the Roman chariot, an ear of corn, the Bee of Ephesus, the biga; all copied from the classical period. The Irish shilling showed a charging Bull which was copied from a coin of Thurii. The eagle and the fasces of Ancient Rome were shown on the coins of several countries including U.S.A., Germany, Albania, Italy and France, and the owl of Athena perched on an olive oil flagon - one of the earliest coin designs of Greece - was to be found on a coin circulating in Greece today.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Professor Rankine Brown for his most instructive and interesting address. A social hour and supper concluded the evening.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,

Hon. Secretary.

NOTE: The programme for next year is now being prepared, and members who are prepared to submit short papers on any subject bearing on the study of numismatics are invited to communicate with the Hon. Secretary. The next meeting of the Society will take place probably 29th March, 1937, but programme will be circulated before then. Until the end of January the address of the Hon. Secretary will be care BOX 1881, AUCKLAND.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS 1937.

All meetings will be held on the last Monday in each month (excepting October) at Turnbull Library, Bowen Street, Wellington, at 8.0 p.m., unless otherwise advised.

- MAY 24th: "IMPRESSIONS ABROAD, NUMISMATIC AND OTHERWISE", by Mr. Johannes O. Andersen, M.B.E., F.R.S.N.Z., Vice-President, Wellington.
- JUNE 28th: ANNUAL MEETING; Address by the PRESIDENT, Sir James Elliott, M.D., F.R.A.C.S.  
EXHIBITION of CORONATION MEDALS by Mr. H.G. Williams.
- JULY 26th: "PARTHIAN COINS." Illustrated paper by Mr. Alfred Quinnell, Wellington.
- AUGUST 30th: "COINAGE METALS, PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE", by Mr. G.W. Brandt, B.Sc., Wellington.  
"ALEXANDER TURNBULL, A LIFE SKETCH", by Mr. G.R.H. Taylor, M.A., etc., Librarian, Turnbull Library.
- SEPTEMBER 27th: DOMINION DAY - Short Paper by Mr. J.W. Heenan, C.B.E., (Under Secretary, Internal Affairs), on OLYMPIC AND OTHER SPORTING MEDALS; also "COMMUNION TOKENS OF PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NEW ZEALAND" by Mr. H.G. Williams, Dunedin.
- OCTOBER 18th: "SEALS AND HERALDRY", by Mr. H.D. London, President, N.Z. Air Mail Society, Christchurch.  
Advanced one week. "N.Z. COIN ISSUES SINCE 1933", by Mr. H.G. Williams, Dunedin.
- NOVEMBER 29th: "SCOTTISH COINS" (short paper) by Mr. Allan Sutherland, F.R.N.S., Wellington, and "PERSIAN COINS", by Mr. Alfred Quinnell, Wellington.  
Day before St. Andrew's Day.  
Final Meeting of year.

Recess until end of March, 1938.

Members are invited to submit on loan exhibition rubbings or specimens appropriate to be subjects to be discussed. Short five-minute papers on any approved subject of numismatic interest will be read on behalf of any member at any of the above meetings. Members may invite friends and intending members. Length of papers, from 10 minutes (short papers) to 30-40 minutes.

Hon. Secretary:-

Allan Sutherland,  
"Hansard",  
Parliament House,  
WELLINGTON, C.1.

Hon. Sec. & Treasurer

during absence of Messrs. Cooper and Sutherland from Wellington:-

Mr. C. Sherwood,  
103 Willis Street,  
WELLINGTON, C.1.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

REPORT of First Meeting of 1937, held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on MONDAY, 24th MAY, 1937.

The President, Sir James Elliott, was in the chair.

On the motion of Mr. Quinnell, the minutes of the previous meeting, as circulated, were read and confirmed.

An apology for non-attendance was received from Mr. Allan Sutherland, who is absent from Wellington.

Two new members were elected to the Society as follows:- Mr. D.A.Sealy, 65 Great Portland Street, London, W.1., and Mr. G.Kruger Gray, 51, St. Paul's Studios, London, W.14.

A letter was received from Lord Bledisloe expressing his thanks for reports of meetings sent to him and assuring the Society of his continued interest in matters numismatic.

The National Bank of New Zealand wrote enclosing two specimens of bank-notes - one Bank of Otago Ltd. £1 note; one Derby Bank (Bellairs Sons & Co.), £1 note dated 7th May, 1812. These are to be placed in the Turnbull Library on semi-permanent loan.

A book on Chinese Coins was received from Mr. Ward of Hokitika and proved of great interest to members.

There having been representations made to the Government re the issue of EDWARD VIII COINS, and the Prime Minister having replied that no issue was contemplated, it was decided by the meeting that no further action be considered.

The reports of the October, November 1936, and February 1937 meetings of the AUSTRALIAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY were placed upon the table.

Correspondence was also received from Capt. J.A.Algie, Mr. Chetwynd, Mr. C.R.H.Taylor, Mr. J.R.Thomson and Mr. J.B.Ward.

Sir James Elliott paid a glowing tribute to Mr. Johannes Andersen as a mark of appreciation from the Society upon his retirement from the position of Librarian of the Turnbull Library. Sir James stated that this was an event which gave the Society an opportunity of placing on record his very valuable services to the Society, particularly when the same was founded, especially with regard to placing such congenial surroundings as the Turnbull Library at our disposal for meetings. His wide knowledge had always been placed at our disposal.

Prof. Rankine Brown, in supporting Sir James Elliott, said the Society owed a tremendous debt to Mr. Andersen, and instanced the difficulties experienced by kindred societies in finding accommodation for meetings, and trusted that Mr. Andersen would continue to show the same interest as in the past.

A very hearty round of applause confirmed the sentiments of Sir James Elliott and Prof. Rankine Brown.

Mr. Johannes Andersen suitably replied and assured members that he would still continue to take an active interest in the Society although no longer connected with the Turnbull Library. Mr. Andersen also stated that he was sure his successor, Mr. C.R.H.Taylor (who is already a member) would give the Society every facility he could. Mr. Taylor had already given an assurance of his interest in the Society.

Several members raised a question about Coronation Medals which are advertised to be on sale at various Branches of the Post-office throughout the Dominion. It was stated that supplies are already exhausted and members, on paying deposits for medals, were given no guarantee as to whether delivery would ensue.

The Acting Secretary was instructed to write to the Secretary at the Chief Post Office, Wellington, to obtain further information.

The talk of the evening was then given by Mr. Johannes Andersen - "The Impressions of a Numismatist Abroad." Owing to his steamer having been subjected to several delays, Mr. Andersen unfortunately missed a very important conference of Numismatists in London, and he was therefore unable to make connection with the members of that conference. However, he gave a very interesting talk of his journeyings abroad and his experiences of changing coins from one currency to another in foreign countries, particularly in some of the South American Republics.

A very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Andersen for his very interesting talk, proposed by the President, Sir James Elliott, was carried with acclamation.

A vote of thanks to the Chair concluded a very interesting evening, after which supper was served and informal talks were enjoyed among members.

G. C. SHERWOOD,

Acting Hon. Secretary,  
103, Willis Street, Wellington,  
Phone: 47-508.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT BY PRESIDENT

SIR JAMES ELLIOTT, M.D., F.R.A.C.S.

YEAR ENDED 31st MAY, 1937.

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The Council of the New Zealand Numismatic Society has the honour to submit its Sixth Annual Report and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st May, 1937.

During the year regular meetings were held at which a wide range of subjects of numismatic interest was discussed, each paper being illustrated by appropriate specimens.

CORONATION MEDALS: The medallic and coinage issues within the Empire during the year have reflected events of major constitutional importance affecting the British throne - the death of King George V, the accession of his eldest son, the Prince of Wales, as King Edward VIII, his subsequent abdication, and the accession and coronation of Prince Albert, Duke of York, as King George VI. In the year 1936 no less than three Kings occupied the British throne. Probably never before have coronation medals of two British Kings been circulating at the one time. Thousands of medals of the ex-King, now Duke of Windsor, and of the present King and Queen have been sold in New Zealand, but unfortunately these medals are, for the most part, of aluminium, and are not likely to endure as will the later issues of silver and bronze of superior workmanship which are only now arriving in New Zealand and which are being avidly purchased by numismatists and collectors generally. No coronation medals have been issued to school children by the Government, presumably because of the great expense entailed in a large-scale issue of medals of any intrinsic and artistic value. The Government has taken other means of commemorating the Coronation. The attitude of the Deputy Master of the Royal Mint, London, in discouraging the issue of medals of poor quality metal and workmanship, is to be commended. The official coronation medal, struck by the Royal Mint, in silver and bronze, is being sold through Dominion Post Offices.

NEW ZEALAND COINAGE: The Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister has advised the Society that it is not proposed to issue New Zealand coins bearing the portrait of King Edward VIII. No coins bearing the portrait of King George VI have, as yet, appeared in the Dominion.

AUSTRALIAN COINAGE: Five shilling pieces of the usual large size have been issued in Australia for general circulation, and this experiment will be watched with interest by numismatists who claim that the N.Z. Crown should also be issued generally and that, although the denomination is a convenient one, experience has shown that any coin larger than half a crown is too big, and heavy, for convenient use. The alternative of issuing five shilling notes has been discussed. Metallic currency has an advantage over paper money in that bank notes very soon become soiled in use and are easily contaminated. An alternative to retaining the present standard size of the crown piece would be a variation in the shape or the colour of the metal.

IMPERIAL COINS bearing new and attractive designs have been circulated in England, but with the advent of a distinctive New Zealand coinage the Imperial coins, so long in use here, no longer have an interest to New Zealanders other than from a sentimental and numismatic viewpoint.

SUGGESTED LECTURE STATION: As a means of keeping more distant members in closer touch with fellow members in Wellington, it is possible that arrangements could be made with the Director of Broadcasting and kindred educational societies with headquarters in Wellington, to utilise a semi-lecture-meeting radio station, with wide coverage, from which to broadcast one hour of each monthly meeting, and thus enable members of Societies with scattered membership to "attend" their monthly meetings from their own firesides, whether those firesides be on sheep stations in Canterbury or in the gumlands of the Far North. Such regular specialist broadcasts on an infinite variety of subjects would be of distinct educational value, and would be available to all listeners merely by turning a knob.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS, 1940: It is pleasing to record that the National Historical Committee, appointed by the Government in connection with the New Zealand Centennial 1940, proposes to co-operate freely with the Society in connection with the suggested issue of a Centennial Commemorative coin and medal, and that a member of the Society is to be appointed to a sub-committee of that body. It is suggested that when calling for designs for the proposed Centennial half-crown and medal, opportunity should be taken to call for designs for the copper coins, yet to be issued, and the crown piece which has not yet been given a standard design. The Society might also consider suggestions for minor improvements in the existing designs - alterations that could be made to the present dies at little cost - so that a complete series of coins could be issued for the Centennial Year, 1940.

The year closed with a membership of 125.

OFFICERS FOR THE ENSUING YEAR: Nominations will be received by the Acting Hon. Secretary, Mr. C. Sherwood, 103 Willis Street, Wellington, up to seven days before the date of the ANNUAL MEETING which is to be held on MONDAY, 28th JUNE, 1937.

MEMBERS ABSENT ABROAD: Captain J. A. Algie, of Auckland, and Messrs. W. D. Ferguson and A. J. Bland, Wellington, are at present abroad, and are expected to return with encouraging and helpful reports of numismatic activities in other countries. In December Mr. A. S. Kenyon, of Melbourne, Hon. Corresponding member attended the Science Congress in Auckland and was welcomed by The Rev. D. C. Bates ex-President, and Mr. J. C. Entrican, and the Secretary. Mr. R. Cooper has moved to Auckland and has relinquished his duties as Hon. Treasurer.

During the current year the Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. Sutherland, has been absent from Wellington for a lengthy period on public business, and his absence has been a distinct loss to the work of the Society during the year. The Society, however, is now well established and there is every reason to believe that its progress will continue to expand on the sound foundation that has been laid. Mr. G. C. Sherwood has assumed the position of Acting-Hon. Secretary until Mr. Sutherland's return to Wellington early in August.

For the Council of the New Zealand Numismatic Society,

(Sgd.) JAMES ELLIOTT,

President.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

REPORT OF SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING,  
held on Monday, 28th June 1937.

The Sixth Annual Meeting of the above Society was held in the Turnbull Library, Bowen Street, Wellington, on Monday, 28th June, 1937.

Owing to the unavoidable absence from Wellington of the President, Sir James Elliott, the Chair was taken by Professor J. Rankine Brown.

Apologies for absence were received from Sir James Elliott and Messrs. Allan Sutherland, Wyon-Simms, Ayers, Saith, Todd and Ward.

On the motion of Mr. H.G.Mayer, the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting were confirmed.

Professor J. Rankine Brown surveyed the Annual Report, which was adopted on the motion of Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, seconded by Mr. Tandy.

RADIO LECTURE STATION. After some discussion it was decided that this matter be left in the hands of the incoming Council.

NEW MEMBERS. One new member, Mr. Geo. A. Barr, of Masterton, was elected to the Society.

Correspondence was received from Mr. W.D.Ferguson, and also from the Secretary of the Chief Post Office, stating that ample supplies of Coronation Medals are now available.

Mr. Quinnell moved that the Society express its appreciation of the time and labour devoted to the Society's welfare by Mr. Allan Sutherland. This was seconded by Mr. Berry and carried.

BALANCE-SHEET. Owing to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. R.C.Cooper, having been transferred to Auckland, and the Treasurer's books not being available for auditing, the adoption of the Balance-sheet was held over until the next monthly meeting.

DONATION. Mr. H.R.Ford made a donation of £1.1.0 to the funds of the Society and was heartily thanked for his generous action.

MEMBERS' SUBSCRIPTIONS. It was stated by several members that they were never very certain as to when subscriptions were due and that they did not always know whether they had paid up in full or not. After some discussion, a motion moved by Mr. Quinnell and seconded by Dr. Oliver, was carried as follows: "That the Treasurer be instructed to send an account to every member at least once a year." The above motion to exclude those members who had paid the composite subscription.

OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR:

President: On the motion of Professor J. Rankine Brown, seconded by Mr. H. G. Mayer, Sir James Elliott was unanimously re-elected to the office of President. Both mover and seconder paid tribute to Sir James Elliott for his services to the Society during the past year.

Vice-Presidents: The following were appointed Vice-Presidents: Professor J. Rankine Brown, LL.D., M.A., Wellington; The Rev. D.C.Pates, Auckland; Mr. J.C. Entrican, Auckland; Archdeacon G.H.Gavin, F.R.N.S., New Plymouth; Mr. S.K.Cameron, Hawera; Mr. S.R.McCallum, Wanganui; Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, M.B.E., F.R.S.N.Z., Wellington; Mr. J.B.Ward, Hokitika; Mr. P. Watts Rule, F.N.Z.I.A., Timaru; Mr. Willi Fels, C.M.G., Dunedin; Colonel G.Barclay, Dunedin; Mr. J. Robertson, Invercargill; Mr. N.Solcman, Napier.

Council: Mr. H.R.Ford, Mr. H.G.Mayer, Mr. J.W.M.Smith, Dr. W.R.B.Oliver and Mr. A. Quinnell.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. G.C.Sherwood.



Hon. Secretary: Mr. Allan Sutherland, F.R.N.S., 14, Clifton Terr., Wellington.  
Hon. Auditor: Mr. S.P.Ward.  
Hon. Acting Secretary during Mr. Sutherland's absence from Wellington, Mr. G.C.Sherwood, 103, Willis Street, Wellington.

A vote of thanks to Mr. S.P.Ward for his services as Hon. Auditor was passed.

A discussion followed on the advisability of asking the Treasury to remove the postal prohibition on the export of N.Z. coins, and it was agreed that this be done.

The Rev. D.C.Bates exhibited a large medal of Ernestus Augustus, Elector of Hanover, 1608.

Mr. H. E. Ashby exhibited an Australian crown-piece; Mr. H.R.Ford exhibited a £5-piece, Queen Victoria, 1887, £2-piece Queen Victoria 1887, £2-piece King Edward VII, 1902, and a Gold Livra, Poru, 1917. Mr. J.W.M.Smith exhibited an English 12-sided threepenny-piece, 1937.

There was also an exhibition of about 64 medals struck for the coronation of Edward VIII, Abdication of Edward VIII and the Coronation of George VI - exhibited by Mr. H.Williams, Dunedin.

A paper entitled REVIVAL OF ANCIENT GREEK TYPES ON THE COINS OF MODERN GREECE was sent by Mr. C.J.V.Weaver, Hon. Secretary of the Australian Numismatic Society, and read by Mr. G.C.Sherwood. The paper, which was illustrated by ten rubbings, was as follows:

"The coins of modern Greece have in recent years undergone an alteration of type that is creditable to that nation and more in keeping with its illustrious past. Starting early in the present century and gradually improving the designs of the various denominations, some artistic and historically interesting coins have been produced. The previous types, other than portraits of the rulers, were the somewhat dull and mediocre coats of arms and wreath enclosing marks of value. An early example of the new design is seen in the silver drachma of George I, the obverse of which bears his portrait and is dated 1911. The reverse depicts the figure of Athena seated upon the back of the Hippocamp. The goddess is contemplating the Medusa head upon a shield supported by her right hand. Although of poor workmanship and badly struck, the design is an improvement in type upon its predecessors. The next step was the advent of the twenty, ten and five Lepta issued in pure nickel and all bearing the date 1912. It seems a pity that it was considered necessary to produce these coins with a hole in the centre - had they been solid the designs might have been greatly improved. The obverse of the 20-Lepta bears in Greek letters "King of the Hellenes" and the date 1912, and to right of the central hole a crowned and mantled shield of the arms of the Kingdom of Greece. French mint symbols appear on either side of the date. Upon the reverse, in the left field, is a figure of Minerva as Athena helmeted and robed standing to right upon a base. Her right hand holds a victory and a shield stands at her left side. Before her is a pillar rising from the base on which she stands. In the right field is a branch of olive. Above in the figure 20 and below in Greek letters "Lepta". Beneath, in minute relief, Ch. Pillet, probably the signature of a modern French engraver.

"The ten lepta bears a somewhat similar obverse to the preceding, an alteration being a large crown instead of the crowned and mantled shield of arms. The reverse bears in the left field an owl standing upon a vase which occupies the lower field in a horizontal position. To the right is an olive branch. These types are adopted from the ancient Greek tetradrachms of Athens, the owl and olive being sacred to Minerva. Above the perforation is the large figure 10 to right of which in Greek letters, "Lepta." Below, in small relief, Ch. Pillet. With the exception of the mark of value and the size, the five lepta is similar to the ten.

"In 1922 a revolution occurred in Greece by which the Monarchy was overthrown and a Republic established. The new Government vigorously continued the revival of the ancient types. In 1926 a series of nickel denominations appeared, namely the two- and one-drachma and fifty- and twenty-lepta, all bearing as an obverse type the head of Athena to left wearing the Corinthian helmet. The design is obviously taken from the ancient silver stater of Corinth but has none of its charm, being, on the modern issue, a poor and unworthy work. Close to the lower right rim line, in minute relief, the name "Gillieron Fils" discloses a French origin. The reverses bear (in Greek) the legend "Hellenic Republic", with value and the date 1926.

"The latest issues of the Greek Republic showing the revived ancient types are the twenty- and ten-drachmae in silver, both dated 1930. The twenty-drachmae shows upon its obverse a fine head of the ancient Greek maritime god Poseidon depicted to right, wearing fillet and long curling hair and beard. Below, in Greek letters of small size, "Poseidon." Between two of the lower locks of hair, in minute relief, "P.M", the initials of Percy Metcalfe, the young Yorkshire artist who designed the Irish coinage and obtained commissions to execute several European coinages. The head on this coin is adopted from the splendid head of Posiedon appearing on the beautiful silver coins struck after the death of Alexander the Great, by one of his generals, Antigonus Gonatas, styling himself King of Asia.

"The reverse of this modern twenty drachmae is also very fine. It bears the prow and forepart of an ancient Greek war galley to left. Part of a great sail is shown and below appear four waves of a choppy sea. Around above in Greek letters, "Hellenic Republic." In the upper field 20ΔΡ (20 Drachmae) and below, the date 1930. Close to the lower rim line in minute relief in monogram form, "L.J." the initials of Langford Jones, an English engraver who has, I understand, worked with Mr. Metcalfe at the Royal Mint, London. This fine reverse is also taken from the same coin of Antigonus, the reverse of which bears the prow and forepart of a war-galley. Two notable alterations in the modern design are that the beautiful figure of Apollo sitting on the prow of the galley depicted on the ancient coin is omitted from the modern piece, to the design of which is added part of a large sail as above mentioned.

"The silver ten drachmae presents as an obverse type the head of the goddess Demeter to left with draped head-dress or mantle. In the lower right field following the rim line in Greek letters, "Demeter." Beneath the truncation in minute relief, "P.M." the initials of Percy Metcalfe. Upon the reverse the central field is occupied by a large ear of barley in a vertical position. The tendrils are brought upward to the upper rim in conventional radiate form. To left a long stalk leaf curves upward and to right a short leaf appears. Around and in the field, the Republican title, mark of value and date (1930). This reverse was also engraved by Percy Metcalfe. At the base of the ear of barley, in minute relief, is "M.A." which I take to be the initials of M. Axelos. Mr. Axelos, a Greek artist, prepared drawings of ancient Greek coin types for the 1930 coinage, from which they were designed and engraved by Percy Metcalfe and Langford Jones. The ear of barley, like the fine design by Motti on the Italian bronze five-centesimi, is adopted from the silver stater of Metapontum. A five-drachmae piece in pure nickel is included in the issue - it does not come within the ambit of this paper as its type (a phoenix rising from flames) was not taken from the ancient Greek but is a revival of the 1830-31 type of the Capo d'Istrian issue. It was engraved by George Kruger Gray."

On the motion of Professor J. Rankine Brown, seconded by Miss Tewesley, a very hearty vote of appreciation was accorded to Mr. Weaver for his very interesting contribution.

G. C. SHERWOOD,

Acting Hon. Secretary.

WELLINGTON,

5th July, 1937.

The usual monthly meeting was held on Monday, 26th July, 1937, the President, Sir James Elliott, occupying the Chair.

The Minutes of the meeting held in May, as circulated, were codified and signed by the President.

Apologies for absence were received from Messrs. Berry, Todd, Walpole and Ward.

The President stated that he had received a communication from Mr. Allan Sutherland advising that he hoped to return to Wellington on or about August 9th.

**DEATH OF MR. PERCY WEBB.** It was with regret that we received a letter from England announcing the death, on 4th March last, of Mr. Percy Webb, at his home at Walton-on-Thames. Mr. Webb, who was 80 years of age, came from a family which for several generations had produced archeologists and architects, and was himself a great authority on the coinage of the Roman Empire, having acquired a European reputation as such. One of the oldest Fellows of the Royal Numismatic Society, he was its Treasurer, <sup>for 25 years</sup> and its President from 1930 to 1935. The success of the International Numismatic Congress held in London last summer was largely due to his careful organisation. In addition to numerous contributions to the Numismatic Chronicle, he was the author of standard works on the coinages of Carausius and Allectus, the two Emperors who ruled independently in Britain from A.D. 289-296. Mr. Webb was awarded the medal of the Royal Numismatic Society in 1921. It was resolved that a letter of condolence be sent to his relatives.

**CONTENT OF SILVER COINS.** A newspaper cutting, as set out hereunder, was read by Sir James Elliott showing the relative content of silver coins of today, as compared with silver coins of 1919 and thereabouts:-

"The introduction of between 600,000 and 800,000 five-shilling pieces into the Australian currency, it is stated, will show a considerable gain of revenue to the Commonwealth. Well, it may, because in these days minting money is extremely profitable. The real worth of an Australian shilling is fourpence. Probably, the new five-shilling pieces will have a real worth for their silver content of not much more than eighteen pence. Figures obtained from the working of the Royal Mint in England show that an ounce of silver, worth perhaps a couple of shillings, is sufficient to make ten shillings' worth of money. This was not always the case. The modern silver coin is only fifty per cent silver. A 1919 silver coin is actually worth twice as much as a 1930 version. This means that a two-shilling piece of today is really worth about the same as an old-fashioned shilling. No secret is made of what is in a shilling or any other silver coin made to Royal Mint specifications. In fact, the Royal Mint in an annual report let the world into the secret. Since 1928 silver coins have consisted of fifty per cent silver, forty per cent copper, five per cent nickel and five per cent zinc. For a short period before that the silver coins were fifty-fifty silver and copper. This last-named mixture proved unsatisfactory as the silver coins turned yellow. They were all withdrawn and remelted. The Royal Mint, or for that matter any other mint, shows a handsome profit from the actual making of coins, owing to the fact that coins made are not worth anything near their face value. Bronze coins are made of an alloy containing 95 per cent copper, costing until recently, about £65 a ton. A ton of this bronze will make 10,107,502 pennies, worth £448. Pennies, therefore, cost twopence a dozen to make. Shillings are worth eight a shilling. This partly explains why the average annual profit from the mint for the last 50 years has been over £600,000. The real worth of money must not be confused with the worth of money at various periods. After all, the worth of a Bank of England note for £5000 is probably sixpence a hundred. Money has varied in its ability to buy things. For example, in 1351 a master carpenter, mason or tiler was paid a daily wage of three pennies. Moreover, with that he could keep a wife and family. His journeyman got 2d and boys 1½d. In fact, the salary of a Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench in 1402 was £40 a year. In the days of Henry VII one could get an excellent admiral for 4/- a day. King Alfred, the king who burned the cakes, was not being parsimonious when he left his daughters £100. In 1314, Elizabeth, consort of Robert Bruce, King of Scotland, when she was imprisoned in England, kept herself and family luxuriously on 20 shillings a week. Joan of Oxford, nurse of the young Black Prince in 1350,

received a salary, considered at the time rather high, of £10 a year. In fact, for the same sum one could once buy a farm of three or four hundred acres, complete with stock."

PARTHIAN COINS. The paper of the evening was read by Mr. Quinnell, on Parthian Coins. Owing to the lantern failing to work, the illustrated part of Mr. Quinnell's paper is to be given at a later date and a resume of his paper will then be given.

Mr. Ford exhibited some early Roman coins.

G. C. SHERWOOD,

Acting Hon. Secretary.

WELLINGTON,

2nd August, 1937.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

REPORT OF THE 39TH MEETING, 30TH AUGUST, 1937.

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"COINAGE METALS AND ALLOYS - PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE", and "ALEXANDER TURNBULL, A LIFE SKETCH", were the subjects of two short addresses given before the 39th meeting of the N. Z. Numismatic Society, held at the Turnbull Library, on 30th August, 1937. The President, Sir James Elliott, M.D., occupied the Chair. Apologies for absence were received from Messrs. H. G. Mayer, S.P. Ward, W. Wyon Simm, and Dr. Oliver. It was reported that Professor J. Rankine Brown had left for a World tour. Minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed.

**COUNCIL MEETING:** A cordial welcome was given to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Allan Sutherland, who had been absent from Wellington for five months on Government business. Subjects dealt with at preliminary Council meeting included, Centennial Commemorative Coinage Committee; Co-operation with Museum Education Officers; Proposed import duty on coronation medals (waived) and Changing of trustees of bank account as follows:-

"That trustees for Savings Bank Account N.Z. Numismatic Society No. 608213 be George Cecil Sherwood (Hon. Treasurer), and Allan Sutherland (Hon. Secy), signature of both Trustees necessary for withdrawals. That a separate Trust Account for Composite Subscriptions be opened in the joint names of the President, Sir James Elliott, the Hon. Secretary, Allan Sutherland, and the Hon. Treasurer, George Cecil Sherwood, to which all composite subscriptions be credited, signatures of all Trustees necessary to effect withdrawals." Proposed by Mr. A. Quinell and Mr. H. R. Ford, and carried.

The foregoing matters were reported to the general meeting which then proceeded to consider the balance-sheet which was not ready for the previous meeting. Balance-sheet (appended) adopted. A vote of thanks was passed to the retiring Hon. Treasurer, Mr. R. Cooper who has been transferred to Auckland.

**MEMBERS EXCHANGES:** Suggestions designed to assist members in exchanging and acquiring specimens were considered as follows:- (1) From Mr. Bernard Teague, Wairoa, Hawke's Bay; that an Hon. Exchange Superintendent be appointed in Wellington, to collect and circulate, periodically, to members lists indicating name, address, and specimens wanted and available for exchange. (2) From Mr. A. J. McPherson, Timaru; that an Exchange Superintendent be appointed in any centre to supervise the circulation of actual coins on the lines of the Philatelic Societies, a percentage to go to the Society, and, (3), that the Society issue a quarterly list of members' exchange and wanted advertisements, a charge to be made of 1/- per inch to defray cost of circulars, a Wellington member to undertake the preparation of the lists; the chain circulation of numismatic periodicals to be included in the scheme. The Council decided to notify members of the proposals and to invite suggestions, and ask for volunteers for the position of Exchange Superintendent. The subject is to be considered further at next meeting.

Mr. Basil King, Lands & Survey Dept., Hokitika, advised that a penny of George III, dated 1773, had been unearthed by P.W.D. men at Karangarua, South Westland, in 3 ft. of gravel under a clump of totara, and as the mouth of the Karangarua River was in the line of Copeland Pass Track, interesting speculations had been made as to how the coin had been lost in such an isolated part of the country. One member advanced the view that there might be some association with early visits of sealers to the Sounds area.

**DONATION OF CORONATION MEDAL:** The Under-Secretary of Internal Affairs, Mr. J. Heenan, C.M.G., forwarded, as a gift to the Society from the Government, through the Hon. Minister of Internal Affairs, a large silver medal struck by the Royal Mint to celebrate the coronation of King George VI. and Queen Elizabeth. Sir James Elliott expressed pleasure at the action of the Minister and the Hon. Secretary was instructed to convey the appreciation of the Society for this gift for the Society's collection.

Mr. E. M. Boulton, Box 67, Wellington, was elected a new member of the Society.

In a short paper on "COINAGE METALS AND ALLOYS - PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE", Mr. C. W. Brandt, B.Sc., said that coinage metals, gold, silver and bronzes, were at first used in the rough and reckoned by weight but Man soon learned to fashion them into crude coins, and although he came to know something of alloys by rule-of-thumb methods, their production had been an art rather than a science until comparatively recent times. The earliest intentional alloys were the precious metal electrums of at least 4000 years B.C. but the earliest known stamped coins were those made in Lydia about the 7th Century B.C. from a naturally occurring electrum, Croesus, the name usually associated with wealth and coins of early times was also of Lydia some 200 years later.

Among the precious, or noble metals, platinum was not developed until much later times and the high value and limited supply of this so-called "white gold" almost prohibited its use in coinage. Between 1828 and 1841 coins of platinum were actually struck by the Russian Government but owing to the expense, difficulties of processing and rapid fluctuations in price, it was discarded for coinage purposes. Persons have actually been hanged for counterfeiting coins with platinum.

Silver was the most important coinage metal mainly because its alloys combined reasonable durability, cleanliness and an inherent value as a metal that had been associated with it from earliest times. Both gold and silver had survived until recent times almost as barter transactions, in view of their intrinsic value, but the rapid development of trade had outstripped the available quantities of precious metals, particularly gold, hence the development of bank-notes, etc., for larger transactions and copper and nickel for minor ones. Gold did not tarnish; silver was particularly susceptible to the action of minute traces of sulphur compounds in the atmosphere - the extreme case was the effects of the sulphurous atmosphere at Rotorua. Minute traces of sulphur compounds present in the paper of coin envelopes could have a tarnishing action, which may be overcome by the addition of small quantities of copper sulphate to the pulp from which the paper was made. Even cellophane wrappings contained traces of sulphur which may be harmful to coins; probably a foil of cellulose acetate might be ideal. The replacement of part of the copper in silver alloys with the metal cadmium or antimony had recently been shown to considerably increase the resistance to tarnishing. The agents causing corrosion to alloys generally were ordinary conditions, oxygen, moisture, carbon dioxide and sulphur compounds - occasionally use was made of drying and desulphurising agents in coin cabinets. Transparent lacquer was becoming popular with some collectors, but care should be taken that only suitable and pure ingredients were used for their preparation.

Often coins were rather more dirty than tarnished and required no more than a wash with warm water and non-acid soap or bicarbonate and glycerine. Base metals, of course, were not as a rule, cleaned since the film of oxide or carbonate on the surface acted as a protection against further corrosion.

Following the Napier earthquake, a large number of silver coins were cleaned by Mr. Brandt, (which had been badly blackened by exposure to fire) and it was found that a bath of weak cyanide was very effective for the purpose.

Copper was an important coinage metal, particularly in the forms alloyed with tin and zinc as well as other metals producing the bronzes. Articles made from copper were reputed to have been found in Egyptian tombs of 4,400 B.C., and bronze objects dating back to 5,700 B.C. were known. Knife coins of the Ming period were bronze but like most of the ancient Chinese bronzes contained a high proportion of lead. Bronze was very durable and tarnished only superficially. The colour could be controlled within very wide limits from red to yellow as the proportion of tin was increased or other metals added - thus nickel (20%) gave a pale cream colour

Nickel, when present in alloys was the most important constituent in determining whiteness and tarnish resistance. The nickel found in ancient Chinese coins was probably accidental. The use of nickel was perhaps the most outstanding feature of modern coinage - it was very durable and capable of forming many interesting alloys, thus with 2% of manganese its resistance to tarnishing was further enhanced. Nickel was in great demand because of the usefulness of its alloys for shell caps and armament steels, as well as its wide application in modern industry. It has been alleged that certain countries where nickel was not plentiful had adopted it for coinage as a readily accessible source for emergency armament purposes - Japan has denied that this was the reason actuating her change in that

connection but it was freely stated that owing to the use of nickel coinage in Germany the people there were actually carrying in their pockets and handbags some 3000 tons of essential war material.

Among modern coinage alloys - those of silver were outstanding. The only truly homogeneous alloy of silver with copper was that containing  $72\frac{1}{2}\%$  of silver (termed Levols alloy); this was much used in the Dutch Indies and had been used in recent coin for other foreign countries. Other silver copper alloys were not entirely uniform - sterling silver containing  $92\frac{1}{2}\%$  of silver was used in British coin prior to 1920 and were worth about  $\frac{3}{4}$  their face value in silver content and were often melted down - partly for this reason the present British and N.Z. coinage are of the quaternary alloy containing 50 of silver, 40 copper, 5 nickel, and 5 of zinc. Previous experience with a silver copper nickel alloy from 1920-22 had been discouraging and the sterling silver alloy was reverted to until its replacement in 1927 by the present alloy. It is said that the present 50% silver coins are treated in an acid bath for the purpose of increasing the relative silver content at the surface - the Chinese applied such a process to gold alloy coins in early times.

The composition of all modern alloys is controlled within very narrow limits and the specifications for coinage alloys allow only very minute amounts of impurities and are always carefully checked by chemical analysis - in this connection it is interesting to note that down through the ages as metal refining methods have advanced so purer components have been used in alloys; indeed, in many cases, the period to which old coin and other metal articles belong can often be determined by a chemical analysis - this method is sometimes applied in examination for forged coins.

In attempting to prophesy the future trends in coinage metals one was on difficult ground but one ventures to suggest that pure gold coinage would never return although it may be seen as a minor constituent in certain alloys. If one considered utility rather than value then coinage alloys would be chosen from the point of view of durability including permanence of form and finish, colour for contrast of denominations and to a lesser extent perhaps lightness. And if the present tendency to depart from rigid intrinsic value in coinage is continued so that money tends to become more of a token like paper money, then a very much wider application of modern alloy developments could be made. Aluminium gave very

striking colour effects alloyed with gold. Aluminium was too soft and too base a metal to be used alone but rapid progress has been made in the study of its alloys and these are commonly seen in use for tokens, e.g., the sales tax coupons in the U.S. Large numbers of new alloys of high durability were developed with copper, nickel, aluminium and other metals, and, further, many methods are now known for colouring such alloys from browns and black to brighter shades of yellow, blue, red and green, which in many cases are highly resistant and not merely surface effects.

Even among some of the more ductile stainless steels such as the well known staybrite variety, one would expect to find the necessary attributes of a coinage metal possessed in high degree.

The recent experiment of the English bronze threepence with its unusual shape and shade indicated that more novel coins are to be expected.

Modern trends are seen in such medallions as the recent Edward VIII Coronation medals including the bronze finished in a glossy black tone and also the silver matte surface, probably produced by the wellknown modern electro chemical process which has recently been applied to so many metals - by means of this process the surface layers of the metal are converted to a finely divided and strongly adherent film of oxide producing a matte effect and effectually protecting the metal from further corrosion.

After dealing with modern developments in plating of metals, Mr. Brandt concluded with the statement that the dramatic rate at which the science of metals has progressed in modern times due to the stimulus to research that has been created by the demands of modern industry for alloys to withstand high speeds and pressures, for non-corrodable materials, light and strong alloys for aircraft as well as many other special purpose alloys, the results so far obtained are only a commencement of future developments in this vast field which will undoubtedly yield many more special and more novel metal products.

A most interesting "LIFE SKETCH OF ALEXANDER TURNBULL," who donated a treasure house of rare and valuable books to the nation, was the theme of a short address by the Librarian of the Turnbull Library, Mr. C.R.H. Taylor, M.A., who unfolded a vivid picture of the world ramifications of the activities and searches of this noted New Zealand booklover behind what was regarded by many as a most retiring exterior in his dealings with immediate friends. Turnbull's intimacies were mainly with his books, and he took little part in social life. Nevertheless, he had a rich association with leading world thinkers of his time, and during his collecting years rare and valuable books must have poured into the Library, and must have been a source of unending joy and delight to him. His correspondence and books reflected his wide interests. He was born in Wellington in 1868, and it was a strange coincidence that another of New Zealand's greatest collectors, Sir Joseph Kinsey, went to the same English College with him - Dulwich College. Thousands of Turnbull's letters were preserved until 1902, after which his letters are missing. He was meticulous in recording his book transactions and the index to his books in his own copper-plate hand printing, is a source of delight and a model to any careful indexer. He completed his education in England about 1885 and for four or five years after that he remained in London, and it was during this time that he built up a close association with English booksellers which served him in good stead in after years when he started actively to collect books. He returned to New Zealand in 1893 and he never married. After the age of 30 his correspondence that was left indicates that he was more intimate in his correspondence than in his actual dealings with people around him. His chief and most absorbing hobby was collecting books, but he had other interests, principally in shipping. He was a foundation member of the Hutt Golf Club, he was interested in cycling, he was a club man to a limited extent, and he was a numismatist. He died in June 1918, and two years later his library-home was opened to the public as a national institution. No books may be removed from the institution which is being built on as a leading repository of New Zealand literature. Turnbull, was perhaps one of the three greatest collectors of books in the English speaking World in the sense that he had built up the collection on his own. Many Americans had built up larger collections, not always with their own money or with the aid of their own scholarship. Dealing with some of the highlights in the library, Mr. Taylor referred to the Milton collection which was one of the largest and best outside of the British Museum. Turnbull first started collecting Milton's works at the age of 24. Other outstanding books were the De Bry Voyages collection in German and Latin, the Log of Captain Cook's "Endeavour", 1768, 1770, for which £110 was paid, although it was now probably worth £5,000. Turnbull was a numismatist, but owing to the wording of his will the books only were held to be bequeathed to the nation, and the Government had to buy the building, whilst the coin and medal collection was sold in London, for what price it was not known. Only a Captain Cook medal, presented to the Maoris, remained of the numismatic collection. Mr. Taylor kindly distributed a list of the books on numismatics and related subjects in the Turnbull Library and included in the list were the books of the N. Z. Numismatic Society on semi-permanent loan to the Library to make them available to anyone interested and to bring up to date the numismatic section bequeathed. In conclusion Mr. Taylor discussed many aspects of the career of Turnbull and his father. He showed that Alexander Turnbull had a width of knowledge and interests beyond his scholastic attainments, and his knowledge of human life and books extended far beyond the shores of New Zealand. His generosity and his self-appointed task of amassing first editions and New Zealand works had earned for him a world name in the Library world.

In proposing a vote of thanks Mr. Johannes Andersen, ex-Librarian said that the review brought back many happy memories of associations with the Turnbull Library. In one hour no speaker could compress a complete picture of the life of Alexander Turnbull. It was Turnbull's early association with London booksellers that had assisted him so greatly in acquiring first editions and rare books for his library. Many booksellers seemed to get as much joy, as Turnbull did in securing specimens for the Turnbull collection. Many books on the shelves of the Turnbull Library were acquired for hundreds of pounds and were worth thousands of pounds. Mr. Johannes Andersen said that as one who had spent almost his lifetime in the atmosphere of rare books in the Turnbull collection he was pleased to note that his successor, Mr. Taylor, had carried on the enthusiasm and almost reverence he always felt for the man who had made it all possible - the late Alexander Turnbull.



Sir James Elliott said it was a privilege to hear such an informed survey of the life of one of Wellington's leading citizens who had left a World name behind him in the book collecting sphere. Sir James said that he knew the late Alexander Turnbull and his father personally, and he recalled instances of personal association with the Turnbull family. As Librarian of the Turnbull Library, Mr. Johannes Andersen had earned a world name as a man of letters, and it was fortunate that the Government had been able to have the advantage of such appreciative and learned custodians of the Turnbull Collection as Mr. Johannes C. Andersen and his successor, Mr. Taylor.

Mr. Allan Sutherland said that because of the late Alexander Turnbull's early association with numismatics, numismatists felt that they had a spiritual home in his Library.

Mr. Taylor was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his most interesting address.

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1936 - 1937.

N. Z. NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

GENERAL ACCOUNT.

<u>1936</u>	<u>£ s d</u>	<u>1937</u>	<u>£ s d</u>
June 1. To Balance P.O.S.B.	19 8 5	May 31. Printing and	15 0 6
Cash in Hand	1 17 1	Stationery	
Subs. & donations	51 9 0 *	Postages	3 1 7
Sale of Coins.	2 15 6	Sundry Exes.	1 18 6
		Bal. P.O.S.B.	51 3 5
		Cash	4 6 0
	<u>£75 10 0</u>		<u>£75 10 0</u>

\* Includes £34.13.0. Composite subscriptions to be transferred to a separate Trust Account.

Audited and found correct.

R. Cooper, Hon Treasurer.

S. P. Ward, Hon Auditor.

Allan Sutherland,  
Hon. Secretary,  
C/- Hansard Parliament House,  
WELLINGTON.

REPORT OF 40th MEETING - 27th SEPTEMBER, 1937.

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"COMMUNION TOKENS," "MEDAL AWARDS OF SIR JAMES HECTOR," and "INSCRIPTIONS ON COINS" were the subjects of three short addresses delivered before the 40th meeting of the New Zealand Numismatic Society held in the Turnbull Library on 27th September, 1937. In the absence of the President, Sir James Elliott, M.D., Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, M.B.E., (Vice-President) occupied the Chair. A most cordial welcome was accorded to the Rev. D.C.Bates (first President) who has been residing in Auckland for some years, and who intends to remain in Wellington for some time.

Reports of the Australian Numismatic Society, and general correspondence were laid upon the table. Mr. Geo. C. Studd, Post Office, Ormondville, (Regimental Badges, medals, etc.) was elected a new member of the Society.

A report on the preliminary meeting of the SUB-COMMITTEE ON CENTENNIAL COINAGE, set up by the National Historical Committee, was made by Mr. Allan Sutherland. His representation of the Society was confirmed. The Committee consists of Mr. J.Heenan, M.B.E., (Chairman), Mr. G.C.Rodda (Secretary to Treasury), Mr. Allan Sutherland (representing N.Z.Numismatic Society) and Mr. E.H.McCormick (Secretary). The question of asking the Government for a subsidy or grant towards the issue of a Centennial Medal in 1940, on the lines of the Bledisloe-Waitangi medal, was held over for subsequent consideration. In dealing with a proposal supported by the Society last year that a Centennial half-crown be issued in 1940, the Rev. D.C.Bates said that it was not in the interests of the early adoption of decimal coinage to perpetuate the half-crown. The florin, which was a decimal coin, and a four-shilling piece, which was a possible decimal unit, would be appropriate commemorative pieces. Florins were preferred to half-crowns, and the similarity in sizes of the two coins created confusion. Mr. Johannes Andersen said that during a shortage of half-crowns he had experienced the convenience of florins in paying out to staff, and he, too, favoured the elimination of the half-crown as being unnecessary. Mr. Allan Sutherland said that in a three-place decimal system (with the £. divided into 1,000 mils, as recommended by the recent Royal Commission on Australian banking) the half-crown would probably have no place, but in a crown-cent decimal system, the £. would be abolished in favour of a crown or 5s. unit equalling 100 cents (two decimal places) and both the florin and the half-crown could be fitted into such a system. The half-crown was suggested as the Centennial coin because it was the largest circulating coin and would take a good design though it might be noted that Australia had long ago abolished the half-crown. The Society had suggested that the questions of Centennial coinage and decimal coinage might well be separated, and the matter of a possible investigation into decimal coinage would no doubt be considered by the Government in due course.

A copy of Volume I of the Reports of the Society 1931-1936, bound in roan, with gold lettering, was tabled by Mr. Sutherland, the binding being undertaken by him without cost to the Society. He was prepared to arrange somewhat similar binding of Members' reports for approximately 5s., plus postage.

Mr. H.R.Ford exhibited a silver thaler of Frederick Ernest, Duke of Brunswick and Luneburgh, 1624, and a large gold piece of Francis Joseph I of Austria, 1881. Mr. L.R.Harris exhibited proof sets of the whole range of the new English coinage from the 5s gold piece to the "Wren" Farthing, including Maundy money. There were two types of shillings, three types of threepences, and two types of pennies. Extracts from a review of the designs by Mr. G.J.V.Weaver, Sydney, added interest to the exhibition.

Numismatic books exhibited included "The Story of Money" (Illustrated), 5s., by Stuart Mosher, 1936, and "Coins of the Modern World" by Commencini (exhibited by Mr. H.G.Williams,) and "The Story of British Coinage, 1901" (G.B.Rawlings), exhibited by Mr. F.Wyon Simms.

In a short paper on "COMMUNION TOKENS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NEW ZEALAND", Mr. H.G. Williams, of Dunedin, said that Presbyterian Church Communion tokens (round, square, oval, or lozenge-shaped pieces of metal, usually of lead, and bearing names of churches, numbers, or references from the Bible) were interesting sidelights on the study of numismatics. These tokens were said to have had their origin in Scotland, as admission pieces to communion services. It is even stated that similar tokens were used as passports to conventicles held in defiance of the law, when religious persecution was the order of the day in Scotland, and it is suggested that the lozenge shape was adopted to facilitate insertion in the mouth in the event of being surprised in secret conclave, but there was no confirmation of these assertions. In any case the heather would provide a sufficient hiding place for tokens if used in times of risk. It was clear that communion tokens served mainly as adjuncts to communion services, indicating numbers and texts, etc., and it was for use in such a way that they were first issued in New Zealand in 1844, their use being discontinued about the year 1886. They were used mainly in Otago. Very few people of the present generation were aware that these pieces had been used, and there were very few, if any, complete collections of them. Mr. Williams had the most complete collection. He was making an effort to complete sets for the Church authorities and for local collections, and so far he had learned of the following 40 issues:-

1. Free Church of Scotland . . . ND.	23. Anderson Bay (Dunedin) . . . ND.
(Brought to N.Z. by passengers of "Phillip Liang")	24. Green Island (Otago) . . . ND.
2. Whangarei (Auckland) . . . ND.	25. Kaihiku (Otago) . . . ND.
3. St. Andrews (Auckland) . . . ND.	26. North Taieri (Otago) . . . ND.
4. Otahuhu (Papatoetoe) . . . 1854.	27. East Taieri (Otago) . . . ND.
5. St. Pauls (Napier) . . . ND.	28. West Taieri (Otago) . . . 1864.
6. St. John's (Wellington) . . . 1878.	29. Waihole (Otago) . . . 1864.
7. St. John's (Wellington) . . . 1886.	30. Warepa (Otago) . . . ND.
8. Trinity Church (Nelson) . . . 1849.	31. Balclutha (Otago) . . . ND.
9. St. Paul's (Christchurch) . . . ND.	32. Tapenui (Otago) . . . ND.
10. Sefton (Canterbury) . . . ND.	33. Tukurau (Otago) . . . ND.
11. St. Paul's (Oamaru) . . . ND.	34. Tokomairiro (Otago) . . . 1860.
12. Waikouaiti (Otago) . . . 1863.	35. Otapopo (Otago) . . . 1864.
13. Mornington (Otago) . . . ND.	36. Longbush (Southland) . . . ND.
14. Pureua (Otago) . . . ND.	37. First Church, Invercargill (Southland) . . . ND.
15. Scots Rd. Pn. Mission to NZ 1844.	
16. Presbyterian Church of Otago (For general use) . . . ND.	Cardboard Tokens (word "Token" printed thereon):-
17. Port Chalmers (Otago) . . . 1848.	38. Waverley (Taranaki) . . . .
18. Chalmers Church (Dunedin) . . . ND.	39. St. Andrew's (Queenstown) . . . .
19. Knox Church (Dunedin) . . . 1860.	40. Kaiapoi (Christchurch) . . . .
20. First Church (Dunedin) . . . 1848.	
21. St. Stephen's (Nth. Dunedin) 1871.	
22. St. Andrews (Dunedin) . . . ND.	

Sir James Elliott exhibited a series of early Scottish communion tokens, some of which were fairly rare and worth about 7s.6d. These tokens were perhaps not sufficiently old to have been used as passports to illegal conventicles, such as those referred to, but they brought under notice the former existence of interesting religious usages of departed days.

The Rev. D.C. Bates said that in mediæval times it was usual for the laity to communicate only once a year - at Easter; but at the Reformation it was thought desirable that communion should be taken more frequently. The issue of Presbyterian communion tokens to the congregation was considered to be a privilege necessitating a special session of the elders to consider the fitness of the applicants for communion. This was known as "fencing the table." The issue of tokens was said to have been abused occasionally both by issuers and recipients and, after being substituted by cards in some places, their issue was discontinued. Communion tokens seemed peculiar to the Presbyterian Church, although other Churches had their forms of admission and Communicant Guilds, etc., for which special medals were worn.

Mr. H.G. Williams was accorded a vote of thanks for his interesting paper.

In a short address on the late SIR JAMES HECTOR, a leading geologist and one time Director of the Colonial Museum, and Manager of the New Zealand Institute, Dr. W.R.B. Oliver, F.R.S.N.Z., said that the geological, exploratory, and scientific work of Sir James Hector extended well beyond the shores of New Zealand. He joined an expedition that spent four years on the West of Lake Superior exploring the rugged mountain country there, acting in the combined capacities of medical officer and geologist for the expedition. The party discovered five passes across the Rockies, including one known as "Kicking Horse Pass" over which the Canadian Railway now passed. At this Pass a horse kicked Sir James, and he nearly lost his life, and the Pass was named because of that incident. The array of gold, silver and bronze medals (16) exhibited indicated a world-wide recognition of the work of Sir James Hector in various fields. When Sir James went to England after the Canadian expedition the Royal Geographical Society awarded him its gold medal. The medal bears the effigy of King William IV., Patron of the Royal Geographic Society, and Hector's name appears on the rim. Later Hector accepted a position in New Zealand as geologist to the Provincial District of Otago, spending three years exploring the backblocks of Otago and Southland, partly from the landward and partly from the seaward side. He explored the Sounds from the seaward side. In 1863 he practically finished his work there and in 1864 he was sent around New Zealand to determine how best the industries and products of New Zealand could be shown at industrial exhibitions, and particularly at the Exhibition held in Dunedin in 1865. At that time he was appointed Director of the Colonial Museum, with sundry other appointments. One of his duties was to manage on behalf of the Government various exhibitions in New Zealand and in other parts of the world, and it was during these visits abroad that he was awarded or received the eleven Exhibition medals exhibited. For scientific services he was awarded the Lyell Medal (1873) of the Geological Society of London, and the Clarke Medal (1878) of the Royal Society of New South Wales. A further medal award was issued by the Edinburgh University where he was trained, and this was issued to Sir James when he was Chancellor of the New Zealand University. Another interesting medal exhibited was the Hooker Medal, struck in 1898 by the Linnean Society of London to commemorate the scientific work of Sir Joseph Hooker after 60 years' work in botany. Hooker was the medical officer of the "Erebus" under Sir James Clark Ross. One medal in gold was presented to Hooker in 1898 and 73 others in silver and bronze were issued to Fellows who subscribed for them. The series of exhibition medals were then touched upon. The medals were presented to the Dominion Museum by the three daughters of the late Sir James Hector, Mrs. L. G. Saxby, Mrs. R. J. Barton, and Miss M. Hector. It was proposed to make a special exhibition of the medals at the Museum to mark Sir James Hector's distinguished services to New Zealand.

THE REV. D. C. BATES said that there was also a Hector Medal bearing the effigy of Sir James Hector, awarded periodically in New Zealand for scientific work. That medal might appropriately be included in the exhibit.

Dr. Oliver was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his most interesting survey and for the exhibition of medals arranged.

In the absence of Mr. J. Heenan's paper, which is to be given later, Mr. Allan Sutherland, F.R.N.S., gave a short paper on "COIN INSCRIPTIONS" wherein he said that coin inscriptions were necessarily limited to alphabetic brevity, and it was remarkable to note the ingenuity in moulding them into designs and crowding them into limited space. The placing of the Lord's Prayer on a small medal or the reproduction of the whole of the Abdication Speech of King Edward VIII on a plaque indicated the advance made in the art of reproducing inscriptions on limited surfaces.

To numismatists a notable inscription was "S.C." on Roman coins denoted "By the consent of the Senate." These letters ranged through a series of Roman coins and reminded us that even in those days so far as the baser metal coins were concerned, they were issued by the consent of the Senate. Roman coins were rich in historical inscriptions and allusions. Latin inscriptions on British coins came to us from the time of the Roman occupation of Britain and, strangely enough, Latin had long been discarded on the coinage of Italy, the country of its origin. Until recently Latin coin inscriptions were familiar to New Zealanders, but when New Zealand adopted her own coinage in 1933 she used the uniform inscription, in English, appearing on coins of the British overseas Dominions, "George V., King, Emperor." In some countries bi-lingual and tri-lingual inscriptions were used.

In an historical approach to the origin of the present-day ecclesiastical inscriptions on British coins, Mr. Sutherland that it was King Henry VIII who first adopted the title "Fid. Def." (Defender of the Faith) which still appeared on British coins. Early in his career a treatise in defence of the Roman Catholic Faith was published under his name, and this pleased the then Pope so much that he conferred on him the title of "Defender of the Faith." When King Henry VIII started his matrimonial marathon, however, he defied the Pope's edicts on divorce, discarded the jurisdiction of the Roman Catholic Church and decreed his own supremacy in the Church of England. He retained, however, the title of "Defender of the Faith" conferred on him by the Pope, but the "Faith", he contended, was the same, and he tried to prove it by his Six Articles - "The Whip with Six Strings". The reign of Henry VIII was well marked in numismatic history, for he debased the coinage so much that his so-called silver coins were little more than silver-copper pieces, and this was soon disclosed as the silver wore away, for the coins depicted his features, full-face with the nose protruding. When the nose began to wear flat this not only gave the monarch a pugilistic appearance, but revealed the baseness of the metal, and this originated the nickname afterwards given to King Henry VIII - "Old Copper-Nose." Modern coins show the features of monarchs in profile. In the days of Henry VIII coinage was valued because of its inherent purity, and debasing had repercussions that did not apply today when coins were largely tokens only, representing value in the same way as banknotes. Some regarded the early debasing of coins as almost counterfeiting; but Henry VIII had a good precedent to follow, for Julius Caesar was alleged to have counterfeited his coinage by silver-plating inscribed base metal.

The absence of the title "Fid. Def." from the standard overseas coin-inscription in no way indicated the absence of recognition of the Christian faith. Full titles could not conveniently be shown in English. A very small percentage of the people, in any case, knew what the cryptic Latin abbreviations meant. In a search for an all-embracing inscription it was considered even by the Designs Committee attached to the Royal Mint (on which was a personal representative of the late King George V) that "George V. King Emperor" was adequate. Moreover, the omission of it would not give offence to the millions of non-Christian British subjects in India and elsewhere. This showed a broad-minded spirit of tolerance on the part of the dominant Christian minority towards the majority, for it was understood that there were more non-Christians than Christians in the British Empire. Whilst studying the feelings of the variety of races and creeds within the Empire, the Homeland retained the full style and title on its own coins, in Latin.

The other religious inscription, "D.G." (By the Grace of God) was reminiscent of the days of the Divine Right of Kings, and although that was hardly accepted to-day (nor, indeed, in the time of Charles I, whose insistence on it caused his head to be cut off), it was retained in deference to long-established tradition. The Kings of France and Spain had also used this inscription on their coins. Long after British influence and possessions had ceased in France, British Kings boastfully proclaimed in their coin inscriptions the title "King of France."

By law the coins of U.S.A. must bear the words "In God We Trust" and "E Pluribus Unum" (one out of many) but it was explained that these mottoes should not be read in conjunction with one another. A ferocious inscription on a coin issued during the Mexican Revolution was "Muera Huerta," meaning "Death to Huerta". Huerta was so enraged that he ordered the death penalty for those found in possession of this coin. The "Zloty" of Poland, the "Gulden" of Danzig, and the Dutch "Guilder" came from the local names for gold, and the words "Crown," "Krone," "Koruna," "Kroon," "Krona," indicated that the currency was derived from Crown authority, whilst the "Pound," "Mark," "Peso," and "Lire" referred to weights. Designers displayed ingenuity in conforming with the law and yet produced designs unspoilt by compulsory lettering.

The Rev. D.C. Bates said that Henry VIII was originally intended for the Church and therefore had a theological or dogmatic outlook. Many monarchs had been made titular Bishops and Cardinals although they had never been consecrated as such. The origin of the title "D.G." (By the Grace of God) was also of papal origin. History showed that medieval Popes considered themselves God's Vice-Regent with the power to appoint monarchs and to dispose of earthly realms and to confer titles such as "D.G." and "Fidei Defensor" both of which originated from the Vatican. The former title was adopted in the time of Pepin, who took the

title "By Divine Grace" when in 752, with the approval of the Pope, he ousted his King and was released from oaths of fealty. On American coins the motto "In God We Trust" was added to sarcastically with the words "All Others Cash."

Mr. Sutherland was accorded a vote of thanks for his paper.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,  
Hon. Secretary,  
Hansard, Parliament House,  
Wellington, N.Z.

14th October, 1937.

Next Meeting Monday 18th October. (Advanced one week),

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

REPORT OF 41st MEETING - 18th OCTOBER, 1937

"HERALDRY" and "THE SILVER COINS OF NEW ZEALAND" were the subjects of short papers delivered before the 41st meeting of the New Zealand Numismatic Society, held on the 18th October, 1937. The President, Sir James Elliott, occupied the Chair. A welcome was extended to Mr. A.R.Wilson, a visiting member from Hamilton.

CENTENNIAL COINS AND MEDALS. Mr. Allan Sutherland reported that he had attended a further meeting of the sub-committee on coins and medals set up by the National Historical Committee. The recommendations of the Committee would not be made known until they had been considered and approved by the National Historical Committee and the Government. In order that a Standing Committee might be available to deal with matters that might arise in this connection during the December-March recess of the Society, Sir James Elliott moved, and Mr. A. Quinnell seconded, "That a Sub-committee be set up to deal with proposals that may be referred to it in connection with the issue of coins and medals to commemorate the Centennial of New Zealand, 1940, the Sub-committee to consist of The Rev. D.C.Bates, Mr. Johannes C.Andersen, M.B.E., Dr. W.R.B.Oliver, F.R.S.N.Z., Mr. Allan Sutherland, F.R.N.S., Mr. H.G.Mayer, and the mover (Sir James Elliott, M.D.)." Agreed to.

HALF-CROWN OR FLORIN AS CENTENNIAL COIN. On the motion of Mr. Johannes C.Andersen, seconded by Mr. Quinnell, it was decided - "That in view of the confusion resulting from the similarity in sizes of the half-crown and the florin, and the fact that the florin is a decimal coin and a more convenient denomination, the Government be asked to adopt the florin, instead of the half-crown, as the Centennial Commemorative coin."

In a short paper on "THE SILVER COIN ISSUES OF NEW ZEALAND" Mr. H.G.Williams, of Dunedin, submitted a table showing the number and value of the various denominations issued since New Zealand adopted her own distinctive silver coinage in 1933. This table showed that nearly 40,000,000 silver coins had been imported to New Zealand from 1933 until 31st March, 1937, and that the face value was £1,970,000. No mention was made of the bronze coins as Imperial bronze pieces were still being used. The table indicated that the threepence was the most popular coin, over 13,000,000 having been minted, whilst the next popular coin was the sixpence, nearly 8,000,000 having been issued. Over 7,000,000 one-shilling pieces, nearly 6,000,000 florins, and 5,250,000 half-crowns had been issued. In regard to the specimen sets issued in proof condition in 1935 (including, for the first time, the Waitangi-Hobson crown piece), only 364 pieces of each denomination had been sent to the Dominion, although the crown pieces imported in 1935 numbered 1,128. It was expected that a supply of silver coins of all denominations, excepting the crown piece, would be issued early in 1938. These coins would bear the effigy of George VI, and the date 1937. The complete table of issue of New Zealand coins (apart from tokens and Imperial coins used until 1933) was as follows -

		<u>NEW ZEALAND SILVER COINS.</u>						
George V.	1933	-	2/6	2/-	1/-	6d.	3d.	
"	1934	-	2/6	2/-	1/-	6d.	3d.	
"	1935	5/-	2/6	2/-	1/-	6d.	3d.	(5s. issued at 7s.6d)
"	1935	5/-	2/6	2/-	1/-	6d.	3d.	(Proof sets)
"	1936	-	-	2/-	-	6d.	3d.	
Edward VIII	1936	(No N.Z. issues bearing portrait of Edward VIII; N.Z. coins struck during this reign bear portrait of George V.)						
George VI	1937	(Anticipated complete series of silver coins, excepting crown piece, bearing date 1937, will be issued before the end of the year);						

Sir James Elliott read an extract from an American publication in which a leading American numismatist expressed the opinion that "Of all the British Colonies, New Zealand has probably the most distinctive set of coins." The Crown piece, described as one of the most striking of modern coins, was valued at 16s. N.Z. in New York. Mr. Sutherland drew attention to a description of the design of the New Zealand sixpence as "A female kookaburra or hula bird," confusing the hula with the national bird of Australia.

Mr. H.G.Williams was accorded a vote of thanks for his paper.

In a short paper on "SEALS AND HERALDRY" Mr. J.A.Thomson, "Takahe", Cashmere Hills, Christchurch, said:-

"True Heraldry appears to have been introduced into England from Germany through France in the second half of the twelfth century. Early in the 13th century the new science began to establish itself firmly among our ancestors of that age; and it is certain that as soon as its character and capabilities were in any degree understood aright, it grew speedily into favour; so that in the reign of Henry III (A.D. 1216-1272) English heraldry had confirmed its own claims to be regarded as a Science, by being in possession of a system, a classification, and a technical language of its own. From the circumstance that it first found its special use in direct connection with military equipments, knightly exercises and the melees of actual battle, medieval heraldry has also been entitled armory. Men wore the ensigns of heraldry about their persons, embroidered upon the garments that partially covered their armour, and so they called them Coats of Arms; they wore these same ensigns on their shields, and they called them Shields of Arms; and in their armorial banners and pennons they again displayed the very same insignia, floating in the wind high above their heads, from the shafts of their lances.

The Crusades, those extraordinary confederacies without a parallel in the history of civilized nations, were themselves so thoroughly heraldic that it was inevitable that they should give a powerful influence to the establishment and development of heraldry. Very soon after the Norman Conquest, in consequence of their presence being required to give validity to every species of legal document, Seals became instruments of the greatest importance; and heraldic insignia, with a representation of the knightly shield upon which they were displayed, were exactly suited to satisfy every requirement of the seal engraver. By such means heraldry became interwoven with peaceful concerns of everyday life, as with the display of martial splendour and the turmoil of war.

SEALS. At the head of the earliest existing authorities in English heraldry are seals. Produced with peculiar care and approved by their possessors, their original authenticity is confirmed by their continued use through successive generations. Seals enable us to compare the devices that preceded true heraldry with the earliest that are truly heraldic; and thus they show that in many instances regular Coats of Arms derived their hereditary bearings from similar devices that had been adopted in the same families before the heraldic era.

Monumental effigies, sepulchral memorials, early buildings, and early stained glass, are frequently rich in authoritative examples of "the figures of heraldry". In addition to the various forms and combinations of heraldic composition, these works illustrate the early style of drawing in favour with heralds during the great eras of medieval art, and they have preserved to us most useful and suggestive representations of various devices in their proper heraldic aspect. The heraldry of early monuments and architecture possesses a peculiar value, arising from the circumstance of the Shield of Arms and other insignia having been sculptured in low relief or outlined in incised lines, and consequently these devices and compositions retain their original forms: in like manner, the original colour of the heraldry of stained glass remains safe from restoration or destruction. The early English literature of English heraldry is calculated to throw but little light upon either its true character or its history. In addition to the various and numerous official documents of the Heralds College, several examples of one particular class of heraldic record have been preserved. These are Rolls of Arms - long, narrow strips of parchment on which are written the names and titles of certain personages, with full descriptions of their armorial insignia.

The earliest of these Rolls at present known date about 1250 A.D., and since in these earliest Rolls a very decided technical language is uniformly adopted, and the descriptions are all given in palpable accordance with fixed rules, which must then have been well understood, we can infer that in the course of the first half of the 13th century Heralds had framed some system for the regulation of their proceedings, had raised Heraldry to the rank of a science, had fixed upon certain terms and rules for describing heraldic devices and figures, and had established laws to direct the granting, the assuming, and the bearing of Arms. Thus we have ARMS OF DOMINION, which Emperors and Kings constantly bear and which, being annexed to their territories to express their authority and power, are stamped on their coins and displayed on their colours, standards, banners, coaches,



seals, etc. ARMS OF PRETENSION are coats borne by sovereigns who are not in possession of the dominions to which such coats belong, but who claim or pretend to have a right to those territories, viz. Spain quarters the arms of Portugal and Jerusalem, to show pretension to those kingdoms; England till lately quartered the arms of France. ARMS OF COMMUNITY are those of bishoprics, cities, universities, academies, societies, companies, and other bodies corporate. ASSUMPTIVE ARMS are such as a man of his proper right may assume, with the approbation of his Sovereign and of the King of Arms. 'If a man, being no gentleman of blood or coat-armour, or else being a gentleman of blood and coat-armour, shall take prisoner in lawful war any gentleman, nobleman or prince', says Sir John Ferne, 'he may bear the shield of that prisoner, and enjoy it to him and his heirs for ever.' ARMS OF PATRONAGE are such as governors of provinces, lords of manors, patrons of benefices, add to their family arms, as a token of their superiority, rights and jurisdiction. ARMS OF SUCCESSION are those taken up by such as inherit certain fiefs, or manors, either by will, entail or donation; which they quarter with their own arms. ARMS OF ALLIANCE are such as (when heiresses marry into families) are taken up by their issue, to show their descent paternal and maternal; and by this means the memory of many ancient and noble families, extinct in the male line, is preserved and conveyed to posterity; which is one of the principal reasons of marshalling several coats pertaining to distinct families in one shield. ARMS OF ADOPTION are those which are taken from another family to be quartered with paternal ones; for instance, the last of a family may, by will, adopt a stranger to possess his name, estate and arms, and thereby continue the name and grandeur of his family after his decease. If the adopted stranger be of more noble blood and family than the adopter, he is not obliged by the testament to disuse his own name or arms, but, if he be inferior, he is obliged to leave his own name, as also his proper arms, except he will marshal them after the arms of the adopter. The present custom for persons adopted is to apply to His Majesty for Royal Warrant to empower them to fulfil the will of the disposers, or to Parliament for an Act.

ARMS PATERNAL AND HEREDITARY are such as are transmitted from the first obtainer to his son, grandson, great-grandson, etc. Then they are arms of a perfect and complete nobility, begun in the grandfather, or great-grandfather (as heralds say), growing in the son, complete in the grandson, or rather great-grandson, from which rises the distinction of gentlemen of blood in the grandson or great-grandson; and from the last gentlemen of ancestry. Nisbet says we may date the origin of arms as hereditary marks of honour soon after the subversion of the Roman Empire by the Goths and Vandals, who sunk many liberal arts and sciences, but gave birth and life to heraldry, which is made up of the figures or animals, vegetables and of other things suitable to their genius, for distinction, in time of battle. Thus, the strong bore lions, boars, wolves, etc; for wit and craft they bore serpents, dogs, etc.

ARMS OF CONCESSION are augmentations granted by the Sovereign, or part of his ensigns, or regalia, to such persons as he pleaseth to honour therewith. CANTING ARMS, or allusive arms, or rebuses, are coats of arms whose figures allude to the names, professions, etc., of the bearer; as a trevet, for Trevet; three herrings, for Herring; a camel, for Camel; three covered cups, for Butler; a pine tree, for Pine; three arches, for Arches, and three harrows, for Harrow, etc. "

Mr. Thomson was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his interesting and informative paper.

Sir James Elliott said that in times of chivalry, knights wore cloaks or suits of mail, and in order to distinguish one leader from another, cloaks or coats with distinguishing marks or arms emblazoned thereon were adopted, and later these devices were adopted on shields, and thus the term "Coat of Arms" originated.

Mr. Johannes C. Andersen said that some people who had studied heraldry could unfold interesting tales of history merely from the examination of a coat or shield of arms. History and heraldry were interwoven, and because of the involved descriptive phraseology of heraldry, it was not a well-known subject. Like other sciences, heraldry had a language of its own, and a depth not appreciated by many. Ex libris also included the study of heraldry.

CHAIN CIRCULATION OF NUMISMATIC PERIODICALS, and WANTED & EXCHANGE LISTS. Mr. J.G.Tandy, (Care District Engineer, N.Z.R., Wellington) was appointed to take charge of the chain circulation of the illustrated monthly magazines, "The Numismatist," and Spinks "Circular." Members who desire to peruse these magazines should communicate with him direct. It was pointed out that no circulation scheme can be successful if members do not co-operate in keeping the magazines moving. The issue of wanted and exchange lists will be dealt with later.

BACK REPORTS. Several back reports of the Society are available to members on application. On the other hand, the supply of some early reports (particularly from 1st to 10th meetings) is exhausted, and as several members wish to complete their reports for binding, I shall be glad to receive any spare early reports for reissue to these members.

AUSTRALIAN CROWN PIECE. An extract from a press report ("Auckland Star," 25-4-37) submitted by Mr. J.W.M.Smith was read showing that although £30,000 worth of Australian Coronation crown-pieces had been circulated they had disappeared from circulation. Owing to a rush for specimens, the Commonwealth Bank had limited the issue of specimens to one each, and apparently all these specimens had been retained as souvenirs. The design had been adversely criticized, being described in Australia as "a numismatic nightmare." Mr. H.G.Williams, of Dunedin, exhibited a proof specimen of the coin, intimating that he had taken a leading part in inducing the Mint authorities to issue a limited number of proof specimens, which were being sold at a premium.

EXHIBITS. Mr. H.R.Ford exhibited a gold mohur of India, 1850, and a small brass of the Roman Emperor Gordianus, 238 A.D. Mr. A.R.Wilson, Hamilton, exhibited an illustrated work on bank notes of the world (published in France), coin replica cards, copies of illustrated periodicals, "Numismatic Scrapbook" (Lee F. Hewitt, 1650 Catalpa Avenue, Chicago) and "Coin Topics" (Wayte Raymond Inc., 580 Fifth Avenue, New York). Mr. J.K. De Rouffignac exhibited illustrations of a Washington medal in platinum, and platinum coins of Russia.

Mr. A.Quinnell intimated that any member desiring coins of Arabia, Palestine and Abyssinia direct, could obtain them from Abdel Koutah, c/o Bx 50, Jeddah, Arabia.

An exhibition of works on Heraldry from the Turnbull Library was arranged by the Librarian, Mr. C.R.Taylor.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,  
Hansard,  
Parliament House,  
Wellington.

P.S.

Members prepared to submit papers for next year's programme are asked to communicate with the Hon. Secretary.

LAST MEETING OF YEAR: Monday, 29th November, 1937 - Short papers on (1) "Scottish Coins"; (2) Persian Coins - by Messrs. A. Sutherland and A. Quinnell.

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THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

REPORT OF 42nd MEETING - 29th NOVEMBER, 1937.

"SCOTTISH COINS AND EMBLEMS," "PARTHIAN COINS" and "DECIMAL COINAGE" were the subjects of three short papers read before the 42nd meeting of the New Zealand Numismatic Society held on the 29th November, 1937. Sir James Elliott, M.D., presided over a good attendance of members. A welcome was extended to Mr. Fox, a visitor from London, introduced by Mr. J. Berry.

BRONZE COINAGE, NEW ZEALAND. The Hon. Secretary tabled a copy of the Order in Council dated 21/10/1937 (263/1937) prohibiting the importation of (1) Bronze coins, and (2) any coin not referred to in the Coined Silver Regulations, 1931 (Gazette 23/7/1937). The latter regulations prohibited the import and export of silver coins and the export of bronze coins only, and the latest regulations now prevented the import of bronze tokens and farthings for commercial or advertising purposes.

SILVER COINAGE, NEW ZEALAND. By courtesy of the Reserve Bank, specimens of the New Zealand shilling bearing the portrait of King George VI were exhibited. The portrait of King George VI is a pleasing one, facing left in the same way as that of his father, and for the first time the head is shown uncrowned. The lettering is uniform with the earlier series but is more spaced, and the date is 1937.

Letters were received from Sir John Hanham, Bart., Wimborne, Dorset, and Mr. A. Bland, who is still in London, extending good wishes to the Society. Reports of recent meetings of the Australian Numismatic Society were tabled. A letter was received from Mr. Henry Webb, Steines, England, acknowledging the expression of sympathy of the Society on the death of his father, the late Mr. P. Webb, M.B.E.

EXHIBITS. Mr. H. Hornblow exhibited a Fiji penny of Edward VIII, 1936, and a series of about a hundred modern coins obtained by his brother during a recent world tour. Mr. De Rouffignac exhibited a penny of New Guinea of Edward VIII. Both the Fiji and the New Guinea pennies were holed in the centre to enable natives to string them. One member explained that these coins were similar to the holed tenths of a penny circulating in British West Africa, which were being used as washers on galvanised roofs, as the trade washers were four a penny and anyone could get 10 tenths of a penny from the bank. Mr. A. Sutherland exhibited a large bronze medal commemorating the British Offensive in 1917 during the Great War, strikingly depicting a British soldier in action.

In a short paper on SCOTTISH COINS AND EMBLEMS, Mr. Allan Sutherland traced the history of Scottish coins which, he said, covered a comparatively short period of 585 years only, commencing with the silver pennies of David I (1124-1153) and ending with the issues of Anne in 1709. The origin of the names of some Scottish coins were also dealt with, and the great Scottish emblems, the thistle, St. Andrews and St. Andrews Cross, and the Scottish lion rampant, (all of which were perpetuated in the designs on Scottish coins) were briefly discussed.

The first chief Scottish mint was at Holyrood, and the first Scottish gold coin - a noble - was issued by David II (1329-71) and the first Scottish milled coin was the silver testoon of Mary, Queen of Scots, dated 1553, and minted in France. The English influence was plainly discernible in the coins of Scotland, even to the point of debasement, but after teaching the Scots to debase their coins, the English in 1423 forbade the circulation of these coins in England. The issues of the various Scottish rulers were traced down to those of James VI of Scotland, the most prolific issuer, who, (as James I of England) in 1603 ordered that the Scottish coins should follow the English coins in every respect. It was not until the time of Anne, in 1707, that the coins of England and Scotland were fully unified in accordance with the terms of the Union.

SCOTTISH COIN TERMS included the famous "bawbee." The coin was worth about a penny and the origin of the name was in doubt, some suggesting that it originated from the name of a moneyer, the "Laird of Sillebawbye," and others that it originated from the "bawbee" or baby-face of Mary, Queen of Scots, who was proclaimed Queen when only a few days old, and whose baby portrait appeared on her early coins. The term "Bodle" was corrupted into the word "Boodle" which was a

vulgar synonym for money. The "bonnet-piece", or ducat of gold, issued by James V. (1514-1542) was so named because of the flat bonnet worn by him in the coin portrait. Other curious coin titles included the dollar, one-sixteenth dollar or 40-penny piece, the thistle dollar, thistle merk, groat, lion, merk, noble, pistole, plack (from plaque), rider, ryal, St. Andrew, testoon, unicorn, unite, hardhead, and hatpiece.

The value of Scottish coins fluctuated in a marked degree, and many coins appeared to have alternative names which were changed frequently. Rawlins says that every Scottish pound was worth an English shilling only, and every Scottish shilling was equal to an English penny. Thus after 1603 the £12 gold piece was worth £1 English, and the 30s. Scottish silver piece was equal to the English half-crown, and the Scottish shilling was worth an English penny. These values arose from the fact that the Scots penny was called a "Schillin" or "Sgillin" and there was a Scots coin called the "Pund" worth about a twelfth of an English "pound." Macdonald Douglas in "The Scots Book" says that comparative values of old Scots coins were:-

2 Doits .. .. .	1 Bodle.
2 Bodles .. .. .	1 Plack or Groa.
3 Placks .. .. .	1 Schillin.
40 Placks .. .. .	1 Merk.
20 Schillins .. .. .	1 Pund.

The origin of the THISTLE AS THE NATIONAL EMBLEM OF SCOTLAND was stated to be due to the fact that Scotsmen and their foes went barefooted in the early days, and one authority declared that the legendary adoption of the thistle had been traced to an incident in the war with the Norwegians in the 13th century during an attack at Largs by Hakos' army on Alexander. It was presumed that a stealthy Norwegian, creeping on the Scots in the dark, trod on a thistle and the involuntary expletives were sufficient to warn the Scottish defenders in time to save Bonnie Scotland. Modern artists depicted St. Andrew barefooted, but it was doubtful whether St. Andrew ever set foot on Scottish soil, much less on a Scottish thistle. The Thistle emblem was first adopted by James III illustrating the motto of James "In Defence." The first Scottish thistle was planted at Wellington, New Zealand, with much ceremonial, on St. Andrew's Day, 1840; the celebration that ensued ended up at the original Barrett's Hotel, and both the hotel and the thistle has flourished ever since.

ST. ANDREW, the patron Saint of Scotland, was believed to have suffered martyrdom on an X-like cross about the year 70 A.D. after a preaching tour through Greece. His connection with Scotland dated four centuries later when some relics of the Saint were brought to Scotland by a monk. The ship bearing the monk was wrecked, but the relics were brought ashore at a spot called St. Andrew and now a seat of learning and the headquarters of the ancient game of golf. St. Andrew's Cross of martyrdom, a white saltire on a blue ground, was Scotland's flag, and it was one of the three crosses incorporated in the Union Jack. St. Andrew's Day provided an occasion for migrant Scotsmen to meet, and the day was observed as a close holiday by banking institutions in New Zealand.

THE SCOTTISH LION RAMPANT was derived from the arms of the ancient Earls of Northumberland and Huntingdon, from whom some of the Scottish monarchs were descended. Sir Walter Scott says that William, King of Scotland, having chosen for his armorial bearing a Red lion rampant, acquired the name of William the Lion, and this rampant lion still constituted the arms of Scotland. The President of the Heraldic Court was called the Lord Lion King-at-Arms.

In 1935 a petition was presented to King George V from the St. Andrew's Society of Glasgow and London complaining that the provisions of the Treaty of Union of 1707 had been disregarded, and that in Imperial heraldic matters and in ceremonial there was undue prominence given to the traditions and symbolism of England instead of treating the realms of Scotland and England as equal partners to that Union. The petition complained of the unconstitutional use of the words 'England' and 'English' in British and Imperial affairs and the discontinuance of the Scottish Mint, involving the loss of work to Scotland. It was stated that the coinage was, with one exception (Britannia), purely English in design and arrangement, and in flags, badges and crests, and in heraldry generally, all reference to Scottish emblems was suppressed, notwithstanding that in some cases the emblems used were less popular than those of Scotland. Since the presentation of the petition new British coins had been issued, stated the lecturer, and the designs included Scottish emblems, primarily as a tribute to the Scottish Queen.

The lecturer made passing reference to some striking similarities between Maoris and Scotsmen and concluded by saying that Scotsmen were always keen coin collectors. He cited a story of the days of the Roman occupation of the Border when a motley band of Picts and Scots had been captured by the Romans. When a Roman captain asked how the Picts could be distinguished from the Scots, a soldier replied, "That is simple; we just throw them a handful of denarii - and the Picts don't get any."

Sir James Elliott said that the motto which accompanied the thistle symbol of Scotland NEMO ME IMPUNE LACESSIT (No one touches me with impunity) seemed to suggest that the thistle was chosen as a suitable emblem of self-defence. He doubted the suggested legendary Norwegian origin of the symbol.

Mr. Johannes C. Andersen said that if the feet of the Norwegian fighters were as hard as those of the Maoris of the olden days, Scottish thistle would have little effect on them. The origin of symbols and coin names were of general and historic interest.

Mr. Sutherland was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his paper.

Mr. A. Quinnell submitted a short paper on PARTHIAN COINS, giving an historic survey of the issuers, and was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his paper.

A paper on DECIMAL COINAGE was submitted by Mr. R. Noel Johnson, of Auckland, and the paper was read on his behalf by the Rev. D. C. Bates. Mr. Johnson said: In these days of intense international competition, it is necessary for the welfare of a country to conserve energy and produce under the most efficient conditions. In this Dominion, as in England, it is claimed that the introduction of the Decimal System would be of general benefit to the community. Owing to the conservatism of the British people and the inertia of a democratically governed State, there is always difficulty in introducing reforms, the natural tendency being to wait until economic circumstances force a change. If changes in methods of measurement, for instance, are proposed, the scientist is inclined to metres but the mariner clings to his cables and fathoms, while the surveyor remains bound by chains.

Countries that have not introduced the Metric system and Decimal coinage must compete under disadvantage against other countries that have accepted these desirable reforms. In England, export traders who endeavour to encourage foreign trade by quoting and measuring and packing according to the customs of the foreign purchaser suffer great inconvenience by having to deal with their goods in two different categories - for the home and for the export trade. On the other hand, traders who expect their customers to take their goods in English measure, do, as evidenced by all British Consuls abroad, lose business to an increasing extent. Fortunately, it seems inevitable that with the more and more perfect communication between different countries of the world a common system of measurement and coinage will force itself upon the people. As evidence of this trend it will be noted that:

- (a) The marine barometer is now marked in millibars instead of inches.
- (b) British Airlines to the Continent use the Kilogram as their unit weight.
- (c) The Ordnance Survey has now produced aeronautical maps of Great Britain mapped in metric units.

The Decimal Association of England, considering the time favourable for a change, has launched a fighting fund with which to secure the adoption of Decimal coinage. Some disappointment was expressed that the campaign was being run with decimal coinage as the object and not the complete plan for decimalisation of measures as well as currency. It was, however, pointed out that the conservatism of the British public made it inadvisable for both to be introduced at once - further, that every country in which decimalisation is complete, money was changed before measures. In the meantime there are signs in Australia of an awakening need for change. The Report of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the Monetary and Banking systems at present in operation in Australia was issued on 16th July, 1937, and the following is quoted from this report:-

"To little attention has been given in the past to the denomination and forms of our token coinage. In our view, the division of the pound into twenty shillings, each of twelve pence, is antiquated. Most modern currencies are based upon the decimal system which has great advantages. With its introduction, money calculations of all kinds would be simplified and shortened and a great deal of time and trouble would be saved in industry and commerce. More of the time of school children, too, could be devoted to other subjects. The chief difficulties to be overcome are tradition, inertia, and the inconvenience and cost of the transitional period. Opposition will come from those who prefer the old system because they are accustomed to it, and from those who would deprecate and break with the custom followed by Great Britain. On the other hand, some parts of the Empire have for long used a decimal system of coinage. The introduction of decimal coinage would provide an opportunity for a reconstruction of the whole of the token coinage from the point of view of shape, weight and design. The threepence, for example, is a coin of convenient denomination but inconvenient size. It should be easy to combine a decimal system with a new coinage even if other metals than silver and bronze and other shapes than the present were introduced. WE RECOMMEND a system of decimal coinage should be introduced based upon the division of the Australian pound into one thousand parts"

The Decimal Association of England, in dealing with the report of the Australian Commission, has suggested that if the consequential adjustment of the penny as proposed is found to be a serious obstacle, attention might be directed to a scheme of working from the lowest coin upwards, rather than from the pound downwards. After a long and careful examination of a number of schemes for decimalising coinage, three schemes have been advanced as being worthy of adoption: (1) the Halfpenny system; (2) the Penny system; and (3) the Ten-penny Shilling system.

(1) The halfpenny system involves the introduction of a new monetary unit valued at 100 half-pence and called the Royal, to distinguish it from the dollar which it approximates in value. All existing coins would retain their existing value as follows:-

<u>PRESENT COINS</u>		<u>CENTS</u>	<u>WRITTEN IN A/C</u>		
			<u>ROYALS.</u>		
	½d	equal to	1 cent	equal to	.01
	1d	"	2 cents	"	.02
	3d	"	6 cents	"	.06
	6d	"	12 cents	"	.12
	1/-	"	24 cents	"	.24
	2/-	"	48 cents	"	.48
	2/6	"	60 cents	"	.60
NOTES:	4/2 (Royal)	"	100 cents	"	1.00
	10/-	"	240 cents	"	2.40
	£1	"	480 cents	"	4.80

(2) The Penny system involves the introduction of a new unit of 100 pence (8/4d.) additional to the present denominations. The half-crown would be expressed at .30 and the £1 as 2.40.

(3) The Ten-penny Shilling system involves two new coins below the six-pence (1.2d and 2.4d.) with the 10s. as the unit.

The advantages of the Halfpenny system so outweigh the others as to merit further description. The halfpenny is the lowest coin in general use and should therefore form the basis of the new coinage. The transition to the new currency could be effected with ease by the introduction of a Royal "note" of value 100 halfpence (4s.2d.). Any sum in the old currency - pounds, shilling and pence could then be written without remainder in the new - Royals and halfpence. There would be no alteration whatever in the copper coinage. Penny-in-the-slot machines would need no re-adjustment. The same penny would still buy the present penny stamp, stick of chocolate, or box of matches. The whole of the silver coinage would be retained until it was thought desirable to introduce new 50, 25, 10 and 5-cent pieces. Adoption of the Royal of 100 halfpence as our calculating unit would give coinage of the same type as U.S.A., Canada, Newfoundland, and British Honduras. Adding machines for E.s.d. cost much more than those built for decimal notation. There would be a very marked saving of time in teaching the usual money calculations.

Nowadays, in New Zealand, with its shorter working hours, every effort should be made to eliminate unprofitable work and overhead expenses. The introduction of decimal coinage would undoubtedly assist to this end, while the time saved in schools could well be devoted to training for such use of leisure as would promote the happiness of the individual and the general welfare of the State.

Mr. Johnson also submitted some examples of calculations to illustrate the simplification in the use of a decimal system against the fractional style. In one case 49 figures were used with an £.s.d. calculation against 23 with the decimal system. The paper provoked an interesting discussion.

The Rev. D. C. Bates whole-heartedly supported the proposal to introduce decimal coinage into New Zealand. Halves and quarters were all right for apples and cauliflowers, but in a modern commercial world a more scientific measure of value was required. London was the bankers' exchange of the world, and if it were to remain so it would have to face a change to the decimal system of coinage which was the standard used for the rest of the world, with minor exceptions. He favoured adherence to the dollar bloc, with 4s.2d. as the standard unit, divided into 100 cents as in America and Canada.

Mr. Johannes C. Andersen referred to his experiences with decimal coinages when abroad recently, and strongly supported the change-over to a decimal coinage in New Zealand.

Mr. Allan Sutherland said that the Crown-cent decimal system (5s. divided into 100 cents, and abolishing only the bronze coins, to be substituted by one cent) was an alternative to the systems proposed. That system had been proposed to the Coinage Committee, 1935. The decimal system was undoubtedly superior to the fractional system and it was only a question as to the most convenient time to bring about the change.

Sir James Elliott said that he was impressed by the general arguments advanced in favour of the decimal system and, with certain reservations, he would agree that a case had been made out for a serious consideration of a change to the decimal system.

Mr. Johnson was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his most informative and interesting paper.

The President, Sir James Elliott, extended to all members best wishes for a Happy Xmas and Prosperous New Year, and the meeting concluded with a social hour and supper.

The next meeting will probably be held on Monday, 28th March, 1938.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,  
Hansard,  
Parliament House,  
Wellington.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS, 1938.

(Last Monday in each month - excepting April).

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<u>1938.</u>	<u>P.M.</u>	
28th March.	7-30 8-0	COUNCIL MEETING. Welcome home to Professor J. Rankine Brown, M.A.L.L.D. & Mr. W. D. Ferguson. THE RARE NEW ZEALAND PENNY. Short paper by Mr. Allan Sutherland, Wellington.
26th April.	7-30 8-0	COUNCIL MEETING. ENGLISH TRADE TOKENS: HISTORIC AND UN- USUAL DESIGNS ON. Short paper by Mr. J. B. Ward, Hokitika.
30th May.	8-0	ANNUAL MEETING. Election of Officers. ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT, SIR JAMES ELLIOTT, M.D.
27th June.	8-0	SIR JULIUS VON HAAST. MEDALS. Paper by Mr. H. P. von Haast, M.A. LL.B. Wellington.
25th July.	8-0	COIN WEIGHTS. Paper by Mr. J.W.M. Smith, Wellington.
29th August.	7-30 8-0	COUNCIL MEETING. PERSIAN COINS. Paper by Mr. Alfred Quinnell, Wellington.
26th September.	8-0	COINS OF RUSSIAN REVOLUTION. Paper by Mr. V. Zotov, Wellington. (Dominion Day - Bank Holiday only).
31st October.	8-0	SYMBOLS ON COINS. Paper by Mr. H. R. Ford, Wellington. EXHIBITION OF PICTORIAL BANK NOTES OF GERMANY. Mr. A.F.M. Paterson, Timaru.
28th November.	8-0	CAPTAIN COOK MEDALS. Short paper by Mr. Allan Sutherland, F.R.N.S. Wellington, and HERALDRY (SECTION 2), paper by Mr. J. A. Thomson, Christchurch.

RECESS UNTIL MARCH, 1939.

Members are asked to submit coins, medals and numismatic books and periodicals for exhibition. Short papers on subjects of topical or unusual interest will be welcomed for submission to any of the above meetings.

New Telephone No. :  
43-397.

Allan Sutherland,  
Hon. Secretary,  
N.Z. Numismatic Society,  
Hansard,  
Parliament House,  
WELLINGTON.



THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

REPORT OF THE 43rd MEETING, 28th MARCH, 1938.

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A welcome home to Professor J. Rankine Brown, and a short paper on the rare New Zealand Penny were the main items of business dealt with at the 43rd meeting of the Society. Sir James Elliott presided.

NEW ZEALAND CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL, 1940. At a Council Meeting held earlier it was decided that the N.Z. Numismatic Society would issue a medal to commemorate the Centennial of New Zealand in 1940. The medal is to be on similar lines to the Waitangi-Bledisloe medal issued by the Society in 1935, but there will be no limit to the number to be struck, and the medal will be available for purchase by the general public throughout New Zealand. It is hoped to secure symbolic and historic designs, and to make the medal an attractive and lasting recognition of the occasion. Designs will be called for in due course. The following sub-committee was set up to deal with the matter, -- Sir James Elliott, Professor J. Rankine Brown, Mr. J. Heenan, Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, Dr. W. R. B. Oliver, Mr. H. G. Mayer, and Mr. Allan Sutherland.

NEW MEMBERS: Mr. W. Chetwynd, Stamp Duties Office, Featherston Street, Wellington, and Mr. L. D. Norager, Hill Road, Manurewa, Auckland, were elected new members of the Society.

The REPORT OF THE DEPUTY MASTER OF THE ROYAL MINT, Sir Robert Johnson, (1935-36 combined) was laid on the table. Reports of the Australian Numismatic Society were also tabled, together with photographs of two new Australian coins, the penny 1938 (depicting a jumping kangaroo) and the threepenny piece (wheat ears). These designs were considered to be a pleasing departure from the monotonous designs formerly used on Australian coins. A photo of the new Italian coinage, 1936 to commemorate the acquisition of Ethiopia, was also tabled. The designs closely resemble the classical designs of modern Italy, and are particularly beautiful.

OTHER EXHIBITS included "THE STAR RARE COIN ENCYCLOPEDIA" (listing coins of the World) 1 dol. B. Max Mehl, Fort Worth Texas, Exhibited by Mr. L. D. Norager, Manurewa. "COIN TOPICS" an attractively illustrated coin magazine and sales list designed to promote popular interest in numismatics. Issued by Wayte Raymond Inc. (Dept. Classical and Foreign Coins and Books, 630 Fifth Ave., International Bldg. New York): "COINS AND TOKENS OF CANADA" (8vo. 1937 50cts) by Wayte Raymond, New York. (Exhibited by Mr. H. G. Williams, Dunedin) "GREEK COIN COLLECTING" (8vo. 50cts). Exhibited by Wayte Raymond Inc. New York. COIN PRICE LISTS of Mr. H. G. Williams, 893 Cumberland St., Dunedin, also coin lists submitted by Mr. A. H. F. Baldwin, F.R.N.S., 3 Robert Street, Adelphi, London, and by Mr. B. A. Seaby, 65 Great Portland Street, London, W.1., and Kenneth W. Lee, Numismatist, 623 Security Bldg., Glendale, California, and Paul Tinchant, 19 Ave des Arts, Brussels (Mainly Greek and Roman) and most attractively illustrated auction catalogues of Greek Roman and Byzantine coins, issued by Munzhandlung, Basel, Freistrasse 74, 1. Stock. Switzerland. Also pamphlet "THE TRUTH ABOUT RARE COINS" (American) by Wayte Raymond.

MEDAL EXHIBITS. Mr. J. Heenan exhibited a fine series of medals as follows: XTH OLYMPIAD 1932, LOS ANGELES, a large bronze depicting an athlete holding banner, and two female figures on reverse, by Keleny (The Whitehead and Hoag Co, Newark, New Jersey): the IX-e OLYMPIADE, AMSTERDAM 1928 MEDAL, the BRITISH EMPIRE GAMES AWARD MEDAL, LONDON, 1934, and two EMPIRE GAMES MEDALLIONS 1938, SYDNEY. Mr. Heenan also exhibited a SILVER MEDAL struck TO COMMEMORATE THE 150th ANNIVERSARY of the Landing of CAPTAIN A. PHILLIP, at Sydney Cove, on January 26th, 1788. The medal depicts a profile portrait of Captain Phillip, and on the reverse a group landing from a sailing vessel and saluting the flag.

Mr. Wyon Simm presented a work on English Medals, and a bronze Miniature of a medal issued to commemorate the visit of Queen Victoria to the City of London, Nov. 9th, 1837, depicting the young head of the Queen (by W. Wyon). It was decided to express appreciation of Mr. Wyon Simm's gift. A motion was passed expressing sympathy with Mr. Wyon Simm in the recent loss of his wife.

Sir John Hanham submitted for exhibition a ROMAN SILVER COIN OF GORDIAN III (A.D.238-244) from a hoard of over 10,000 Roman coins discovered at Dorchester (Eng.) not far from Sir John's home. The jury empanelled found the coins "treasure trove" and after the British Museum had taken a selection the finder was permitted to sell about 10,000 of them. Mr. H. R. Ford exhibited a series of gold and silver Greek and British coins.

In replying to a cordial WELCOME HOME extended on behalf of the Society by Sir James Elliott, PROFESSOR J. RANKINE BROWN reviewed his tour abroad in a most interesting manner dealing particularly with the glories of Autumn in England and Scotland, and Christmas festivities in midwinter in Germany. (A full report of address is contained in "Evening Post" for 4/5 April, 1938). The Professor visited the British Museum and gave some attention to the Greek sculpture and the coin collection there. He also visited the famous Manchester Ryland Library, a richly endowed private institution, and he spent some time with Lord Bledisloe at Lydney Park inspecting Roman ruins and the Roman and New Zealand Museums recently established there. The Professor conveyed the good wishes of Lord Bledisloe to his fellow members of the Society in New Zealand. Frontier examinations for German money were dealt with and a description of Enas time in Germany was followed with great interest. Passing reference was made to the English dislike for the three penny piece. The Professor said that he encountered more of these coins in one day in New Zealand than during the whole time he was in England. He referred to the refusal of natives at Kingston, Jamaica, to accept the coins of England bearing the portrait of the new King, indicating a native distrust for change. The Professor said that the main object of his visit was to visit old familiar scenes, and that on the tour he followed the role of a coin distributor rather than that of a Coin Collector. He was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his address.

In a short paper on the RARE NEW ZEALAND PENNY 1879, Mr. Allan Sutherland said that about 1879, when the copper penny and half-penny trader's tokens of New Zealand were being called in with the object of substituting coins of Imperial design only, a suggestion was made that New Zealand should possess a distinctive coinage of its own, and twelve bronze pattern pennies were struck as follows,- Obv. A laureated head of Queen Victoria with a rose, thistle flower and shamrock leaf below, VICTORIA QUEEN OF GREAT BRITAIN round above. Beaded rim. Rev. Britannia seated helmeted with trident in right hand, a shield and palm branch held by left, NEW ZEALAND above, and 1879 in exergue. Beaded rim. 30 mm. normal (J.Moore fecit) Rare. (Roth and Hull). Andrews stated that only twelve were struck. Apparently the proposal to introduce an official penny received little support and the pattern pieces were allowed to go into circulation, without further action being taken. Nearly sixty years had elapsed and very few specimens had come to light. New Zealand was still without a distinctive penny, the Imperial bronze coins still being used. By 1940, however, New Zealand bronze coins would probably be in circulation. In 1905 Carew Hazlitt, a numismatic writer valued the New Zealand penny at £3.15.0 and at present it was considered to be worth £5. It was somewhat paradoxical that the rarest New Zealand stamp ranged in value to about £500 whereas the rarest New Zealand coin which was more durable and had some intrinsic value was worth not more than £5, but it was assumed that with the increasing interest in numismatics the value of the New Zealand penny would rise steeply in value. A few specimens of the New Zealand penny were to be found in New Zealand collections. Mr. Sutherland was accorded a vote of thanks for his paper.

NEXT MEETING will be held on TUESDAY, 26th APRIL, as last Monday in month is Anzac Day.

The date of the ANNUAL MEETING has been altered to 27th June and Mr. H. V. Von Haast's paper and exhibition of medals will be given on 30th May.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,  
Hon. Secretary,  
N.Z. Numismatic Society.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

REPORT OF THE 44th MEETING : 26th APRIL, 1938.

"ENGLISH TRADE TOKENS" was the subject of a short paper read by Mr. W. Chetwynd on behalf of Mr. J. B. Ward, Hokitika, (Vice-President), before the 44th meeting of the Society. Professor J. Rankine Brown occupied the chair. An apology for non-attendance was received from the President, Sir James Elliott.

Mr. W. D. Ferguson, who has just returned from an extended tour abroad, was welcomed by Professor Rankine Brown on behalf of members, and Mr. Ferguson briefly replied, making passing reference to numismatics and expressing appreciation of the welcome extended to him.

Miscellaneous reports and correspondence were tabled, including the current reports of the Australian Numismatic Society.

In his paper on ENGLISH TRADE TOKENS, Mr. J.B.Ward said: In the days of Queen Elizabeth, when England was responding to the Renaissance, and when the spirit of adventure in our traders was stirred by the voyages of Drake, Frobisher, Greville and Raleigh, and when the New World of North America was just being colonised, British merchants were greatly handicapped by the scarcity of small change, and inconvenience of the coins that were issued. The silver alloy pennies of Elizabeth's reign were irregular hammered coins weighing only eight grains; the three-farthing piece weighed six grains and the halfpenny only four grains. No farthings were issued. This scarcity caused English merchants to issue their own small coins or tokens, at first in lead and later in copper. In spite of the restrictive measures by Elizabeth, and the grant by James I, in 1603, of a patent for copper farthings, private tokens gained popularity until, in 1634, over 20,000 varieties were in use, and these continued in circulation until Charles II, in 1672, issued copper halfpence and farthings, thus temporarily stopping the issue of private tokens. Subsequently the shortage of official copper coins again became acute resulting in English tradesmen and municipalities issuing vast quantities of penny and halfpenny tokens thus leading to the issue, by George III, in 1797, of large copper penny- and twopenny-pieces, thus avoiding the necessity for private issues, a few of which, however, were continued after that date. The practice of issuing penny and halfpenny copper tokens by tradesmen was copied in the British Colonies, and even in the years 1850 to 1880 approximately 60 such copper tokens were issued and freely used as part of the small coinage of New Zealand.

Mr. Ward submitted for exhibition a fine series of English tokens issued during the earlier part of the reign of George III. In most cases these tokens were beautifully struck. The designs covered a large field of history and constituted a permanent record of the architecture of historic castles and Churches; they illustrated the types of machinery then coming into use, the types of sailing vessels that had made England's trade so successful, and they typified earlier trades and occupations, as well as famous men and current political events.

An issue of the coins of the Duke of Athol for the Isle of Man in 1758 was most interesting because the triskele symbol - three legs - which was still the symbol of that Island, had actually appeared on a coin of Melos about 440 B.C. The adoption of this symbol by the Dukes of Athol, with the motto, "Quocunque Jeceris Stabit" (Wherever you throw me I stand), referred to the estates held by them in England, Scotland and Ireland.

Several unusual designs and inscriptions were discussed. The penny of the Parys Mining Company bore a hooded male head, and on the edge, "On demand in London, Liverpool or Anglesey" and on reverse "We promise to pay the bearer one penny" 1788. A North Wales halfpenny, 1793, of similar design bore the claim "Current Everywhere." The Chichester halfpenny, 1794, depicted Queen Elizabeth in a high ruff, and on the reverse a building - probably the eight-sided Market Cross, dating from A.D. 1500. A York token depicted York

Minster and on reverse Clifford's Tower and Drawbridge, dating from Edward I.

Traditional designs included Lady Godiva (on a Coventry token of 1793) riding through her city, as traditionally described, "Pro bono publico." Civic Coats of Arms were depicted on many reverses. A portrait of John of Gaunt appeared on a Lancaster halfpenny of 1792, and one token, 1794, was inscribed "Loyal Suffolk Yeomanry, Liberty, Loyalty and Property, Suffolk, 1794" and "God Save the King and Constitution." St. Bevois, Southampton, issued a "promissory halfpenny" in 1791.

John Harvey, of Norwich, issued a token depicting a loom being operated. The River Thames and Severn Canal, Canal Bridges, and sailing vessels were shown in other designs. One token proudly commemorated the "Iron Bridge at Coalbrookdale, 1792, Erected Anno 1770. Span 100 feet." The Sydney bridge provided a modern contrast. Whaling was represented on a token issued by "I. Fowler & Co. London, Whale Fishery, 1794", depicting a spouting whale being attacked by a boat crew. A mail coach and four was shown on another halfpenny, and a good representation of a camel on a token of M. Lambe & Son, Tea, Coffee and Spice dealer, of Bath, 1794. Birds, beasts and insects were all used in the designs - storks, deer, bees and fish being prominent. Portraits included the famous Sir Isaac Newton and "Earl Howe and the Glorious First of June." Political slogans included "More Trade and Fewer Taxes" and in another design around a large bottle, "Success to Old England." One token issued in England as late as 1812 stated "A pound note for 240 tokens given by John Bishop & Co., Cheltenham."

A Bath and Somersetshire Bank Ltd. token was interesting in view of the fact that Milsom Street, whence it was issued, was formerly inhabited exclusively by chimney sweeps, and later every house was used as a bank.

The paper was discussed briefly by Professor Rankine Brown, who stated that the calling-in of private copper tokens in England was in later years due in part to the contravention of the Truck Act. Even the Bank of England had found it necessary, in 1804, to issue silver tokens as coins, in the absence of official issues. One such coin was inscribed "Five shillings" and "One Dollar." Mr. Johannes Andersen discussed token issues in New Zealand, and Mr. Allan Sutherland briefly quoted from an article by Harwood Frost, Chicago, on "Provincial Copper Coinage, George III" (page 159, Numismatist, 1934).

Mr. Ward was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his paper and the display of tokens arranged by him.

The evening concluded with a social hour and supper.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,  
Hon. Secretary.

SPECIAL NOTE. A meeting will be held on Monday next, 30th May. The Annual Meeting, listed for this date, will not be held until 27th June. Members are asked to submit medals for exhibition at the meeting on Monday next. Mr. Von Haast's paper and exhibition of medals will be given later in the year.

CENTENNIAL MEDAL. In order to obtain a representative opinion of members, the Council of the Society would welcome suggestions as to the subjects preferred for the design of the Society's Centennial Medal, 1940.

REPORT OF THE 45th MEETING - 27th JUNE, 1938.

"THE PREPARATION OF DIES FOR COINS AND MEDALS" and "A DIGEST OF THE REPORT OF THE DEPUTY MASTER AND COMPTROLLER OF THE ROYAL MINT, 1935-36", were the subjects dealt with at the 45th meeting of the Society. The President, Sir James Elliott, occupied the chair.

Miscellaneous reports were tabled. Sir John Hanham, Hon. Corresponding Member, England, sent his good wishes to members. He is accompanying Lord Bledisloe to Africa as Private Secretary during the period of the Royal Commission into the Rhodesias. The proposed crest or badge for the Society was referred to Mr. J. Berry.

In a digest of the report of Sir Robert Johnson, Deputy Master and Comptroller of the Royal Mint, 1935-36, with particular reference to New Zealand, Mr. Allan Sutherland said that Sir Robert Johnson, who had been a forceful figure in the numismatic world, had passed away on March 2nd. He played an important part in the introduction of New Zealand's first coinage. The reports of the late Sir Robert Johnson always proved interesting reading, and numismatists appreciated the encouragement he gave to numismatic societies. "The London Times", in a tribute, said that Sir Robert had ably filled the position which called for the combined knowledge of an engineer, an economist and an artist. He has been succeeded by Mr. J. H. McC. Craig, Principal Assistant Secretary in the Treasury, at a salary of £1,650.

The report covers two years owing to the abdication of King Edward VIII, resulting in over 200 dies for coins, medals and seals being discarded, and the resultant position rendered desirable the telescoping of two reports. Some Imperial and Australian specimen coins bearing the portrait of Edward VIII had actually been struck, and on these coins the profile faced in the same way as the previous issue, contrary to tradition. "Whatever reason, if any, there may have been underlying this custom", said Sir Robert, "it has long been forgotten, and is not of great practical importance. The rigid adherence to such a tradition, merely because it is a tradition, necessarily limits the artist in treating a portrait in what he may consider the most acceptable manner". Another tradition, which has been varied, is the showing of the uncrowned effigy of the monarch on coins of major Dominions.

In an interesting reference to the TREND IN MODERN COINAGE DESIGNS Sir Robert rather erroneously groups the New Zealand designs with the Irish Free State and Southern Rhodesian "zoological series". As Mr. Johannes Andersen subsequently pointed out, the New Zealand designs were historical, heraldic, ornithological and ethnological. Sir Robert said that the old school held firmly to the view that heraldry was the best basis for coinage designs, but the whole Empire, said Mr. Sutherland, had moved away from that view. The New Zealand designs, following closely on the Southern Rhodesian designs, no doubt influenced, in a small degree, the Australian and the Canadian decision to adopt native rather than heraldic subjects, although in all, the arms of each country had been retained. Dealing with the coinage designs proposed for the Imperial series, Sir Robert said:-

"A purely agricultural country, or a new country with 'native' associations, or characteristic fauna or flora, can seek within itself motives which proclaim its individuality to the world. But an old country like ours affords few characteristics eminently peculiar to it" and designs drawn from such sources "might equally well be representative of other countries".

The red grouse was distinctive of Great Britain. The wren adopted for the farthing was mythically claimed as a royal bird in Central Europe and was erroneously regarded as the smallest of English birds. The two sparrows on the farthing of South Africa - "where the Bible is still regarded as something more than literature" - were more entitled to the halo of great respectability that had always surrounded the wren. The sailing ship on the new English halfpenny was inspired by Drake's "Golden Hind". The new three-penny piece, in nickel-brass with a twelve-sided edge was regarded as a new "horror" by Scottish banks. Recent coin designs adopted were:-

<u>CANADA.</u>		<u>AUSTRALIA.</u>	
100 cents (dollar)	Canoe and Northern Lights.	5/-	Crown.
50 cents	Arms of Canada.	2/-	Arms of Australia.
25 cents	Caribou head.	1/-	Merino ram's head.
10 cents	Fishing Schooner	6d.	Not decided.
5 cents	Beaver.	3d.	Ears of wheat.
1 cent	Twig of maple.	1d.	Leaping kangaroo.

It was often suggested that British bronze coins were needlessly large. The inventors of the bronze penny were the rulers of Revolutionary France in 1791 who were alleged to have used church bells for the first issue, said Sir Robert. The size and weight of British BRONZE COINS had not been reduced in consonance with the trend in other countries.

The output of coins from the Mint during 1936 would probably reach 400 million. Of bronze coin, 1,355 tons were issued in 1936, adding to £9½ million worth already in circulation in Great Britain - an average of 4/- per head. The London Passenger Transport Board paid into the banks 40 tons of coin daily, of which 30 tons were in bronze. Each year that Board paid into the local banks 6,000 tons of bronze coin. The decision to recoin the immediate-post-war silver coins had involved the reminting of £60 million sterling worth of coins.

The earlier CONFLICT OF INTEREST BETWEEN ITALY AND GREAT BRITAIN was curiously reflected in the striking, by the Royal Mint, London, last year of 150,000 MARIA THERESA thalers, or trade dollars bearing the uniform date of 1870 and the effigy of Empress Maria Theresa. Although not legal tender, this coin had persisted as the principal coin of commerce in the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, the Colony of Aden, and the Arab territories along the Red Sea, as well as in Abyssinia. Until recently British merchants trading in the East were able to bring silver bars to the Vienna Mint and have them minted into Maria Theresa thalers, beloved of the Arabs and Abyssinians. The lecturer said that an American report indicated that Italy had apparently bought the so-called monopoly rights of issue of this coin from the Vienna Mint, and this transference resulted in dislocation of British trade in the Red Sea area. The Royal Mint safeguarded the rights of the British traders by striking similar coins, keeping pace with the Italian Mint, and since then several European Mints had followed the British example. The flood of such 1870 thalers offered a curious numismatic sidelight to the state of the World in the near East today.

NEW ZEALAND COINAGE: In all 764 single New Zealand crown pieces, 1935, had been issued, and 364 specimen sets including the crown. The average number of coins struck per pair of dies, for Colonial coins had almost doubled from 39,000 in 1934 to 73,000 in 1936. The alloy at present used was, Silver 500 parts per 1,000; copper 400; nickel 50; and zinc 50. The Chief Assayer reports that in 1935, 293 N.Z. silver coins of 500 standard fineness were assayed resulting in a mean fineness of 500.042. There were three rejected pots in 263 pots melted. In 1936, 90 coins were assayed, the mean fineness was 500.613, and there were no rejects as a result of incorrect composition of metal.

TRIAL OF PYX, (by arrangement with the Goldsmiths' Company), resulted in 35 N.Z. coins, 1935, being submitted (1 lb. troy weight). The variation from the standard weight was "plus .003", and the variation from standard fineness "minus .0017". Over 1,200 coins in packets were submitted, and the variation from standard weight "of remainder of coins" was "minus .041". The 1937 test of 54 coins, 1936, resulted in "minus .002", "minus .00013" and "minus .013" respectively. Each one pound troy weight was first weighed and found to be within the remedy as to weight as prescribed by the New Zealand Coinage Act, 1933.

In 1935 there were 3,609,730 New Zealand coins struck, of a currency value of £250,359, and in 1936 the figures were 2,190,218, and £50,536. The value of silver coin sent to New Zealand from 1872-1936 was £2,549,090, of which £1,073,697 old coin has been withdrawn, leaving a net issue of £1,475,393.

Since 1874, a total of £131,895 in Imperial bronze coin was sent to New Zealand, of which £20,500 had been sent in 1936. In 1936 the Royal Mint resumed the purchase of silver. The average price per standard in London was 20-3/16d.: The average price paid by the Mint was 27d. per standard oz., and that returned a seigniorage of 352.55 per cent.

The estimated PRODUCTION OF GOLD IN NEW ZEALAND from 1851 to 1900 "from returns furnished by the Government" was 14,606,208 ozs. gross and from 1901-1936, 9,659,318 ozs. fine. The report concluded with a summary of the coins of the World in 1936 as 3,984,968,646 pieces, value £59,925,910.

Sir James Elliott said that he understood it was well authenticated that the change in the direction of the profile of each King on English coins was due to the fact that Charles II, at the restoration, refused to face the same way as Cromwell, thus establishing a practice which had continued to the present time. The uncrowned effigy of the King on new Dominion coins was a pleasing departure enabling a larger portrait to be shown. Sir James praised the dignified design of the Australian crown piece, which he exhibited, but said that he could not say the same of the jumping kangaroo on the new Australian penny. Sir James paid a tribute to the interesting nature of the report by the late Sir Robert Johnson.

Mr. H. D. Ferguson said that due to New Zealand still using Imperial bronze coins (with an exchange margin of 25 per cent) pennies had been exported in numbers. On a recent Home-going liner one passenger had taken aboard large quantities of bronze coins, which he used at the bar and in purchases until "English pennies became a perfect nuisance on board". During a recent visit to the Royal Mint, London, the handsome Maria Theresa thalers 1870, had mystified him. The employees were not then permitted to say why they were being minted, but the report had solved the puzzle.

In a short paper, Mr. F. Wyon Simms discussed the method adopted, until the advent of the reducing machine, of preparing dies, coins and medals.

Quoting early reports of the Royal Mint he said that an inspection of a newly-coined piece of money or medal would convince anyone that the original pattern whence it was produced must be a work of extreme nicety: the outlines of the device were so fine, the inscriptions so distinct, and the head or figure so gracefully brought into relief, with the sunken portions so smooth and regular, that it was evident that the main beauty of a coin or medal was due to the workmanship of the die sinker or engraver. Coins were not cast by pouring molten metal into moulds, but were struck by forcibly driving engraved dies of hardened steel into cold metal blanks, thus forcing the blanks to assume the device of the die. Special steel was selected for the dies. The steel was softened by a process of annealing (heating to bright cherry red and subsequently cooling by embedding in a crucible of powdered charcoal). The die sinker then worked on the softened steel with hardened steel tools, cutting out the device required. Every part of the future coin was here shown depressed. The higher the relief required, the deeper the cut. The engraver, who was almost a sculptor in metal, tested the result by taking wax or other impressions, and after much tedious and delicate labour the die was brought to a finished intaglio state, after which it was hardened by a process of high heating and gradual cooling to avoid breaking. The hardened die underwent further processes to make it more durable, and then it was cleaned and polished ready to produce devices in coins and medals. In order to produce other dies from this matrix, it was customary to force softened steel into the hardened matrix by powerful pressure. This method had been superseded by the reducing machines, mechanically producing working dies from moulds or master dies. The Waitangi-Bledisloe medal produced by Mayor and Kean, Wellington, was a good modern example of die-sinking by hand which was becoming a lost art. Mr. Wyon Simms was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his paper. Mr. Chetwynd exhibited on behalf of Mr. J. B. Ward, a work published 100 years ago dealing with the Wyon family who, for generations, provided engravers to the Royal Mint, and to whom Mr. Wyon Simms was related.

A series of New Zealand and English medals and coins were exhibited by Messrs. H. D. Ferguson, Hassell Martin, S. J. Sheriff, and H. R. Ford. The evening concluded with a social hour and supper.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,

Hon. Secretary.

P.S. A suggestion has been made that in addition to supplying members with current copies of Reports, on request, sets be retained in Wellington for a small extra charge (say 2s.) to be stapled and collected by members in yearly or five-yearly periods. Members desirous of availing themselves of this service should advise me. A limited number of reports back to page 1 of Vol. II are still available, as well as some Reports of Volume I.

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT - YEAR ENDED 31st MAY, 1938.

SIR JAMES ELLIOTT, M.D., F.R.A.C.S. PRESIDENT.

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The Council of the New Zealand Numismatic Society has the honour to submit the seventh Annual Report and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st May, 1938. During the year monthly meetings were held at which all phases of the study of numismatics were discussed, and specimens were exhibited ranging from the classical period of Greece to modern times. In order to enable non-Wellington members to share in our activities, as much as possible, full reports of meetings have been made in every case.

NEW ZEALAND COINS, 1937, bearing the effigy of King George VI, uncrowned, made their appearance during the year, together with the British Imperial bronze penny and half penny of new design. It is hoped that New Zealand bronze coins will soon make their appearance in order to complete the series. The Government has in hand arrangements for the issue of a Centennial coin, and, in association with the Government, the Society is carrying out preliminary investigations in connection with the issue of the proposed Centennial Medal. No medals or seals of note were struck in New Zealand during the year.

The year closed with a membership of 120. The balance sheet shows a satisfactory position - a credit balance of £31.11.8. in the ordinary account.

Some specimens have been placed on loan exhibition at the Dominion Museum, and it is hoped, to be able to arrange a numismatic exhibit at the Turnbull Library, in the series of exhibitions planned for the forthcoming year. Educational officers attached to Museums will, in due course, be approached with a view to including numismatics as a subject for illustrated lectures on history and archaeology at the Museums in the principal cities.

Interest in numismatics has been well maintained during the year. The Society has performed a useful service in co-ordinating the interests of numismatists throughout the Dominion, making known the latest developments in the numismatic world, as well as surveying the past from the angle of the numismatic student. It is expected that the approaching Centennial will increase the work of the Society and still further enlarge its sphere of usefulness and value to members.

For the Council of the N.Z. Numismatic Society,  
(signed) James Elliott,  
PRESIDENT.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

1937-38.

GENERAL ACCOUNT.

<u>RECEIPTS.</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE.</u>	
Balance P.O.S.B.	£51. 3. 5.	Printing, Stationery, Mimeo-	
Cash in Hand.	4. 6. 0.	graphing, postages.	£10.11. 0.
Subscriptions, Comp. ordy.		Subscriptions to "Numis-	
and donations.	£32. 6. 0.	matist"	10. 0.
Sale of coins, N.Z.	2.17. 7.	Balance, Ordinary A/C.	£31.11. 8.
Int. P.O.S.B. 2 years.	2.19. 4.	Balance, Trust Account.	£50.19. 2.
	<u>£93.12. 4.</u>		<u>£93.12. 4.</u>

Examined and found correct,

(Signed) W. Chetwynd.

Hon. Auditor.

(Signed) G. C. Sherwood.

Hon. Treasurer.



REPORT OF 46th (SEVENTH ANNUAL) MEETING 27.6.38.

The seventh Annual Meeting of the New Zealand Numismatic Society was held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on 27th June, 1938. Sir James Elliott presided over an attendance of 30 members. The minutes of last Annual Meeting (page 26) were confirmed. The Annual Report and Balance Sheet was adopted unanimously, satisfaction being expressed at the continued progress of the Society.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:-

PATRON: The Rt. Hon. Lord Galway.

HON. LIFE PATRON: Viscount Bledisloe.

PRESIDENT: Sir James Elliott, M.D.

VICE-PRESIDENTS: Mr. J.C. Entrican, Auckland: Mr. E.K. Cameron, Hawera: Mr. S.R. McCallum, Wanganui: Mr. N. Solomon, Napier: The Rev. D.C. Bates: Professor J. Rankine Brown, LL.D., M.A., and Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, M.B.E., F.R.S.N.Z., Wellington: Mr. J.B. Ward, Hokitika: Mr. P. Watts Rule, F.N.Z.I.A., Timaru: Mr. Willi Fels, C.M.G.: Col. G. Barclay, Dunedin, and Mr. J. Robertson, Invercargill.

COUNCIL: Mr. H.G. Mayer, Mr. H.R. Ford, Mr. A. Quinnell, Mr. W.D. Ferguson, and Mr. J. Berry.

HON. TREASURER: Mr. G.C. Sherwood (103 Willis Street, Wellington).

HON. SECRETARY: Mr. Allan Sutherland (c/o Hansard, Parliament House, Wellington).

HON. ASSISTANT SECRETARY: Mr. M. Hornblow, Atlantic Union Oil Co., Wellington.

HON. AUDITOR: Mr. W. Chetwynd.

On the motion of Mr. Quinnell, seconded by Mr. Chetwynd, it was decided that Vice-Presidents be entitled to attend all Council meetings as ex-officio members.

EXHIBITS: A catalogue of "COINS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND" giving illustrations and values (1938) was tabled with the compliments of Mr. B. A. Seaby, 65 Great Portland Street, London. This is an invaluable guide to collectors in the British field and very reasonably priced.

Mr. H.G. Williams, Dunedin, advised that he had secured for members several copies of the new illustrated work "COINS OF THE WORLD" by Wayte Raymond & Stuart Mosher, New York, 1938, (16s. plus postage). This is an outstanding work on modern world coins and is profusely illustrated.

A most unusual exhibit, arranged by courtesy of Mr. H.G. Williams, Dunedin, was a set of Swedish copper plate money "coins",  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2 and 4 dalers, which ranged in weight from  $11\frac{1}{2}$  ounces to 7 lbs. and in size from  $4\frac{3}{8}$ " x  $3\frac{3}{4}$ " to 10" x 10", and which were of pure hammered copper from the Dalarna Mines, 1715-1717, Charles XII. This rare set of "coins" were the first of their kind seen in New Zealand and attracted much attention. Amusing alternative uses were suggested for these "coins" by some of the more facetious members, who agreed that they were more like defensive weapons than coins. A special vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Williams for making them available for inspection.

Sir James Elliott brought up a report from the CENTENNIAL MEDAL SUB-COMMITTEE. He said that all concerned desired that the medal should be a worthy commemoration of the CENTENNIAL, and that it should be available at a price that would make it attractive to the general public. It was at first suggested that an advertisement be inserted in the newspapers in the four chief centres, calling for competitive designs and later that selected artists be asked to submit designs. One proposal was for a drawing fee of £10.10.0 for the best design, all designs to become the property of the Society to be used in whole or in part or to be combined with other designs if necessary. The Rev. D.C. Bates moved, and Mr. A. Quinnell seconded, That £10.10.0 be paid as a first prize and £5.5.0 as a second prize to enable composite designs to be used and in order to encourage artists for the work. It was explained that £25 was paid for successful stamp designs. Mr. H.G. Mayer suggested in view of the national character of the issue that the Government be asked to waive sales-tax on the medals to help to keep the cost down. It was finally agreed to leave the preliminary details in the hands of the Committee. It was stated that only one original design would be necessary if a portrait of an early historic personage were included on the obverse.

The following historic medals recently struck in Australia to commemorate various events, were exhibited:-

1. Tasman and Franklin commemorative silver medal issued by the Royal Hobart Centenary Regatta. Map of Tasmania on reverse. Struck by Stokes & Son, Melbourne.
2. Obv. Silver medal depicting Arthur Phillip, "First Governor, Landing in Australia, January, 1788."  
Rev. Design symbolizing progress. 150th anniversary of Australia. (Struck by Amor, Melbourne).
3. Obv. Bust of Arthur Phillip and on reverse athlete running with torch. Bronze. 150th anniversary of Australia (Amor).
4. Silver Coronation George VI. medal, Western Australia (Amor).
5. King Edward VIII., 42nd birthday, silver medal (Amor).

In a paper on "CROMWELL'S COINAGE" Sir James Elliott said: "With the accession of the Tudor dynasty authentic portraits of the reigning sovereign were first seen on English coins. During this period new denominations made their appearance such as sovereigns in gold, and crowns, half-crowns and shillings in silver.

In the time of Charles I. a great improvement was effected in die engraving, a notable example being the celebrated Oxford crown. On the reverse of this crown is shown the King on horseback with a view of the city of Oxford in the distance. In this reign the Frenchman, Briot, employed in the English Mint, introduced the mill and screw.

I wish to pay rather close attention to the coinage that followed in the Commonwealth, 1648 to 1660. Cromwell had more directing genius than any of his royal predecessors. He made England safe at home and respected abroad. He proceeded almost at once, amid his multifarious duties, to effect great changes in the coinage of the realm. He threw aside the royal arms as a device and, as a plain, blunt man, discarded Latin mottoes. He selected the Cross of St. George as the most suitable badge of England and as a symbol of its faith, placing it between a palm and an olive branch. What could have been better? His legend on his coins in good plain English was "THE COMMONWEALTH OF ENGLAND." On the reverse he had placed two joined shields, one bearing the Cross of St. George, the other the Harp of Ireland, and the motto, "GOD WITH US;" also the date, the first being 1649. Sir Robert Harley, who had been Master of the Mint for the late King, although he had accepted service under the Parliament of the Commonwealth, refused to accept this necessary innovation in the coinage. Cromwell thereupon appointed a medical man, Dr. Aaron Guerdain, under whose direction the change was effected. The issue consisted of crowns, half-crowns, shillings and half-shillings and pieces of two-pence, a penny and a half-penny. The larger pieces all bore the same devices but were each marked with a Roman numeral to indicate their value. The smaller pieces had no motto and the half-penny was simply designed with the cross on one side and the harp on the other.

In 1651, when the nation had settled down after the tumult and trampling of the Civil War, Cromwell thought it opportune that the coins of his country should exceed in beauty and in craftsmanship any to be found in any other country. He adopted recent improvements made by foreign nations and at the same time tried to give the English coins a distinctiveness and beauty of their own. At Cromwell's invitation, Pierre Blondeau, a celebrated artist in France who had carried to perfection the stamping of coins by mill and screw, produced patterns of half-crowns, shillings and half-shillings by his method and on these for the first time a legend was inscribed on the edges of the coins.

One half-crown bore on the edge the words "TRUTH AND PEACE 1651, PETRUS BLONDEUS;" another type bore the legend "IN THE THIRD YEARE OF FREEDOME BY GOD'S BLESSING RESTORED." The shillings and sixpences were also beautifully grained on the edges. Another Cromwellian reform was effected by bringing all the pieces to their true weight with the utmost exactness. But I have said they were patterns. They were never put into circulation and are now very rare. Rivals in the Mint sent forward their own patterns and poor Blondeau was completely frustrated by professional rivalry and national jealousy even although he had the support of the Great Protector himself. All that survived in practice was Blondeau's screw process.

In 1651 the sixpence bore the Cross of St. George on a shield surrounded by the words "THE COMMONWEALTH OF ENGLAND" inside the milled edge, and on the reverse, the Roman numeral, VI., the Cross and Harp on shields and surrounded by the legend "GOD WITH US, 1651."

Cromwell had no desire to have his own effigy on the coins of the Commonwealth. On September 8, 1650, the news of the victory of Dunbar was proclaimed from the pulpits of London. On the 10th, when Parliament met, a public thanksgiving was decreed and a medal was ordered to be struck with Oliver's head on it - against which undesired honour Oliver in vain protested. In the latter part of his protectorate, after his second solemn investiture, under pressure Cromwell allowed coins to be executed bearing his own bust, but few, if any, were issued. They were exceedingly well struck and marked a great advance in artistic worth. They bear the laureated bust of Cromwell very beautifully executed and the words "OLIVER, D.G.R.P. Ang. Sco. et Hib. &c. Pro," i.e., "OLIVER BY THE GRACE OF GOD, PROTECTOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF ENGLAND, SCOTLAND AND IRELAND." "Etcetera" is a quaint and inoffensive substitute for "FRANCE." Nothing so good as this effigy had ever been seen on an English coin before. It was the work of the celebrated Simon.

The silver standard adopted by the Commonwealth was eleven ounces two pennyweights fine and only eighteen pennyweights alloy. The twenty-shilling pieces contained three pennyweights twenty grains of 22-carat gold. The bust of the Protector, strange to say, was more artistically executed on the silver than on the gold coins. The Cromwellian coins are smaller in circumference but thicker than coins made by the older hammered process.

Patterns of copper farthings were also made in Cromwell's time similar to, but better executed than those attempted in the reigns of James I. and Charles I. These were not issued. The old Commonwealth coins, and not the later ones bearing Cromwell's effigy, were in free circulation and are not extremely rare.

Cromwell's patterns of farthings bore interesting legends on the reverse, such as "CONVENIENT CHANGE," "AND GOD DIRECT OUR COURSE," "THUS UNITED INVINCIBLE" (referring to the union of England, Ireland and Scotland) and "CHARITY AND CHANGE." The only Mint used during the Commonwealth and the Protectorate was that of the Tower of London.

When Charles II. came to the throne, coins again reverted to the old hammering process of manufacture. His first silver coins were the last to represent a sovereign in the costume of the period.

In 1662 Peter Blondeau was reinstated Director of the Mint and began again the mill and screw process. The celebrated Simon was unfairly ousted in a competition for designs by John Roeter, of Antwerp. This led to Simon producing the famous pattern "PETITION CROWN", inscribed on its edge "Thomas Simon most humbly prays Your Majesty to compare this his tryal piece with the Dutch, and if more truly drawn and embossed, more gracefully ordered, and more accurately engraven, to relieve him." It is conjectured that he was dismissed. The Stuarts were fickle patrons. One can now buy a petition crown for £200. Charles II. began the custom of turning the King's head on the coinage in a direction contrary to that of his predecessor. This was for the purpose of turning his back on Cromwell and gratifying his aversion to the uncrowned king, the Lord Protector of England.

The Commonwealth coins disappeared from circulation in the reign of Charles II. They had been called Breeches money because of their two joining shields. One of the wits of Charles's reign, Lord Lucas, said that breeches was a fit name for these coins for they wore the coins of the rump. "

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,  
Hon. Secretary.

WELLINGTON,  
20th July, 1938.

REPORT OF 47th MEETING, 25th JULY, 1938.

"THE MEDALS, DECORATIONS, AND PATENT OF NOBILITY OF SIR JULIUS VON HAAST" was the subject of an interesting address by his son, Mr. H. F. Von Haast, LL.B. The address was illustrated by a series of award medals and decorations, both European and Colonial, covering an interesting period in the history of the country. Whilst some of the designs of the medals exhibited represented some of the best examples in medallic art, Mr. Von Haast stated that the designers of some of the Colonial Exhibition medals had attempted to present a Colonial atmosphere and had often succeeded only in giving an agglomeration of detail which was in marked contrast to the simpler, more effective, and dignified designs by European artists. Two great men were commemorated on the medals exhibited, Michael Angelo, on an Italian medal, and Jacobus Berzelius, a Swedish chemist who laid the foundation of organic chemistry. In 1861, when Julius Haast was appointed Geologist to the Province of Canterbury, he started a series of explorations that were the foundation of one of his great works - his map of the Southern Alps. This was published in 1879, and in 1884, the Patron's gold medal of the Royal Geographical Society was conferred on him, the first time such an award came to New Zealand. The various medals and decorations from many European countries awarded to his father were interestingly described and handed round, and the circumstances of each award were briefly related. The first New Zealand Exhibition medal described was, INTERPROVINCIAL EXHIBITION NEW ZEALAND, CHRISTCHURCH, 1872, Bronze Medal. Obv. Two shields, the arms of the Province of Canterbury (train emerging from tunnel, sheep, grain, cow, and plough) and the seal of New Zealand r. Flax. Rev. Lake scene, Maori canoe fully manned, mountains in background, treefern, cabbage tree, and native vegetation. On left a large kiwi and on right a small moa. Below, name of maker, G. Coates & Co., Christchurch. NEW ZEALAND EXHIBITION 1882 Silver Medal. Obv. A female figure holding a wreath with right hand, her left resting upon foliage and upon a pedestal. In the background a fern tree.

Other exhibition medals included a bronze medal of the Vienna International Exhibition, 1873, a bronze medal of the Sydney International Exhibition, 1879, a silver medal of the Melbourne International Exhibition, 1880, and a bronze medal of the Colonial Indian Exhibition 1886.

The friendship between the Austrian geologist, Dr. von Hochstetter and Dr. Haast was interestingly reflected in a series of letters referred to by Mr. Von Haast. At the Vienna Industrial Exhibition in 1873, Hochstetter not only took a great interest in the New Zealand Court, but also stimulated the interest of the public. He arranged a special exhibit in that Court for Haast of "The Wingless Birds of New Zealand, and the still living kiwis, exhibited by the Canterbury Museum in Christchurch, N.Z., Dr. Julius Haast, Director." Hochstetter also took pains to have the nature of the exhibit explained to the jury which awarded Haast the Medal of Merit. The explanation of the exhibit was necessary because one of the jurors had been heard to remark of a moa, "That's a fine giraffe." In the following year the Emperor of Austria, to whose son - the ill-fated Crown Prince Rudolph - Hochstetter had been tutor, conferred on Dr. Julius von Haast the Order of the Iron Cross, third class, carrying with it the hereditary right to use the title "Von." The patent of nobility is an historic and colourful document decorated and embellished with the shields of the various States comprising the former Austro-Hungarian Empire. The Diploma also contains the Haast Coat of Arms, designed, probably, by Dr. Von Haast and Dr. Von Hochstetter. Included in the coat of arms are, a chain of mountains, a volcano, the Southern Cross and a moa. The motto is "Vitam Impendero Vero," and this Diploma of Knighthood of the Austrian Empire is signed "Franciscus" and sealed with the Great Seal of Austria-Hungary in red sealing wax in a gilt-bronze case attached to the crimson-velvet bound Diploma by a golden cord between the pages. The seal and the embellished document is an interesting relic of the tragic House of Hapsburg and its former domains now absorbed in the German Reich. In 1886, Dr. Julius von Haast was created K.C.M.G.

Another decoration valued by Sir Julius von Haast was the diploma and insignia of Officier de Instruction Publique in 1886 in recognition of his outstanding work in the fields of geology, zoology and ethnology. This was conferred upon him by the French Government, and on its presentation Haast received

an enthusiastic welcome in Paris from the members of the Institute, comprising the most celebrated French scientists.

Mr. Von Haast concluded with a brief survey of the work of his father, whose biography he is writing.

In moving a vote of thanks, Sir James Elliott paid a tribute to the pioneering work in exploration, geology, and zoology carried out by Sir Julius von Haast, whose name was perpetuated in Haast Pass and in other parts of New Zealand, and he thanked Mr. Von Haast sincerely for his most interesting address on one of New Zealand's distinguished pioneering scientists.

Professor J. Rankine Brown, in seconding the motion, said that all would look forward with interest to the publication of the work, a foretaste of which members had greatly enjoyed in the address of Mr. Von Haast.

A short address on MINIATURE GOLD-COIN-BALANCES was given by Mr. J.W.M. Smith, who explained that these balances were used to check illegal practices of clipping or otherwise reducing the value of gold coins. Mr. Smith exhibited a miniature gold-coin-balance and gave some interesting sidelights on the use of these balances when gold coins were the principal media of exchange last century and earlier.

Mr. Smith was accorded a vote of thanks for his address.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,  
Hon. Secretary.

WELLINGTON,  
25th August, 1938.

REPORT OF THE 48th MEETING, 29th AUGUST, 1938.

"PERSIAN COINS" was the subject of a short paper read before the 48th meeting of the Society, held on 29th August. Professor J. Rankine Brown, Vice-President, occupied the chair. Apologies for absence were received from the President, Sir James Elliott, (absent in the South Island), and Mr. G. C. Sherwood.

OBITUARY. It was reported that two members had passed away since the previous meeting - Mr. H. Ashby and Mr. Wyon Simm, both of Wellington, and members stood in silence as a mark of respect to their memory. Appropriate motions of condolence were passed to be conveyed to the relatives.

Miscellaneous correspondence and reports were tabled, including the printed report of the Royal Numismatic Society's Congress held in 1936.

CENTENNIAL MEDAL 1840-1940. Competitive designs are being invited from selected artists for the obverse and reverse of the Centennial Medal which is to be issued in two metals (silver and bronze) and is to be  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter. A first prize of £20 is offered for the best reverse design (with or without an obverse design which will probably depict a portrait of some person prominent in New Zealand history in 1840). Details of the competition, which closes on 10th October, may be obtained on application.

NUMISMATIC HISTORY OF NEW ZEALAND. Mr. Allan Sutherland intimated that he had completed writing a NUMISMATIC HISTORY OF NEW ZEALAND, giving a brief survey of the following subjects:-

Part I	Gift Exchange and Barter.	Part IV	Early Paper Currency & Bank
Part II	Coins of early New Zealand.		Notes.
Part III	New Zealand Tokens.	Part V	Medals, Historic, Commemorative and General.
		Part VI	New Zealand Coins.

The first parts were in the press, and the completed parts would be issued in book form in due course. A limited number of copies of Part III, giving the full history and use of New Zealand Tokens, and including a detailed catalogue of specimens, was being printed separately, and would be made available to members as an inexpensive working catalogue for collectors and students in this field. A number of these booklets would be presented to the Society.

Professor J. Rankine Brown said that he had been given the first opportunity of perusing the manuscript-book, and was satisfied that it was well worth putting in permanent form. Mr. Sutherland was fortunately in a position where he could obtain easy access to archives and official documents, and consequently those parts of the work requiring documentation were admirably documented. In comparison with the older countries, New Zealand did not provide an extensive field in numismatics properly so-called; nevertheless a very interesting account had been presented with an historical background, and the whole question as to how money had been worked in New Zealand from the earliest times was very adequately dealt with. The part dealing with tokens was a very valuable contribution to the study of one phase of the question - the tokens being necessary at the time of issue because of a great shortage of official coins - and that part could easily be issued separately, as suggested. He hoped that this would be done. This part would be of value for reference, as it contained a fairly complete catalogue of the various tokens issued in New Zealand, arranged on scientific principles. The modallic issues had also been dealt with.

Each part of the book was complete in itself, and when fitted together, formed a perfectly complete and authoritative account of numismatics in New Zealand.

Mr. H. D. Ferguson said that members were indebted to Mr. Sutherland for the research that was necessary to prepare a work on the subjects referred to, and all would look forward with interest to the issue of the parts in book form.

In a paper on "PERSIAN COINS", Mr. A. Quinnell said that the ideas of History of the average person were curiously unbalanced. Owing to the incorporation of the Old Testament in the Bible, the Jews were given a prominent place in the World's History - far greater than they ever played. The Greeks too, owing to a classical bias, were also familiar, although in reality they represented little more than a curious aggregation of continually warring City-States, and they did not have any great possessions. To make a "bull" the greatest Greek was a Macedonian - Alexander the Great - and it was due to his campaigns that the spread of Greek culture was so extensive. It was unnecessary to speak of the Romans - and their influences:- "Great with nothing but the sword" justly describes them. When the old "virtus" - i.e. "valour" failed the Empire quickly crumbled. Not enough was known of the other great Empires that affected the World so profoundly. Formerly Persia played an important part and today is again important for another reason - oil. The Conquest of Alexander (356-323 B.C.) was responsible for spreading the Greek ideas of courage. After Alexander's death Persia was governed by the Seleucid Dynasty: these were succeeded by the Parthians whose coins have helped hundreds of years later to throw light on the great Parthian Dynasty. Mithridates I left many coins which show him with a fairly long beard, prominent nose, lips and eye and hair long. The inscription in Greek was "King of Kings" and on reverse the King was shown seated. "Satraps of Satraps" appeared only once on Persian coins. Theos - "God" - appeared on the coins of one King, but the Greek inscription implying the Divinity of one's father was more common. "Phil Hellene" bore witness to the fact that within their Kingdoms there still existed many Greek cities-states practically independent. The coins of Pharates IV (who defeated Marc Antony) showed him with a pointed beard, hair thick and curled in four layers and the usual prominent Parthian features. The coins of Mithridates III (115-117 A.D.) bore smaller designs showing bust and head. He fought with Trojan Hadrian and the Kushans of India. The Volagases III (147-191 A.D.) coins were very poor in execution and design and more like the half human images made by uncivilized peoples. He was the last of Arsacid Kings.

A true Persian - Ardashir - of the House of Sassan, 391 years after the Parthians fell, ascended the throne. An oval coin depicts his profile, helmeted, with a balloon-shaped plume above it. On the reverse is an altar with fires, a priest standing on each side and this reverse design continued for 425 years. Ardashir was succeeded by Sapor. At this time Valerian, Emperor of Rome, was taken prisoner and died in captivity. His skin was stuffed and preserved as a trophy. Sapor governed very well.

A period of anarchy followed. Sapor II was elected King at his birth and reigned 72 years.

The coins of Perozes (457-484) were of extremely poor workmanship. The King was shown in profile, close cut beard, large hooked nose.

Chosroes II was famous or perhaps infamous for having sacked Jerusalem and carried off the True Cross to Ctesiphon (Baghdad). He reduced Egypt to vassalage and the whole of Asia was taken from Rome.

The last of the House of Sassan was Isdigerd III, who was shown as a handsome Prince of mild disposition. He had great qualities. He was only fifteen when crowned. He obstinately resisted the Mohammedan invasion and nowhere was that tide resisted more obstinately than in Persia.

"Tanum Shud"  
(Persian - "it is finished").

In discussing the paper the Chairman, Professor J. Rankine Brown, said that as to the greatness of the old Persian Empire, there was no doubt - that was admitted by the Greeks themselves. Fortunately when Xerxes attacked the Greeks he had been defeated, otherwise European rulers would have annexed Asia and the course of history changed. We owe a tremendous debt to the individual Greek cities which combined against Xerxes in the fifth century B.C.

Early Persia under Darius, was wonderfully developed, and its only equal was the Roman Empire, but both great Empires decayed with old age, as all Empires do. All the teachings of history showed that Empires

began, grew, and then decayed, and despite one's own wishes to the contrary, there was no reason to suppose that the British Empire would exist for ever. All growth depended on decay, and that which went before.

It was one of the marvels of history as to how the Greeks succeeded in defeating the tremendous organisation of the Persian Empire because the Greeks were not one people in the sense that they formed part of a nation as did the French or the British people. They were people with the same blood ties, but were divided into a large number of small city states, more or less engaged in fighting one another.

The Greeks were not a conquering people - that was one of their good points; they were not militaristic, but they conquered by civilization, expanding by peaceful methods, developing civilization and founding great cities. The Greeks never annexed the towns they defeated, and that was a principle that might well have been studied by later civilizations.

The Daric, the name of an early gold coin of Persia, got its name from King Darius I, the father of Xerxes, just as the French gold coin of France, the Napoleon, got its name from the great Napoleon. The daric was a standard coin of the ancient world with the representation on the obverse of the Persian King in a half kneeling position armed with a spear and a bow.

PARALLELS IN HISTORY. France and Britain were in very much the same position today as the Greeks were in 350 B.C., when Philip, King of Macedonia; who was in complete control of his subjects, and head of a totalitarian state, came down upon the Greeks, who had democratic government, and owing to the better organisation and complete control over his army, he was able to defeat the democratic Greeks. Unfortunately history showed that a country governed by a dominating figure was far more powerful, militarily, than a country enjoying democratic freedom but lacking the cohesion necessary for defence or attack. The Demosthenes orations, called the Olinthic Speeches, showed that that great orator expressed exactly the same view. He was conscious of the weakness of the Greek states as opposed to the tremendous force of united Macedonian power. The lessons of history were interesting in view of the march of World events.

Mr. Quinnell was accorded a vote of thanks for his interesting paper.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,

Hon. Secretary.

P.S. Non-Composite subscription members are reminded that their annual subscription, 5/-, is now due and payable to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. G. C. Sherwood, 103 Willis Street, Wellington.



REPORT OF 49th MEETING, 26th SEPTEMBER 1938.

"COINS AND BANK-NOTES OF RUSSIA" was the subject of a short address by Mr. V. Zotov before the 49th meeting of the Society. Sir James Elliott, President, occupied the Chair.

Mr. Zotov dealt with the pre-war gold, silver and copper coins of Russia, and showed how these coins had been replaced by paper money in the inflationary and post-war period. He exhibited coins and notes showing how the double-headed eagle - the symbol of the Czarist regimes - had ultimately been replaced by money bearing the modern Russian symbol of the hammer and the sickle. He explained decimal coinage structure of Russia (roubles and kopeks) and stated that the term "rouble" came from a Russian word meaning a "bit" of silver. The talk was well illustrated by a series of colourful bank-notes down to notes the size of a postage-stamp, the latter being inconvenient "because every time a lady opened her purse her money blew away." In the Far Eastern areas Chinese coins circulated concurrently with Russian money.

In moving a vote of thanks, Sir James Elliott said that the chequered history of Russia was well reflected in the forms of money exhibited, and the lecturer had given members an insight into a new field. It was surprising enough to see bank-notes the size of tram tickets, but when bank-notes the size of postage-stamps were exhibited he thought that surely the irreducible size limit in paper money had been reached. Mr. Zotov was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his interesting address.

In a paper on "THE HERALDRY OF COINS", Mr. Andrew R. Wilson, of Hamilton, said the terms used to define the various parts of a coin were as follows:-

- (1) The front or face of a coin is called the obverse.
- (2) The back is called the reverse.
- (3) The principal device or object represented on a coin is called the Type.
- (4) The area or space between the type and the circumference is called the field.
- (5) The lower portion of the area of a coin beneath the type and separated from the rest of the field by a horizontal line is called the Exergue. Sometimes there is no separating line.
- (6) Small objects represented either in the field or the exergue as adjuncts to the main type are called symbols.
- (7) Portions of a coin which are sunk below the level of the surface are said to be Incuse.
- (8) Over-dates. When a die made in one year is used in a later year by engraving one figure over another, the piece struck therefrom is said to be an "Over-date."
- (9) Klippe - square pieces.

The colours of the arms of a ruler or of a country are called heraldically "metals" and "tinctures." "Metals" are silver (argent) and gold (or) and are represented by white and yellow when the arms are drawn in colours. "Tinctures" are the other colours such as red (gules), blue (azure), green (vert), black (sable), etc. These colours are indicated on coins by conventional lines. Gold is shown by dots; red by perpendicular lines; blue by horizontal lines; green by diagonal lines drawn from the observer's left downward to the right, and black by perpendicular and horizontal lines crossed; silver or white is shown by blank spaces but as the lines denoting colours are not invariably cut in the dies a blank space, unless there are other indicative lines, does not necessarily mean that the field is silver.



Gold



Silver



Red



Blue



Black



Green



Purple

HERALDIC TERMS. The lines dividing the shield have specific names:-  
(1) A single perpendicular line divides a shield "per pale." (2) One drawn horizontally "per fess." (3) A diagonal from observer's left to right, "per bend." (4) If divided into parts by lines drawn at right angles to each other it is said to be "quarterly," whether of four or more; four always being implied unless more are mentioned. A perpendicular stripe on the centre of the field is called a "pale." A wide horizontal one, a "fess," but if it occupies the upper third, a "chief." A narrow fess is a "bar" and a diagonal stripe, a "bend." If the latter is drawn from the observer's right to left is a "bend sinister." If several stripes appear the field is said to be "bendy," or "paley". Several horizontal stripes are "barry", "bars" being merely diminutives of the fess, but a single bar is never borne alone. It is also customary to mention the number of stripes or "pieces." For example, the thirteen perpendicular stripes on the U.S.A. national arms would be styled "paley of thirteen pieces, red and silver (or gules and argent)", though the words "pieces" is not always used. A combination of diagonal with perpendicular stripes would result in forming a lozenge-shaped figure covering the field, and would be called "paly-bendy." If the edge of a stripe is not plain it is described as "wavy", "engrailed", etc., as the case may be. The "chevron" is familiar to all.

The left side of a shield as seen by the observer is, of course, the right side of him who bears it, and hence it is called the "dexter", which is the principal or more honourable side, and the other, or bearer's left, is the "sinister." A husband bears his arms on the dexter side and his wife's on the sinister. So when two countries are united it is not unusual to place the arms of the conquering or more powerful country on the dexter, and those of the other on the sinister. For example, in the present arms of Great Britain the lions of England have the first or dexter quarter, the Scottish lion the second, the harp of Ireland the third, and England is repeated in the fourth quarter. The other part of the shield is styled the "chief" and the lower the "base." The various stripes above described are called "ordinaries" as distinguished from the "common chargers", i.e., figures or other devices; they take their names from military terms - the pale from the paling which surrounds a camp; the fess from the foss or ditch, and the bend, probably from the sash worn across the breast. If the devices are placed one above another they are said to be "in pale"; if in that position on a stripe, it is named. For example, "three lions in pale" means that they are placed one above the other on the central part of the shield but "three lines on a pale" are placed on a perpendicular stripe.

Other heraldic terms include "chargers," or small figures borne on coats-of-arms. An eagle is usually represented as "displayed", that is, with wings and talons outstretched. A lion, if erect on his hind legs, is "rampant." If crossing the field, "passant". If his head is turned to the observer he is "gardant" and this term qualifies the other attitudes in which he may be placed, as "passant gardant". Swords, spears, etc., crossed in the form of an X are "in saltire." "Dimidiated", used usually when two coats are united, denotes that only half of the figure is shown; the other half being supposed to be concealed by the adjacent portion of an overlapping shield. "Billey" shows that the field is "semee" or strewn with little blocks in the form of a billet or letter envelope. A "mullet" resembles a five-pointed star but heraldic "stars" have six or more points. Crosses are of many forms and each form has its distinctive name dependent on the shape of the branches or of their terminations. A "Greek" cross has four equal arms with parallel sides and square ends; a "patriarch's" cross has two cross bars at the top, the upper being the shorter.

A knowledge of heraldry is very useful in the identification of coins, when, as is often the case, the arms are the only means by which one can be assigned to its proper place. Heraldry also shows something of the history of a ruling family by the combination of the armorial bearings which are shown. For example, the Hungarian arms have those of the Hapsburgs or early Austrian princes combined or "impaled" with the peculiar or national device of Hungary; Tuscany unites those of the Dukes of Lorrains, the Hapsburgs and the Medici families. Many armorial bearings also have an allusion to some national tradition, historic or geographic point. The white eagle of Poland, for instance, alludes to a tradition that the founder of that Kingdom discovered a nest of white eagles on a certain spot; the eagles or allerions of Lorraine,

to a fortunate shot which killed the three by a single arrow; the four single bars of Hungary, to the chief rivers of that country.

The paper was read by Sir James Elliott on behalf of Mr. Wilson, who was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his informative and interesting paper.

Mr. M. Hornblow exhibited a nickel "fruit-machine" token of Burma, marked "1" (4 annas) on reverse, and a representation of an elephant on obverse.

Greek silver coins were exhibited by Mr. H. R. Ford, and Mr. H. D. Ferguson exhibited some large copper coins (believed to be ancient Tuscan) in excellent condition, the largest, almost the size and weight of a Roman aes, bearing an excellent female portrait with a design of a sow on reverse.

The evening concluded with a social hour and supper.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,

Hon. Secretary.

N.Z. TOKENS WANTED BY W. F. Meek, Box 239, Dunedin:

(Andrews) 8, Alliance Tea Company, 33-4, 37, 39, G. L. Beath & Co.  
63, J. Caro & Co., 79, Samuel Coombes. 167, 173-181, H. J. Hall.  
250-2, Hobday & Jobberns. 264, Holland & Butler. 322, Lipman  
Levy  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. 444, 446, W. Pratt. 452, E. Reece. 500, M. Somerville.  
589, Union Bakery.

TOKENS WANTED BY ALLAN SUTHERLAND: 12 Gleneagles Flats, Wellington.

341, Morris Marks, 362, Mears  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. 589, Union Bakery.

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NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

REPORT OF THE 50th MEETING, 31st OCTOBER, 1938.

A paper entitled "Some Pre-war Currencies of the South Seas" and an exhibition of Pictorial Bank-notes of Germany, were the subject of considerable interest at the 50th meeting of the Society, held at the Turnbull Library on 31st October, 1938, Sir James Elliott occupying the Chair.

OBITUARY. It was reported that one of the members, Mr. C. Gilbertson, of Invercargill, had passed away since last meeting, the members standing in silence as a mark of respect to his memory. An appropriate motion of condolence was passed to be conveyed to the relatives.

Owing to the minutes of the last meeting not being available, confirmation of them was deferred till the next meeting.

After reports and correspondence were tabled, the Rev. D.C. Bates submitted a Queen Victoria Jubilee gold coin and miscellaneous English copper coins for disposal.

CENTENNIAL MEDAL 1840-1940. Sir James Elliott, in speaking of the designs in connection with the Centennial Medal, stated that none had been submitted at the last meeting as up till that time, none had been received. Since then a number had come to hand and would be dealt with in due course. He also mentioned that they were very disappointing, in his opinion, in that they appeared to lack originality. However, the Government Committee had kindly consented to allow the Society, in the event of there not being a suitable design amongst the latter's, to select one from those not being used by the Government.

An apology from Mr. H. K. Ford was received, regretting his inability through illness, to complete his paper in time for this meeting, but stating that it would be ready for inclusion in next year's programme. In place of this paper, Mr. G. C. Sherwood read one received recently from Mr. C. J. V. Weaver, of the Australian Numismatic Society, Sydney, N.S.W., dealing with "SOME PRE-WAR CURRENCIES OF THE SOUTH SEAS," as follows:-

"The quaint currencies and barter in use in the islands of the South Seas in pre-war days and in some degree still in vogue was supplemented and sometimes superseded by the money of civilization introduced by white traders. The so-called 'cast-iron' dollar of Chile circulated over a large area in and about the seventies of last century and became an important item in their adopted currencies. Its cast-iron appellation depended upon a rumour of a proportion of iron in its alloy. Rumour is known to be a lying jade but the Chilean dollar of this period certainly has a harsh and hard appearance very different from the fine silver of the 9 decimo fine standard used by other South American Republics and elsewhere. The warships of these pertinacious Republics made long cruises in the South Seas and the Peruvian sol and Chilean, Mexican and other South American dollars came with them to the natives. The almighty dollar of the U.S.A. arrived with the whaling captains from Martha's Vineyard, the traders from Boston and the straight-laced New England missionaries and immediately became of first importance in the native trade. German trade was strongly established in the South Seas in the seventies, having its headquarters in the firm of Godeffroy and Sohn, and German coins were added to the mixture. Also the numerous and important British and French interests contributed their quota. The general trade with the natives was calculated in dollars and cents.

"In Papeete, Tahiti, in the small retail trade prices were quoted in American currency, payment accepted from travellers in British gold or silver and the change handed back in French coin. A Press correspondent relates an incident. A party of eight went for a motor drive which cost six dollars. The treasurer of the party gave the chauffeur two sovereigns and received back twenty francs. He then proceeded to collect each man's share. The first two paid three francs, twenty-five centimes. No. 3, for himself and two others, threw down

half-a-sovereign and took one franc, twenty-five centimes change. No. 6 tendered a dollar and levied on the pool for one franc, twenty-five centimes also. No. 7, desiring to clear out his odd cash, threw in a florin, fifty centimes, a dime and a threepenny bit.

"The handsome twenty-dollar gold pieces of the U.S.A. were distributed freely over the islands of the South Seas by the notorious Captain Bully Hayes, who was very partial to this form of currency.

"The beautiful coins minted by the German New Guinea Company for use in German New Guinea, bearing a splendid representation of the bird of paradise, were struck at the Berlin Mint and dated 1894, the artist designer and engraver being Emil Wiegand. The issue consists of ten denominations comprising: Gold, twenty and ten marks; Silver, five, two, one and half-mark, and Bronze, ten, five, two and one pfennig. During the Great War when Australian troops occupied German New Guinea, the Administrator, Brigadier-General Pethebridge, abolished this currency and replaced it by Australian coinage and notes.

"The purely native currency of the South Seas is of great variety, shell money and indifferent forms being the commonest medium. The shell discs are usually about a quarter of an inch in diameter and about as thick as a sixpenny-piece. They are pierced for stringing and are strung in lengths of from a foot to a fathom according to kind. The most valuable is the pink Papuan money which in 1914 circulated at a value of about ten shillings per foot. Higher values, called "Kesa", were used in the Solomons consisting of three or more large rings made from the shell of the giant clam. They are usually in sets of from three to fifteen and are used in important inter-tribal transactions such as war indemnities, compensation for murder, and the purchase of wives.

"Amongst the many minor currencies the curious dogs' teeth money of Papua is notable. Only the four canine teeth were used and they were strung on fibre and worn by the women as necklaces. Some of these necklaces number as many as three hundred teeth upon their length. Boar tusks also figured in the native currency of Papua. Whale teeth passed as a high value currency in Fiji, a tooth having a trading value of one hundred and fifty dollars. Probably the most remarkable native currency of the South Seas is found in the great circular stones, often as large as wagon wheels, used by the natives of Yap. The stone from which the discs are cut is located in an island in the Pelew group 400 miles from Yap. There the discs are quarried and shaped by the Yap natives. A hole is cut in the centre, a pole passed through and held at each extremity by men, and in this way wheeled down to the beach. There they are fastened on to bamboo rafts and towed back across 400 miles of ocean to Yap. Their size and weight were intended to render difficult their removal by theft or during island raids. The stones became a factor of exchange, a basis for barter, and eventually the standard of all transactions. They obtained their value from the effort that was required to cut and transport them.

"In the island of Vanikoro, feather money was a standard currency. On one specimen of this money ten thousand tiny humming-bird feathers were sewn to a belt of braided material.

"In pre-war days the currencies of the South Seas were legion - the foregoing may serve as passing reference to a few of them. I have made no allusion to the coinage of Hawaii which, though limited in currency issue, contains a number of varieties and beautiful patterns. An adequate description demands a paper on the subject."

Mr. Weaver was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his interesting paper.

In connection with the EXHIBITION OF GERMAN PICTORIAL BANK-NOTES, an explanatory letter from Mr. Paterson, the exhibitor, was read, after which his very extensive display was examined by all members present, creating considerable interest, as it was so comprehensive, the notes bearing representations of almost every phase of German life.

Members expressed their appreciation for Mr. Paterson for giving them the opportunity of viewing such an interesting collection.

M. HORNBLow,

Assistant Hon. Secretary.

NEXT MEETING:-

Turnbull Library, Monday, 28th November, 1938, at 8 p.m.

REPORT OF THE 51st MEETING - 12th DECEMBER, 1938.

The 51st meeting of the N.Z. Numismatic Society was held at the Turnbull Library on 12th December, 1938, Sir James Elliott presiding. The minutes of the two previous meetings were read and confirmed. Correspondence was tabled and catalogues received since last meeting were handed round to members present for inspection. An interesting discussion took place regarding the designs proposed for the Centennial Medal.

A paper on "CAPTAIN COOK MEDALS" by Mr. Allan Sutherland, F.R.N.S., was read on his behalf by Sir James Elliott (President). He said, - Chronologically the name of the Dutch explorer, Tasman, has pride of place in New Zealand history as the discoverer of the country in 1642, but the name of the English explorer, Captain Cook, occupies a larger niche in the recorded history of New Zealand because of the far-seeing, thorough and persistent nature of his exploratory work, which was undoubtedly the spearhead of British colonial expansion in the Pacific. To Captain Cook every horizon beckoned, and each of his voyages of discovery is an epic to be marvelled at even to-day when considered in terms of the time at sea under sail, the hard "tack" on which the crew subsisted, and the comparative smallness of the craft which voyaged the then uncharted seas. As a fearless explorer Captain Cook probably had no equal in his own time. It was due to his dominating personality, and the able assistance rendered by his chief officers that he was able to achieve so much. His fearlessness cost him his life, but not before his work was largely completed, and it was left to succeeding generations to take advantage of his great work.

"Medalically", Cook has been well recognised, as the following list of medals will show, but, contrary to the usually accepted convictions regarding the commemorative medal outliving the ethereal fame of its subject, I offer the conjecture that in British countries Cook's name and fame will outlive even the enduring recognition carried into future centuries by an array of commemorative medals.

The first medallion link between Great Britain and New Zealand was, very appropriately, forged by Captain James Cook who arranged (in 1772) with the approval of the Lords of the Admiralty, to strike a number of copper medals bearing on the obverse side a portrait of King George III, and on the reverse two sailing ships, the "Resolution" and the "Adventure" with which he was to undertake his second voyage of discovery around the world. In the exergue the following words appear, "Sailed from England, March, MDCCLXXII." Actually, the expedition did not leave England until July, 1772 as it was found necessary at the last minute to carry out extensive alterations to the "Resolution." Captain Cook was in command of the "Resolution" and Captain Tobias Furneaux of the "Adventure."

In order to show how far-seeing Captain Cook and his official advisers were in establishing proof of discovery of new lands and leaving behind ingenious and enduring evidence of such visits, it is interesting to record that in his Journal, Captain Cook, dealing with these medals, said:

"These medals were to be given to the natives of new-discovered countries and left there as testimonies of our being the first discoverers."

The medals bore a loop so that they could be worn around the neck of native chiefs. Captain Cook distributed a limited number of these medals to Maori Chiefs with whom he came into contact, urging them to wear the medals upon cords suspended around their necks as a mark of favour from a "great white chief." The real object of the distribution, however, was to leave behind him enduring proof of his visit. Dr. McNab, in his work "Murihiku," states that these medals were distributed in two places in New Zealand only - at Dusky Sound and at Queen Charlotte Sound. Five specimens have so far been discovered in New Zealand, and three others have been found in the Pacific Islands, at Tahiti, Raratea, and the New Hebrides respectively. One specimen now in the Turnbull Library, was found at Pelorous Sound in an old go-ashore or three-legged pot which had been uncovered by an unusually high tide. Another specimen was found at Murdering Beach, Dunedin, and a further specimen on the banks of the Wairau River, Marlborough. Bronze, silver, brass and gold specimens are known. A silver specimen, valued at £8NZ is in the possession of Mr. H.D. Ferguson, Wellington, and a bronze specimen is in the writer's collection. A

full description of the medals is as follows:

Captain James Cook medal struck to commemorate his second voyage, 1772.

Obv. Head of George III to right, laureate. Below, B.F. (Barnet fecit).

Legend: GEORGE III KING OF GR. BRITAIN, FRANCE AND IRELAND ETC.

Rev. Two frigates making sail to a fair breeze. Legend: RESOLUTION. ADVENTURE.  
Exergue: SAILED FROM ENGLAND/ MARCH MDCCLXXII. Size 1.65.

(Cook born at Marton, Yorkshire, 1728. Visited New Zealand in ENDEAVOUR, 1769, and again with RESOLUTION and ADVENTURE, 1772, 1773, 1774 and in 1777. Killed by natives Owhyhee, Sandwich Islands, 14-2-1779. During his second voyage Cook took a "considerable number of these medals on his voyage for distribution amongst natives, and subsequent travellers in the nineteenth century have come across specimens in the Islands visited by Cook." ("BRITISH NAVAL MEDALS," Marquess of Milford Haven, p. 188.)

COOK MEMORIAL MEDALS AND COINS. Captain Cook, who discovered Hawaii in 1778, was slain at Kaelakekua Bay on February 14th, 1779, and on this spot, although now United States territory, a monument has been erected by the British Government. On the 150th anniversary of his discovery of Hawaii, the United States Government issued a silver half-dollar to commemorate the event (see later description).

A Royal Empire League's memorial outside the Admiralty, London, briefly records Cook's exploits as follows:-

"Circumnavigator of the globe, explorer of the Pacific Ocean, he laid the foundations of the British Empire in Australia and New Zealand, charted the shores of Newfoundland, and traversed the ocean gates of Canada both East and West."

Cook medals are medallic signposts in British colonial history; each tells its own story.

Obverse. Bust of Captain James Cook to left. Uniform, pigtail, no epaulettes. Legend: IAC. COOK OCEANI INVESTIGATOR ACERRIMUS. (The most intrepid investigator of the seas). Below, in smaller letters: Reg. Soc. Lond./secio. svo. Under truncation, r. L.P.F. (Lewis Pingo fecit.)

Reverse. A draped female figure (Fortune) stands, leaning upon a naval column, a sceptre in her left hand; her right places a rudder upon a globe at her feet. The British shield leans against the column. Legend: NIL INTENTATVM NOSTRI LIQVERE. (Our men have left nothing unattempted). Exergue, in small letters: AUSPICIIS/GEORGE/III.

In 1784, the Royal Society, of which Cook had been elected a member on his return from his second voyage in 1775, caused this medal to be struck by Lewis Pingo, the chief engraver of the Royal Mint, in memory of the great explorer. Sir Joseph Banks, the President of the Royal Society, forwarded a specimen in gold to Cook's widow; other copies in gold, silver and bronze were distributed among the subscribers to the fund raised for providing the medal.

COOK MEDALS. O'WHY'HEE (Sandwich Islands) MEDAL. Obverse: Bust of Cook, three-quarters to right, tie-wig and naval undress uniform. Legend: CAPT: JAMES COOK. Reverse: Inscription in four lines: KILL'D/BY THE INDIANS/ at O'WHY'HEE./FEBRUARY 14. 1779. Stops. roses. Two leaves on each side of year. Exergue, two ornamental oak branches. Size 1.5.

Obverse. Bust of Cook three-quarters right, tie-wig, and naval undress uniform. Legend: CAPT: JAMES COOK. Reverse: Inscription in three lines:- COURAGE/ AND/ PERSEVERANCE. Above a floral ornament. Exergue, BORN 1728, DIED 1779. Size. 1.5.

Obverse: The bust of Cook to left, in uniform, no epaulettes. Below, Smith F. Legend: JACOBUS COOK. Reverse: NATUS/AN. M. DCC. XXVIII/MARTON/ IN CUMBRIA ANGLIAE/OBIIT/AN.M. DCC.LXXIX./ and in smaller type letters below SERIES NUMIS-MATICA/UNIVERSALIS VIRORUM ILLUSTRATIUM./M.DCCC.XXIII/DURANT EDIDIT. Struck in 1823. Size 1.6.



AUSTRALIA'S CENTENARY 1888. Hexagonal medal, diameter about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ins. Ring at top. Copper, brass, pewter. Obverse. In centre field within double circle uniform bust of Captain Cook to left; British and Australian flags to left and right crossed above. In two lines CENTENARY/1888. Within an inner and outer circle surrounding bust CAPTAIN COOK.

CAPTAIN COOK - HAWAII COMMEMORATIVE HALF-DOLLAR. In 1928 the United States of America issued a silver half-dollar to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Captain Cook's discovery of Hawaii. This is said to have been the first American coin issued bearing the portrait of a British subject. Obverse: Bust of Captain Cook to left. In left field CAPTAIN/JAMES COOK/ DISCOVERER OF/ HAWAII, in four lines. In the right field, IN GOD WE TRUST, and around UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, HALF-DOLLAR. Reverse: Full length male figure on eminence under palm tree, holding staff in left hand, and right arm extended, pointing. Mountain and seashore in background. E PLURIBUS UNUM and the dates underneath, 1778-1928.

Cook's name has been perpetuated in place names in New Zealand, and the highest mountain appropriately carries his name. In Christchurch there is a fine statue of Cook, and in St. Kilda Gardens, Melbourne, there is an excellent bronze statue depicting this great voyager, compass in hand, gazing over the sea he so completely explored.

A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Sutherland for his paper, Sir James Elliott adding that it was an historically interesting paper doing honour to a great man who, he stated, could be placed with Drake as an explorer. There was, he said, a better purpose behind the medals than generally realised - confirmation of the protection of Great Britain. Sir James then gave Cook's early history prior to going to sea and immediately subsequent thereto, also stating that he was fortunate with the men he had with him on his voyages. It was only in extreme emergency that Cook fired on natives and then as a last resort. He would first attempt to quell acts of aggression by firing over their heads and when he was obliged to resort to extreme measures he always afterwards expressed sincere regret. Sir James concluded by saying that at one time Capt. Bligh was with Cook.

Discussing the medals distributed by Captain Cook during his voyages, Mr. Johannes Andersen said that Cook did not specifically say where he distributed the medals, and it was not known if all or only some were distributed. Cook recorded that on 23rd August, 1773, at Oaiti-piha Bay (Vai-te-piha) he had an interview with Prince Waheatoua (Vehiatua): he gave the Prince a present consisting of "a shirt, a sheet, a broad axe, spike-nails, knives, looking glasses, medals, beads, etc." Cook did not indicate how many of the medals were given but the two subsequently acquired from the natives there by the Spaniards were taken to Lima by Don Cayetano de Langard, Commander of the Spanish frigate "El Aguila." Another was obtained at Tahiti by the French expedition in the "Coquille" and a fourth by Dillon, of the brig "Calder" at Port Resolution, in Tanna, New Hebrides. Dillon was the Irish captain who discovered the first genuine clues as to the fate of the unfortunate French explorer, La Perouse. In New Zealand, medals were distributed at Wellington Heads as well as at Dusky and Queen Charlotte Sounds. Five specimens had been found in New Zealand, the first being found at Murdering Beach, Otago, in 1863. The second was found in 1896 by Mr. T.D.McManaway, Garns Bay, Pelorous Sound: this medal, which is of gold, passed to the late A.H.Turnbull, and is now in the Turnbull Library. The third was found by Mr. Hood in a bay at Otanarua, and was now owned by James Jackson, of Tory Channel. The fourth was found in Tuna Bay, in the south-west arm of Pelorous Sound, by Thomas Henderson. The fifth, now in the possession of A.H.Hillman, Gisborne, was said to have been found "about Kartigi." Matthew Boulton was the designer. The medals were not struck at the Mint.

Mr. Andersen added that various enquiries had been made at Turnbull Library by people claiming to be descendants of Captain Cook. Few knew that there was another explorer of the said period named Cooke. Descent from the great Cook was doubtful, as all his children died young, and not one of them ever married. Neither fact deterred claimants. Cook's first child, James, was born on 17th October, 1763. He lived for 30 years. He followed his father in the Navy and, in 1793, was promoted to Commander. While lying at Poole, Dorsetshire, he was appointed to the command of the "Spitfire," sloop-of-war. On 24th Jan., 1794,

he received his letters and orders to take command forthwith. He started in an open boat, manned by sailors returning from leave, to sail from Poole to Portsmouth. It was afternoon when he set out: the boat was rather crowded: there was a strong ebb tide and fresh wind, and darkness soon fell. He never reached his ship. What happened will probably never be known. His dead body, with a wound in the head, and stripped of all money and valuables, was found on the beach at the back of the Isle of Wight: the boat also was found, broken up, but no trace of any of the crew. Cook's other children were, Nathaniel, born 14th Dec., 1764, and died at 16 years of age, going down on board the "Thunderer" in a hurricane off Jamaica; Elizabeth, born 1767, died 1771; Joseph, born 1768, died same year; George, born 1772, died same year\* and Hugh, born 1776, died 1793. As all the children died in comparative infancy, the chance of issue was slender - yet there were people who had taken the slender chance.

M. HORNBLow,  
Acting Hon. Secretary.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

REPORT of 52nd MEETING, held at the Turnbull  
Library, Wellington, on 27th March, 1939.

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The President, Sir James Elliott, M.D., F.R.A.C.S., occupied the Chair.

The Minutes of the last meeting, as circulated, were confirmed, after which correspondence relative to the Gilbertson bequest was received and dealt with. It was decided to make arrangements for a display of the collection in the presence of the Librarian at an early date and to dispose of the coins for sale as soon as they were available to the Society.

Apologies for absence were received from Messrs. Sutherland and Walpole.

In speaking of the Centennial Medal, Sir James Elliott briefly gave the reasons for the decision of the Committee in connection with the particular designs selected, which, he stated, were chosen so as to be symbolic of the progress over the hundred years from when the first settlers arrived to the present day. The reverse design depicts the prow of a Maori canoe in which appear a number of warriors, and, by the sea-shore, a New Zealand Tree Fern or Punga, and the obverse typifies achievements of modern science in the representations of the "Dominion Monarch" (the latest and most up-to-date of sea transport, on which the Dominion so much depends), and a trans-Tasman flying boat overhead, with modern buildings as a background. Sir James concluded by stating what arrangements had been made with regard to the production and cost, and making the medal finally available for purchase by the general public.

As a special feature for this, the opening meeting for 1939, Mr. H. R. Ford exhibited a portion of his collection of coins covering a period of over two thousand four hundred years, ranging from a tetradrachm of the Athens mint, about 500 B.C., to a 1928 sovereign from the Melbourne branch of the Royal Mint.

The outstanding excellence of the die-sinkers' work of the ancient Greeks by reason of the high relief of their coins was seen, he stated, by the archaic head of the goddess Athene on the tetradrachm of Athens, and the magnificent portrait of Ptolemy, Soter of Egypt, on the tetradrachm struck about 280 B.C., and the beautiful head of Heiron II of Syracuse on the tetrabol of the third century B.C; and also the tetradrachms of Philip of Macedon and of Alexander the Great, and the obol of Locris were of outstanding excellence and interest.

The denarii of the Roman Emperors Galba, Domitian, Vespasian, Geta and those of the great Emperors Hadrian and Trajan, and the solidus of the Emperor Phillipus the Arabian, and the large patinated brass of the Emperor Claudius I., although of lesser excellence of workmanship than the coins of the ancient Greeks, were interesting portraits of historical rulers.

An interesting feminine touch was the style of hairdressing of the Roman ladies of the period as seen on the denarius of the Empress Annia Galeria Faustina, wife of the Emperor Antonius Pius, about 140 A.D.

When the Roman legions left Britain in the fifth century A.D., the decadence of coin production followed and continued for many centuries as seen by the poor specimens of coins of the Elizabethan period in England. On the Continent of Europe, during the same period, the superior excellence of design and workmanship was seen on the fine silver thalus of Ferdinand of Austria, 1525, and the Dukes of Saxony, 1624, and the Dukes of Brunswick and of Francis Xavier of Prussia, 1726.

A reminder of the vanished Austrian Empire by reason of its dismemberment and of its subsequent absorption into the German Reich, in March, 1938, was the four-ducat gold piece of the Emperor Francis Joseph of 1881, a coin of large size, struck principally for issue to the Galician gipsies.

The mint proof Gothic crown piece of Queen Victoria, 1849, was greatly admired by the members present.

The difference in execution of the finer details in the hand-cut dies used to strike the two-guinea piece of George II and the guineas of George III could be seen when compared with the dies produced by the reducing machine employed at the Royal Mint and used to strike the beautiful £5 and £2 pieces and the sovereigns and half-sovereigns of Queen Victoria issued for her golden jubilee, 1887, and for that of the Gothic crown, and for the later sovereigns down to 1928.

The whole exhibit was a study in coin production through the centuries from the ancient Greeks to the work of modern die-sinkers at the Royal Mint.

Mr. Ford was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his most interesting description of those coins which he had exhibited at the meeting.

M. HORNBLow,

Assistant Hon. Secretary.

N.B. -

The next meeting of the Society will be held in the Turnbull Library on MONDAY, 24th APRIL, 1939, at 8 p.m., when Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, M.B.E., F.R.S.N.Z., will give a paper on NEW ZEALAND TOKENS.

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Members able to give information in regard to the early Provincial seals of the Colony are asked to kindly pass this on to the Secretary as early as possible.

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THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

Report of the 53rd Meeting - 24th April, 1939.

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"NEW ZEALAND TOKENS" was the subject of a paper given by Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, M.B.E., F.R.S.N.Z., at the 53rd Meeting of the New Zealand Numismatic Society held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on the 24th April, 1939.

In the absence of the President, Sir James Elliott, M.D., F.R.A.C.S., Professor J. Rankine Brown, M.A., LL.D., F.N.Z.I.A., past-President, occupied the chair.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting, as circulated, were confirmed, after which correspondence received since that meeting, was dealt with.

On the motion of Professor Rankine Brown, seconded by Mr. Ford, it was resolved that Sir James and Lady Elliott be written to on the eve of their departure for a trip to England, expressing the Society's good wishes for a pleasant voyage and a safe return.

NEW MEMBER: Mr. H. E. Hayes, Mernda, Victoria, Australia, was elected a member.

EXHIBITS: For those members not present at the last meeting, Mr. H. R. Ford again exhibited the silver thalers of Ferdinand of Austria, 1526, the Dukes of Saxony 1624, the Dukes of Brunswick and of Francis Xavier of Prussia 1746.

Mr. H. Hornblow also exhibited a series of Netherlands East Indies current copper coins received recently from Java and a hammered coin used by Hindu Priests in India.

Mr. Johannes C. Andersen then read his paper as follows:-

NEW ZEALAND TOKENS.

The token issue in New Zealand is one of the latest tributaries to the long and fascinating river of currency that has flowed for centuries through every country whose people have risen through a system of barter to a system of commerce: - a system which to-day seems in the throes of a revolutionary change, as if the river has become clogged and dammed up, and will presently burst through its barriers to sweep along in a new and smoother channel. You will perhaps better realize what I mean if you will call to mind the varied and innumerable denominations in the world's coinage; a different series in every different country, the unceasing addition of new series; their fluctuating values even within the country of origin, the more violently fluctuating and apparently arbitrary and unreasonable rates of exchange.

Numismatics in general deals with this river of currency, from the artistic and historical point of view; the fluctuations in value are the concern, and the business, of financiers and merchants. I propose to say no more than a few words in connection with that trickle - it can scarcely be called a tributary - which flowed for a few years in New Zealand.

In England the token issue began in the 1600's, and continued on through the next two centuries, being swallowed up in the river of regal currency during the closing years of the 1800's.

Token currency began at a time when trading conditions were totally different from what they are now - at a time when there was no postal service, no railway, no telegraph, no telephone, to mention only a few of the conveniences that few of my present auditors can remember as being absent. Road-communication, too, was primitive, more so even than in our own farthest-put back-blocks.

Tokens were issued by corporations, merchants, and tradesmen, in almost all the counties of England and Wales. They were given in exchange for labour as well as goods, during times of scarcity of regal coinage. For convenience in keeping them it is believed that tradesmen had special receptacles, a species of coin-cabinets, where they were arranged so that at regular intervals they could be totalled and forwarded to their respective issuers to be redeemed in silver or gold. In New Zealand this was not observed, so far as I know, the tokens being simply re-issued by the tradesman no matter whose image and superscription they bore.

From the earliest times the small coinage of England was silver, and values as low as a penny, three-farthings, half-penny, and farthing, were coined in silver. All were in common use, but from their exasperatingly inconvenient size and weight (the silver half-penny of Elizabeth weighed only four grains) they were extremely inconvenient and easily lost.

In a petition dated 1330 it was pointed out that beer was one penny for three gallons, and that a penny was then the smallest coin; and the petitioners prayed that smaller coins might be struck to pay for their smaller purchases, and for works of charity - smaller coins than a penny for works of charity! Yes, and I can remember the time when the groat as well as the threepenny bit were in common use: and I well remember the consternation of the churches when, on the groat being put out of circulation, the offertories went down by about twentyfive per cent. There was point in the Christchurch artist Kennaway's caricature of Bishop Julius when he showed him holding upright with his forefinger pressed on its upper rim a threepenny-bit on a pedestal, the legend at the foot reading, "The church's one foundation."

The silver penny was small enough; in Elizabeth's time it weighed one-sixtysecond of an ounce; and that is the value to which the later copper penny approximated. The penny in its present form was first issued at the end of 1860; it was only half the value of the earlier copper penny, and, as metal, it is worth about one-seventh of a penny. Coins used to be worth, intrinsically, their face-value; they are not so now. Oh Hamlet, what a falling off was there.

In passing, it may be of interest to note that the old English silver pound was coined into 240 pennies: and this fact is preserved in the troy table of weights - twenty penny-weights equal one ounce; twelve ounces equal one pound. They actually did.

Small change of a more suitable size and weight than the diminutive silver coins was needed, even though it must consist of baser metal, and transactions requiring money of inferior value were carried on by means of base foreign currency, or lead tokens, though the whole of these were illegal. Lead tokens, of inferior workmanship, continued in use till the year 1613, when James I. for a monetary consideration (true Scot) delegated his prerogative of striking copper money to John, Baron Harrington: but this was for farthings only. However, this monopoly of minting farthings was much abused - brass was used as well as copper - so much so that in some parts of the country, including London, there was scarcely any gold or silver left in circulation, the whole of the currency consisting of brass farthings: whence the eloquence of the remark "It isn't worth a brass farthing" The patentees even tried to force the farthing on to the American colonies: but it is recorded of Massachusetts - "March 4, 1634, at the General Court at New Town, brass farthings were forbidden, and bullets were made to pass for farthings." Yet the patent was renewed by Charles I. when he came to the throne: the death of that king, however, put an end to the prerogative. But the copper coins had proved so useful that tokens immediately began to be issued and were circulated without authority, for "necessary change", as was stated on some of them. As these were received again by the issuer, they were far more useful, and more acceptable, than the brass farthings. The earliest dates of issue were 1648, 1649, 1650; and although these issues are not now numerous, they appeared in various parts of the country, and now occur in sufficient numbers to justify the belief that most of them were struck prior to the death of the king.

The devices on the tokens are very numerous - (1) arms of the incorporated Trade Companies of the City of London. These were generally adopted by persons of the same trade throughout the country: (2) the arms of

cities, towns, abbeys, nobility, and private families: (3) merchants' marks: (4) taverns and shop-signs: (5) articles of dress: (6) implements of trade, agriculture, and war: (7) animals: (8) articles of domestic use: (9) heraldic signs: (10) conveyances: (11) views of public buildings: (12) punning devices. Our New Zealand tokens show that they are true affluents of the parent stream. There are none bearing the arms as in (1), but of private arms, (2), there are two - both drapers, Beaths in Christchurch, and Kirkcaldie and Stains, Wellington; of (3) we have none, unless the three balls displayed by Morris Marks of Auckland, pawnbroker, be one: several tradesmen merely state their business and leave it at that: we have none of (4), nor of (5), tavern and shop-signs, and articles of dress: but of (6), implements of trade, agriculture, etc., we have the saddle of Mears, Wellington, the clock and watch-face of Petersen, Christchurch, the wheat-sheaf of the Union Bakery, Christchurch, the musical instruments of Milner and Thompson, Christchurch, the man ploughing of Caro, Christchurch, the mining-machinery of G. McCaul, Grahamstown, and perhaps the breakwater and shipping of Clarkson and Turnbull, Timaru. We have none of the other six classes but we have patriotic motives as in the Maori in the canoe, of Gratten, Auckland; the Maori head as in Mason Struthers, Christchurch, Milner and Thompson, Christchurch, and Waters, Auckland; the rose, thistle, and shamrock, as in Somerville, Auckland: the wheat-sheaf and sickle with 'Advance Canterbury' of Reece, Christchurch: and we have portraits, as of Queen Victoria on the tokens of the Licensed Victuallers, and the United Service Hotel, Auckland: the Prince Consort on Hague Smith's, Auckland: himself on S. Coombes, Auckland: and Professor Holloway on his pill-token, if that English token which circulated as freely as his pills in New Zealand, can be taken as a New Zealander. A most appropriate portrait is that of the Duke of Wellington on Lipman Levy's token; but one cannot help thinking that in spite of his name he must have been prompted by some percolation of Irish blood in his veins to couple with the iron duke the Irish slogan Erin go bragh.

The largest class has what might be termed a moral motive, though as the tokens were business conveniences I do not suppose that morality entered into consideration at all; at least, consciously. This motive is the blindfolded Justice with her scales. I suppose she is blindfolded because it is suspected that the scales have not yet fallen from her eyes. In the designs she is either seated or standing, and her left hand rests on or holds the cornucopia of plenty; the inference being, Be just and you will prosper; in homelier words, Honesty is the best policy. No less than fourteen firms adopted this moral device. It would be interesting to make a census to see how many of these are still in business.

Many of the tokens have considerable artistic merit, pride of place going to the landscape issues of Milner and Thompson of Christchurch.

From the year 1650 to 1660 tokens were plentiful in England, and nearly all of them were farthings; there were very few half-pennies, and no pennies. The tokens of a date subsequent to the Restoration are most abundant, half-pennies being by that time fairly common, and a number of pennies appearing.

The tokens of the 1600's were in circulation for just a quarter of a century. Whilst they originated through a public necessity, in the end they became a public nuisance. They were issued by nearly every tradesman as an advertisement, but being payable only at the shop of the issuer were at times very inconvenient. The Government had for some time intended the circulation of regal copper money, but it was not till the year 1672 that tradesmen's tokens were disallowed by royal proclamation. This immediately put a stop to their circulation; a few attempts were made to continue them, but the threat of Government proceedings against the offenders effectually discouraged them. There must, however, have been some loosening of the interdict, since they circulated till late in the 1800's.

In one county alone, Sussex, the total recorded number of different issuers of tokens was 183. Many were issued in villages of little importance, and later of less importance: But two exceptions are Brighton and Eastbourne: not only did these rise to be towns of eminence, but from them have sprung sister or daughter towns in New Zealand, where there are several Brightons or New Brightons, all seaside resorts like their prototype, and at least one Eastbourne, here in Wellington. Between 1648 and 1672, over

20,000 different issues were in use in the whole of the United Kingdom.

It took some time to evolve the principle of issuing the coins in baser metal; they must bear a fixed relation in value to the standard coins; they should be issued in limited quantities; they should be legal tender to only a limited extent; and their se-called intrinsic value should be less than their nominal value.

It will be conceded that tokens certainly have an interesting history; and their appearance in New Zealand was due to the same causes as those influencing their appearance in England. The threepenny-bit was for many years the smallest coin current in New Zealand, and great inconvenience was felt through the absence of smaller coins for small purchases and for loose change. As an expedient, boxes of matches in some places took the place of pennies. It was so in Lyttelton in say the 'fifties. But the boxes then in vogue were not the handy little round cardboard boxes at two a penny we now know: they were boxes of about twice the size: more like little barrels. I was acquainted with one place on Banks Peninsula where a novel form of small change was used. A sawmill was established close by: and the men would come from work with lengths of scantling on their shoulders, whetting their whistles as they walked along and carrying the wherewithal to pay for its wetting. The innkeeper stacked the timber at the back, shipping it to Lyttelton when there was a load to dispose of. This was barter primitive enough.

Tasmania was the first of the southern colonies to issue tokens, their first appearing in 1823: the first of the New Zealanders appeared 34 years later, in 1857, when penny tokens were issued by four firms - Clark of Auckland, Somerville of Auckland, Day and Mieville, of Dunedin, and Wilson of Dunedin. The last issue, and the best, was that of Milner and Thompson, Christchurch, in 1881. Tokens were issued by fortysix firms in all, eleven of them issuing half-pennies as well as pennies, and one, Mears of Wellington, half-pennies only. For convenience of reference, a list, divided into towns, follows: those preceded by a (x) issued half-pennies, and it will be noted that these were issued by all the Wellington firms:-

AUCKLAND:

x Ashton, H.  
Barley, C.C.  
Clark, Archibald.  
Coombes, Samuel.  
x Forsaith, T.S.  
Gittos, B.  
Gratten, R.  
Holland & Butler.  
Licensed Victuallers Assocn.  
Marks, Morris,  
Morrin and Co.  
Smith, S. Hague,  
Somerville, M.  
United Service Hotel,  
Waters, Edward.

AUCKLAND, total, 15.

CHRISTCHURCH:

Alliance Tea Co.  
Beath and Co.  
Caro and Co.  
Clarkson, S.  
Gaisford and Edmonds,  
Gourlay, T.W.  
x Hall, H. J.  
Hobday and Jobberns,  
Mason Struthers and Co.  
Milner and Thompson.  
Petersen, W.  
Pratt, W.  
x Reece, Edward.  
Union Bakery.

CHRISTCHURCH, total, 14.



DUNEDIN:

Day and Mieville.  
De Carle, E.  
Jones and Williamson.  
x Perkins and Co.  
Wilson, A.S.

DUNEDIN, total, 5.

GRAHAMSTOWN:

McCaul, G.

GRAHAMSTOWN, total 1.

INVERCARGILL:

Beaven, S.

INVERCARGILL, total 1.

NELSON:

Merrington, J.M.

NELSON, Total, 1.

NEW PLYMOUTH:

Brown & Duthie,  
Gilmour, J.

NEW PLYMOUTH, total 2.

TIMARU:

Clarkson & Turnbull,

TIMARU, total 1.

WANGANUI:

x Hurley & Co. J.

WANGANUI, total 1.

WELLINGTON:

x Anderson, D.  
x Kirkcaldie and Stains.  
x Levy, Lipman.  
x Mears, J.W.  
x Wallace, James,

WELLINGTON, total 5.

I have not included in the above the New Zealand penny, Holloway's token, nor coaching, ferry, and discount tokens: to me, these have not the interest of the ones in the list. Holloway's token, however, reminds me of a good gold-field story from Nelson. In rainy weather the diggers were, after two or three days of enforced inaction, hard put to it to fill in the time. Books had been read and re-read - and reading matter on the diggings consisted of travel, history, and science; though of magazines the "Australasian" was always welcomed - even cards lost their appeal, until one day an imaginative digger had a brilliant idea, and he and his mates started a new game; that is, the stakes were new - they were to be Holloways' pills, the winner undertaking to dispose in the natural and orthodox way of the whole of his winnings. The game was started with zest, but after a time the winner seemed to feel an oozing of his enthusiasm; and his mates, I suppose through a kind of sympathetic reaction, agreed with him in concluding there was not as much in the game as it promised, and they threw it in.

It is rather remarkable that in the New Zealand tokens, as in its regal coinage later, there was no coin of less value than a half-penny, and only 11 firms out of 46 used these: in the far-back first English issue the only coin was the farthing, or the fourthing, the fourth of a penny. Sir Julius Vogel, when writing in 1875 to the Agent General in London regarding a supply of regal copper coinage for New Zealand, instructed him to take advice from the Bank of New Zealand there as to how the £5,000 worth to be sent out was to be divided: that is, the proportion of pennies, half-pennies, and farthings (if any): and Mr. Larkworthy of the Bank advised that by far the larger proportion should consist of pennies: a limited quantity of half-pennies might be found useful, but he doubted if farthings would be of any use in the colony. This was a wise decision; and it also spoke much for the economic conditions obtaining in the colony. I can well remember the time when there was some agitation, chiefly I believe on the part of the drapery establishments, to have the farthing introduced into New Zealand. These broken amounts do not look much; 1/11d. looks much less than 2/-, the psychology being that it is only the shillings that are regarded by the unmathematically-minded, but the unregarded fractions tot up.

The introduction of farthings would not have indicated that we had a population where paupers had to be considered, but where plutocrats were easily inveigled; rather than have a half-penny change the odd yards would be made even, always to the profit of the seller. You have only to look at the prices in these fascinating establishments to see that they cater for plutocrats, and two well-known ones who issued tokens, are still in good dividend-paying business.

An article on New Zealand tokens by Mr. Coleman P. Hyman of Sydney, supports me in my commendation of the artistic quality of some of them, and he also commends their interesting variety. It is this variety, too, which makes the collecting of them a far more complicated business than might be supposed from the fact that there were only 46 issuers. Most of them have two, three, or more varieties; Beaths have seven varieties, Milner and Thompson eleven, Hall no less than twenty, making in all more than 140. Mr. Hyman is lively in his descriptions of the New Zealand designs, but he is astray in his natural history when he describes the reverse of one of the New Plymouth tokens, saying:- "Three palm-trees and a clumsy bird (perhaps the moa-pok) are depicted on one shore, Mount Egmont being on the opposite shore, while a war-canoe containing six Maoris is on the intervening water". In reality the palm-trees are tree-ferns; and his bird, a blend of the moa and morepork, is an innocent kiwi. It is one of our good designs, even though imagination has run wild in the designing of the landscape. He was no doubt led astray by Andrews, in his Coins and Tokens of Australia, where the bird is called a moa.

Reading over the list of towns whose tradesmen issued tokens, it will be noted that every one of those towns is still in existence, and in vigorous growth, with one exception which is more apparent than real - Grahams-town: the name has gone, but the township has been absorbed in the more extensive mining township of Thames.

While in Southland I heard of a curious incident. I was with a friend, a collector of this and that, who when he heard I was interested in tokens, produced a tin containing an assortment of old coins, which I turned over with my finger without the least enthusiasm until a token came to light; then the tin was a surprise packet I was eager to investigate. There were several tokens: but as they were untransferable, though also unsorted and unvalued, I looked no further in case there should be something there I might covet. But if I got no tokens I got a good story. "Are you interested in them", he said. "They used to be common enough. My mother had a bit of a milk-business in the 'sixties and 'seventies - the gold-digging days, but whilst coppers may have been handy as change before those golden days nobody bothered about coppers then, and my mother just threw them into a box in a corner and thought no more about them. One day in the store she heard the storekeeper say to a customer who wanted change, 'I can't make out what has come to all the coppers; there used to be plenty, but now I never have enough for change.' This reminded my mother of her box; and she said, 'I've got a whole boxful of them if they're any good to you'. 'Any good?' said he. 'I'll give you 25/- for every pound's worth of them'. She had unconsciously been making a corner in coppers, which, of course, were mostly tokens, and made something like £5 out of them." It is only the dealers who make corners in tokens now.

It was with some hesitation that I promised, some time back, to present this paper to you, but as I lived in Christchurch during the time that tokens were in circulation, and as I remember distinctly handling them as a boy, I thought I might have something to say on this interesting topic. The two tokens I particularly remember are the Hall and the Milner and Thompson: the latter because of its beauty: the former because of my resentment at the man obtruding his name on me so persistently whichever side of the token met my gaze.

You all know, as well as I do, the difficulty of getting hold of good tokens, as of good coins generally; there is another difficulty, almost equally great, and that is the difficulty of getting rid of bad ones. You may bury them, but some time or other they turn up or are turned up; one of the common Milner and Thompson tokens was brought to the Turnbull Library in that way by someone who thought he had unearthed a treasure. You may throw them into the harbour, but that doesn't say you get rid of them; someone in the Harbour Board employ brought a parcel of about ten old, grimed, disrepu-

table coins to the Library on another occasion and asked were they valuable; they had been brought up by the dredge he was working on and he brought them in to see what they were worth: worth so much, I assured him, that the last owner had thrown them into the harbour to get rid of them, and if he did the same they would some day return in the same way and be brought to some long-suffering numismatist (and serve him right for owning to such a name) to be asked - "Are they valuable?"

In moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Andersen, Professor Rankine Brown stated that the Society was very much indebted to him for his interesting and characteristic paper, which he said, did not really cross Mr. Sutherland's recent publication under a similar heading.

M. HORNBLow,

Assistant Hon. Secretary.

Members are asked to kindly make a note of the following dates of meetings for 1939:-

27th March (held)	28th August
24th April (held)	25th September
29th May	30th October.
26th June (Annual Meeting: Election of Officers for ensuing year.)	27th November.

The next meeting of the Society will be held at the Turnbull Library on Monday, 29th May, 1939, at 8 p.m. when Dr. W.R.B. Oliver will exhibit and will speak on a collection recently acquired by the Dominion Museum, viz., a complete set of Queen Victoria Jubilee coins.

NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

REPORT OF THE 54th MEETING - 29th MAY, 1939

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"COINAGE OF QUEEN VICTORIA'S REIGN" was the subject of an address given by Dr. W.R.B.Oliver at the 54th meeting of the New Zealand Numismatic Society held at the Alexander Turnbull Library, Bowen Street, Wellington, on Monday, 29th May, 1939, Professor J. Rankine Brown, MA., LL.D., occupying the chair.

An apology for inability to be present was received from the Rev. D.C.Bates.

With the addition of the date for the July meeting, viz., 31st July, 1939, the minutes of the last meeting were confirmed, correspondence then being dealt with and catalogues received from overseas tabled.

The attention of members was drawn by Professor J. Rankine Brown to the fact that the next meeting would be the Annual Meeting and he expressed the hope that there would be a good attendance as there were some important matters to be discussed.

**NEW MEMBER.** A letter was received from Mr. Stephen J. Zamwycki, Long Island, New York, applying for membership, and, on the motion of Mr. Sherwood, seconded by Mr. Walpole, he was elected subject to the formalities required by the Rules of the Society being complied with.

A report was received and read by Professor J. Rankine Brown, from Mr. J. Hunt Deacon, of the National Gallery of South Australia and Honorary Corresponding Member of both the Australian Numismatic Society and the New Zealand Numismatic Society, dealing with his activities in numismatic spheres in Australia during the period January-March, 1939. It was decided to thank Mr. Hunt Deacon for his report, and to congratulate him on his enthusiasm in connection with numismatics.

In referring to the Gilbertson Bequest, Professor J. Rankine Brown, as a member of the New Zealand Numismatic Society and the Dominion Museum Committee, stated that both bodies were in a somewhat awkward position in regard to the custody of it, as, although the Collection was left to the Dominion Museum, it was to be housed in the Alexander Turnbull Library so as to be available for inspection and study by the members of the New Zealand Numismatic Society while the Society holds its meeting there. He stated that a great many of the general public would be very interested in the Collection, and, if sections of it could be exhibited at the Dominion Museum from time to time, it would doubtless be appreciated by numbers of them. However, he mentioned that the correspondence relative to this could be read again and the matter fully discussed at the next meeting when, he stated, he would be pleased to give a short talk on the Collection.

Dr. W.R.B.Oliver and Mr. Johannes C. Andersen also spoke, expressing their views as members of both bodies, as well as several other members.

In bringing up the matter of finance, Mr. Sherwood stated that, through the continued absence from Wellington of the other signatory to the Post-office Savings Bank account, he was unable to make withdrawals to meet expenses incurred by the Society through printing of reports, etc. On the motion of Professor Rankine Brown, seconded by Mr. Walpole, it was therefore unanimously agreed that arrangements should be made for Mr. M.H.Hornblow to act as the other signatory in the absence of Mr. Sutherland.

**EXHIBIT.** A recent Italian medal was sent in for inspection of members by the Rev. D. C. Bates, Miss Tewesley translating the Italian text.

COINAGE OF QUEEN VICTORIA'S REIGN. In giving his talk on "The Coinage of Queen Victoria's Reign," Dr. W.R.B. Oliver stated that the foundation of the modern British coinage was laid in 1816, when an entirely new silver coinage was issued. It consisted, he said, of crowns (433.1/3 grains), half-crowns (218.1/6 grains), shillings (87 1/4 grains), and six-pences (43.2/3 grains), the weights having been somewhat reduced from the same coins of previous issues, but the fineness remaining as in previous reigns, namely, silver 11 oz. 2 dwt., alloy 18 dwt. The coins were reduced in diameter and increased in thickness. In the same year gold was made the standard measure of value and legal tender, silver being legal tender up to 20 shillings only.

In 1817 a new gold coinage was issued, namely, sovereign (123 1/2 grains) and half-sovereigns (61.2/3 grains); these coins replacing the guinea and half-guinea, were similar in size, weight and fineness to modern coins.

The reverse of the sovereign showed Pistrucci's beautiful design of St. George and the Dragon, and half-sovereign having a crowned shield. In 1831, however, the crowned shield replaced St. George and the Dragon on the sovereign.

In Queen Victoria's reign there were three issues of gold, silver and copper or bronze coins. The first issue was in 1838 and consisted of gold sovereign, half-sovereign (five pounds struck as a pattern only with St. George and the Dragon on the reverse), silver crowns, half-crowns, shillings, sixpences and groats, copper pennies, halfpennies and farthings. The pennies were coined 24 to the ounce avoirdupois, or 320 grains each. The portrait on the obverse was an excellent representation of the young Queen with the hair tied down by two ribbons and arranged in a knob at the back. This design remained on the coins for 22 years.

In 1845 a silver threepence was issued. The groat was discontinued in 1856, and in 1871 the reverse of the sovereign was changed to Pistrucci's St. George and the Dragon.

In 1849 a silver florin was issued with a new design for the Queen's portrait, the bust reaching to the rim of the coin. The Queen wore a large crown on the head and a lace dress over the shoulders. On this coin the letters D.G. were omitted, hence it became known as the "godless" or "graceless" florin. It was replaced in 1851 by a florin with this omission corrected. The Queen's head was the same design as in 1849 but the lettering, including the date, was in Old English characters on the obverse, but Roman Capitals on the reverse.

The second issue of pennies, halfpennies, and farthings was made in 1860, when the metal was changed to bronze, and the weight reduced to half. On the Queen's head was only a laurel wreath, and a ribbon below the knob at the back. On the reverse a lighthouse was added on the left and a ship on the right of the figure of Britannia.

The second silver issue was the Jubilee coinage of 1887. On the obverse was a new design of the Queen's bust, with veil and a small crown and a necklet of pearls. This design was the work of Sir Edward Boehm.

In gold the new denominations £2 and £5 were added, and all the gold coins, except the half-sovereign, bore the figure of St. George and the Dragon by Pistrucci.

In silver the double florin was a new denomination. The crown had on the reverse side St. George and the Dragon. On the reverse of the sixpence was a crowned shield rather like that on the half-sovereign, but this issue was immediately stopped and a new one with the word "sixpence" struck instead.

This coinage was adversely criticized on account of the Queen's portrait, which neither in design nor in execution met with general approval.

The third issue of gold and silver coins appeared in 1893, when the double florin was discontinued. St. George and the Dragon was impressed on the half-sovereign, so that all gold coins bore this design. On the crowns a spade-shaped shield within the Garter, executed by the sculptor Thomas Brock, replaced St. George and the Dragon. The three shields representing England, Scotland and Ireland, and placed triangularly on the florins and shillings, was the work of Sir Edward Poynter.

The Queen's portrait on the obverse was designed by Thomas Brock. There was a coronet underneath a veil, but showing over the forehead, and a necklet of pearls.

The third issue of bronze of 1895 bore the same portrait as the gold and silver coins, but on the reverse the lighthouse and ship were omitted.

Maundy fourpences, threepences, twopences, and pennies were issued from 1893 to 190., and in all these issues the obverse design resembled that of the corresponding sixpences, the reverse being figures between branches of oak.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Dr. Oliver for his interesting talk.

The evening concluded with a very pleasant social hour and supper.

M. HORNBLOW,

Assistant Hon. Secretary.

N.B. - The next meeting of the Society will be held in the Alexander Turnbull Library, Bowen Street, Wellington, on MONDAY, 25th JUNE, 1939, when Professor J. Rankine Brown will give a short talk on the Gilbertson Collection, and Mr. W.D.Ferguson will speak on "Points of Interest About Spanish Coins."

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Report of the 55th Meeting - 26th June, 1939.

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"COINS OF THE CLASSICAL PERIOD" was the subject of a paper given by Professor J. Rankine Brown before the 55th meeting of the Society. The lecturer described the outstanding features of the Charles Gilbertson Memorial Collection on exhibition. There was a good attendance of members. In the absence abroad of Sir James Elliott, President, Professor Rankine Brown occupied the Chair. He extended a cordial welcome to Mr. Allan Sutherland who had just returned from an extended absence in Australia. A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. M. Hornblow who had acted as Hon. Secretary. Mr. Sutherland conveyed to the meeting the good wishes of the Australian Numismatic Society, of the revived Numismatic Society of South Australia, and of Australian members of the New Zealand Numismatic Society whom he had met in the Commonwealth.

Dr. Rankine Brown explained that the Annual Meeting had been postponed until July, owing to the absence of the President and Hon. Secretary. This decision was confirmed. Current reports of the Australian Numismatic Society were tabled, also numismatic literature and correspondence including letters from Hon. Corresponding Members.

The Secretary of the Decimal Association, London, advised that Mr. R. Noel Johnson, 22 Walmsley Road, St. Helier's, Auckland, E.1., had been appointed the Dominion Representative of the Association.

A series of numismatic books dealing mainly with the numismatic history of Australia, and two types of Melanesian shell-money were exhibited by Mr. Sutherland, who also presented to the Society ten copies of his work TOKENS OF NEW ZEALAND which had been published during his absence. The Chairman read a letter from Mr. James Hunt Deacon, Numismatist, Museum and Art Gallery, Adelaide, expressing his appreciation of this, the first work issued on the numismatic history of New Zealand.

CUSTODY OF THE CHARLES GILBERTSON MEMORIAL COLLECTION. Considerable discussion took place regarding the custody of this valuable collection of electrotypes of Greek and Roman coins, rare Greek gold staters of Phillip and other coins deposited in the Turnbull Library in trust for the Dominion Museum and the N.Z. Numismatic Society, the presentation being made by Mr. E. Gilbertson on behalf of his brother, the late Mr. C. Gilbertson, Vice-President, Invercargill.

Professor Rankine Brown asked for an expression of opinion from the meeting, being inclined to the view that the collection could be displayed to better advantage in the Dominion Museum. All members appreciated the magnificent gift. Mr. Sutherland said in the final analysis the wishes of the donor must be respected; it was desired that the collection should be kept intact. When in Melbourne he had examined a similar collection of Ready electrotypes, the purchase price of which indicated that the collection under discussion was a valuable one. Classical coins belonging to the Australian Museum, Sydney, were housed at the University there for educational purposes.

Mr. Johannes Andersen considered that the facilities available at the Museum were not sufficient to display the coins already there. The nature of the bequest precluded easy examination of the coins. The coins should be kept at the Turnbull Library where they could be studied by members under approved conditions.

Dr. Oliver said that during his trip abroad he had examined 165 institutions, mostly Museums, and similar collections were displayed only at Edinburgh, London, and Melbourne. He considered that the coins could safely be housed under double glass at the Museum, where they could be used for educational purposes.

Mr. E. Gilbertson said that his father was a keen numismatist, being associated with banking in the Orient. As a reward for presenting to the British Museum rare Greek coins that that institution did not possess, his father had been given a cabinet of electrotypes of Greek and Roman coins in the British Museum. That was the cabinet of coins exhibited. The only persons genuinely interested in classical coins were numismatists, and in view of the fact that the Turnbull Library was a storehouse for rare and treasured books, the coin collection was in an appropriate setting. This view was re-

inforced by the knowledge that the shelves of the Library contained excellent numismatic works which described the coins. One method of displaying the coins would be in cardboard between two sheets of glass, arranged on an axis, but that was an expensive method. Care must be taken in exhibiting the coins, including the gold Greek staters and other original coins which had been presented to the New Zealand Numismatic Society, and as long as that Society held its meetings at the Library he desired that the collection should remain there.

Mr. W. D. Ferguson said that he was glad that Mr. Gilbertson had adhered to his original intention. The collection was more conveniently placed in the Turnbull Library. He would like to see more of the coins already in the possession of the Dominion Museum displayed there instead of being kept in the strong room. New Zealand tokens, of which the Museum had a good collection, should be displayed.

Professor J. Rankine Brown proceeded to review the classical coins of Greece and Rome as represented in the trays of coins displayed. He said that his interest in coinage was an aesthetic one, and in preparing his paper he had difficulty in refraining from unduly commenting on that aspect. Professor Rankine Brown said:- "GILBERTSON CABINET OF ELECTROTYPES - the property of the late Charles Gilbertson of Invercargill and at present in the custody of the N. Z. Numismatic Society and housed in the Alexander Turnbull Library - contains a series of electrotypes of 820 ancient coins, illustrative of the history of coinage from its start in the neighbourhood of 700 B.C. until the beginning of the Christian Era. The coins to be reproduced were selected by Mr. Head of the British Museum, one of the most distinguished numismatists of his day, and are modelled on coins in the possession of the British Museum.

The 40 drawers or frames in which the coins are arranged are divided into seven divisions or periods - some six frames being assigned to each period. The periods are those into which the HISTORY OF COINAGE up to the beginning of our era naturally falls on artistic grounds to start with, and on historical grounds later. As early coins do not have on them any significance of date it is only possible to arrange them in order of their issue on artistic grounds, and, of course, according to the cities and countries to which they belong. All coins, even the earliest, bear some indication of their source which is at first a device or design but very soon some elementary lettering was added - like "Athe" on the coins of Athens and the discarded letter "Koppa" on the coins of Corinth. The coin designs - particularly of Greek coins - follow fairly closely the changes of taste and development in the more important arts of sculpture and painting and the less important but fascinating art of vase painting, and form an interesting commentary on these.

The first period (Trays I - V) extends from 700 B.C. to 480 B.C. and is called the ARCHAIC PERIOD. All evidence goes to show that coinage started about 700 B.C. whether in Lydia or among the Greek towns on the sea-coast of Asia Minor, or during the supremacy of Pheidon of Argos in Greece proper. It is generally agreed now, however, that coinage started where on a priori grounds one would expect it to start, i.e., among the trading and commercial Greek cities of Asia Minor.

I have selected for exhibition Trays I and III. Tray I contains the very earliest coins, all of them from Asia Minor or the adjacent islands of the Aegean. THE EARLIEST COINS ARE MADE OF ELECTRUM, a natural alloy of gold and silver found in Asia Minor, but silver soon came into general, and as far as Greece was concerned, almost universal use. Almost all the coins illustrated by the electrotypes are silver coins; there are a few gold coins but no copper coins at all. Copper coins only became important during the Imperial period - that is, after the period when the cabinet ends.

The earliest coins are not circular in shape but rather oval or bean-shaped and are much thicker than coins soon became. Most of the coins contained in Tray I have a device on one side only, the other side having on it the mark of the punch which, however, is varied in different ways. Such coins are called "incuse", i.e., "struck in," and when a device begins to appear on the reverse as well as on the obverse, this is driven into the coin and does not stand out in relief.

On Tray I the most interesting coin, perhaps, is No. 7, a coin associated with Helicarnussus, a Graecised town in Caria and the birth-place of Herodotus, the Father of History. This is the earliest known coin with an inscription, which, written in Greek letters retrograde, i.e., from right to left, means "I am the mark of Phanes", the mark being a stag feeding. Phanes was not the name of a king. Other interesting coins are No. 17, a Persian daric in gold with the device of the Great King holding a bow and spear, and No. 23, a coin of Phocoea with the punning device of a seal (phoca).



Tray III: I have selected this tray mainly because it contains specimens of the early coinage of Athens (26, 27, 28), Aegina (29), Corinth (30, 31), and Cnossus in Crete (32). The coinage of Athens and Corinth lasted for a long time and forms an interesting series. Aegina is associated with the beginnings of coinage in Greece proper. The coins of Aegina are peculiar in that they remained in use long after normal coins had got devices on both sides. This was because Aeginetan money had a wide circulation in Greece (in Peloponnese especially) and when this happens changes in the appearance of coins are avoided. The same is true of the coins of Athens which retained their Archaic appearance long after the coins of other States had been more refined and artistic, and for the same reason. It was not until 220 B.C. that any change in the direction of modernity took place in the coins of Athens. The coinage of Aegina was short-lived for this island was absorbed by the Athenian Empire and the original inhabitants expelled about 430 B.C. The tortoise on the coins of Aegina is associated with the goddess Aphrodite.

The coins of Cnossus are interesting because they have on the reverse the labyrinth (square or circular).

On the same tray Nos. 14, 15, 16, are unusually large coins belonging to certain Thracian tribes bordering on Greece. The coins of this period are, with the exception of a few Lydian and Persian coins, all Greek, and towards the end of the period the coins of the Greek cities in Sicily become prominent.

Period II (Trays VI - XII) is the period of transition and lasted from 480 to 400 B.C. In the course of this period the roughness and ruggedness of the Archaic Period is being refined away but the old vigour still remains. People who prefer the vigour and strength of earlier Greek sculpture will regard the coins of this period as superior to the more chaste coins of the next. The coins of this period are almost entirely Greek.

Tray VIII: Nos. 1 and 2 are coins of Alexander I and Archelaus I of Macedonia; Nos. 19 - 24 are Athenian coins, No. 19 a very handsome decadrachm. The head of Athene is now encircled by a laurel wreath added, it is supposed, in celebration of the Battle of Marathon in 490 B.C., and retained afterwards. Earlier Athenian coins do not have this wreath; though the heads on these early coins are in profile, the eye is full-face. This is characteristic of all early art and it was some time before this misconception was corrected.

Tray XI: This tray consists entirely of Sicilian coins. Though Sicily is not a large island, there were many Greek coin-issuing cities in it, and many of the Sicilian coins are of supreme merit. Specially noticeable are the coins of Naxos, (29, 30), and the coins of Syracuse (33-40), a city with which is associated a long and magnificent series of coins. The decadrachm, No. 33, is what is called a demareteion. In the year 480, Gelo, the Tyrant of Syracuse, inflicted a decisive defeat on the Carthaginians who were in possession of the western portion of Sicily, and desired to exact severe terms from them. His wife, Demarete, intervened for them and got better terms. For this service the grateful Carthaginians presented her with a large weight of silver and the coins made from this silver were named after her.

Period III (Trays XIII - XVII), lasted from 400 to 336 B.C. and is the period when the numismatic art reached the highest point of excellence which it has ever attained. It is the period of the finest art and historically is the period of the Spartan and Theban supremacy. The coins of the period are still predominantly Greek, but Philip II of Macedon now coined his gold staters which became almost a universal coinage, called by his name like the Louis and Napoleons of the French coinage. Carthage is also represented with coins on a Greek model.

Tray XVII: The magnificent Syracusan decadrachms on this tray are admittedly the most beautiful coins ever struck and it is not easy to imagine anything more lively. We know the names of the artists who designed some of them as they inscribed their names in small letters on the coins, just as the vase painters wrote their names on the vases designed or painted by them. Kimon and Evaenetus are two of these names, and it is known that they worked for other towns besides Syracuse. No. 27 is a small gold coin of Syracuse. Gold was rarely used for coins by the Greeks - and generally when they could not get silver - as a money of necessity.

Tray XVIII: Coins of Syracuse and Carthage. These Carthaginian coins were almost certainly designed by Greek engravers. Several have on them the head of Persephone (like the coins of Syracuse) - a Greek goddess. The lettering is in Semitic script.

Period IV - 336-280 B.C. - Trays XVIII - XXIII: This is the PERIOD OF LATER FINE ART. The period saw a great change in the coin issues. It is the period of Alexander and his successors, the Diadochi, as they are called - i.e., his generals, who, after the death of the Conqueror, carved out for themselves great kingdoms in the East and fixed national boundaries which may be said to have lasted to the present day. The most important change in the coin types, is that coin portraiture begins as these monarchs, not at first but ultimately, put their heads on their coins. Ptolemy Soter of Egypt (306-284 B.C.) was the first of these monarchs who put his own portrait on his coins and set a fashion that has been continued ever since.

The Greek cities now subject to Macedonia, generally speaking, ceased to issue coins, but there were exceptions. Tray XXI contains coins of Alexander and his successors. No. 17 is a coin of Demetrius Poliorcetes, who won a great naval victory in 306 B.C. On the reverse of this coin is the figure of Nike or Victory standing on the prow of a galley and blowing a trumpet. Partly on the basis of this design, the magnificent statue of Victory, called the Victory of Samothrace, which stands at the top of one of the staircases in the Louvre in Paris has been identified with a statue of Victory erected by this King in honour of this naval victory. (There are doubts as to the identification, however.)

Period V - 280 - 190 B.C. - Trays XXIV - XXX: The mintage now becomes mainly regal and there is a series of portraits of kings of Egypt, Syria, Bactria, Pergamus, and so on, of the greatest interest and historical value. Very few coins were issued by Greek cities but towards the end of the period Athens came to the front with a new issue of coins which soon obtained a wide circulation. Carthage also coined largely and, what is more important, Rome now comes into the field of coinage. The artistic standard of the coins has now fallen off considerably.

On Tray XXVIII, Nos. 14 - 16, are coins of the Aetolian League; Nos. 20-22 are specimens of the new Athenian coinage with flatter and broader flans than in the old coinage and of a more refined character, perhaps, but most people will prefer the older bolder coins that coincide with the period of Athenian greatness. The reverse is now crowded with lettering. This sort of thing makes the coin look mean and fussy and is a complete change from the old coinage of Greece when the individual was nothing and was submerged in the State, but in a very different way and with very different results than we associate with the subordination of the individual to the State in modern totalitarian States. Coins 23-25 are coins of the Achaean League, as a rule at variance with the Aetolian League, and, like it, soon to come under the influence of Rome.

In Tray XXIX, Nos. 2-8, are COINS OF ROME, whose coinage soon comes to predominate. The history of coinage at Rome is peculiar. Her original and native money was copper - the aes grave, or "librae as" divided into twelve fractions and theoretically a pound in weight, but soon depreciated both in weight and value. This division of the coin standard into twelve parts had a wide influence on the vocabulary of Latin, but that is "another story."

Rome's first silver coins were struck in connection with her campaigns in Southern Italy where she came in contact with peoples used to silver coins issued by Greek mints. She had to strike similar silver coins to enable her soldiers to buy things from the inhabitants. The earliest of these coins is exemplified by Nos. 7 and 8, called Romano-Campanian and not issued at Rome. These coins have a two-headed Janus on the obverse and on the reverse a chariot with ROMA underneath. Another silver coin (No. 5, 6) called Victoriatus was issued for use during the campaigns in Illyria about the same date.

The first silver coins to be issued in Rome itself date from 268 B.C. They have the head of Rome on the obverse and the Dioscuri - i.e., Castor and Pollux - on the reverse (Nos. 2-4).

This is the famous denarius - the penny of the New Testament - originally of the value of ten asses (whence the name) but during the Hannibalic war, i.e., after 216 B.C., reduced to the value of 16 asses. Other coins on this Tray belong to South Italy, and Nos. 24, 25 are coins of Pyrrhus, King of Epirus, who came to the assistance of the South Italian Greeks against the Romans (280 B.C. onwards). It is from the inconclusive nature of his battle that we have derived the expression "Pyrrhic victory".

Period VI - 190 - 100 B.C. - Trays XXXI - XXXVI: The coinage is now mainly Roman, or connected with Rome. Rome posed as the liberator of the Greek States from the Macedonian yoke, and proclaimed the freedom of the Greek cities (196 B.C.) which again starting coining. These coins were modelled on Alexander's coin types, showing that his coins had continued in use. The series of coins of the kings of Egypt, Syria, Bactria, Parthia, and so on, continues with their interesting portraits. The Jews issued money for

the first time under Simon Maccabaeus during the period, and Athens was coining money at a great rate. In Italy no money was coined except in the name of the Roman state. Carthage continued to strike coins until she was ruined in 146 B.C., and in Gaul barbarous copies of the gold staters of Philip make their appearance.

In Tray XXXV - Nos 28, 29, 30, are coins of Cnossus in Crete, still with the labyrinth on the reverse. Nos. 3-14 are Roman. When one compares a series of Roman coins of the period with the older coins of Greece, one is struck with the diversity of types. The coins of the Greek cities did change, but as compared with Roman coins, the type is much more stable, and permanent, as, for instance, in the case of the coins of Cnossus on the tray. The diversity in the types of Roman coins is due to the fact that the officials responsible for the issuing of the coins appear to have exercised great freedom in altering the types, putting on the reverses designs connected with their own family histories, and so on. There is a similar diversity in the Imperial coins, but then the designs have all reference to the ruling family.

Period VII - 100 - 1 B.C. - Trays XXXV - XLI: The money of this period shows the rapid extension of Rome in all directions, and the coins are interesting because of the appearance on them of famous figures in history, such as Cleopatra, Antony, Augustus, Mithradates, King of Pontus, etc. Athens sided with Mithradates against Sulla in 88 B.C., and was deprived of the right of coinage so that the long series of Athenian tetradrachms comes to an end.

There is an interesting series of coins connected with the revolt of the Italian people against Rome in 90-89 B.C., when they set up a new confederacy and issued money at their capital Corfinium which they rechristened Italia. The coinage is now predominantly Roman, or is connected with Rome and her conquests.

Tray XXXVIII contains Eastern coins mainly - No. 14 shows the head of Cleopatra (but not the last known one) with the head of Antony on the reverse. Tray XL has on it Roman coins and coins connected with the Social War of 90-89 B.C., and some British coins. Nos. 20-24, are gold coins (aurei) of Antony, and No. 26 is aureus of Augustus. Nos. 3-9 are British (or Gaulish) coins, 9 being a coin of Cunobelinus - the Cymbeline of Shakespeare. Nos. 12-15 are coins connected with the Social War with lettering in the Oscan alphabet. On No. 15 is the Oscan bull, going the Roman wolf. The War was brought to an end by a general extension of the franchise throughout Italy."

In moving a vote of thanks, Mr. Johannes Andersen stated that the Society was indeed fortunate in having as its acting President one who could relate the history behind the designs of the coins, so that when he spoke, pictures were constantly flashing through the mind of scenes in ancient history of mythology. The history of the word "labyrinth" and the story of Theseus and Ariadne were cases in point.

Several members asked for an extended report of the paper, and Mr. E. Gilbertson kindly agreed to defray the extra cost involved.

The meeting concluded with a social hour and supper.

12 Gleneagles Flats,  
The Terrace,  
WELLINGTON, N. Z.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,  
Hon. Secretary.

NOTE: Members are reminded that subscriptions for the current year are now due and are payable to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. C. Sherwood, 103 Willis Street, Wellington, C.1.

ANNUAL MEETING - MONDAY NEXT, 31st JULY, 8 p.m.



## THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

Report of the 56th (Eighth Annual) Meeting - 31st July, 1939.

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The Eighth Annual Meeting of the Society was held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on 31st July, 1939. Professor J. Rankine Brown, Acting President, occupied the chair in the absence abroad of the President, Sir James Elliott. Messages of good wishes were received from Archdeacon Gavin, F.R.N.S., New Plymouth, Mr. S.R. McCallum, Wanganui, and Mr. J.B. Ward, Hokitika (Vice Presidents.) The minutes of the previous Annual Meeting were read and confirmed.

In reviewing the work of the year, Professor J. Rankine Brown said that the Society was doing useful work. A wide range of papers had been read during the year, and the Society was actively engaged in arranging for the issue of a Centennial medal. Mr. E. Gilbertson paid a tribute to the officers of the Society. He suggested that the membership subscription be increased to 7/6d. per annum. Mr. G.C. Sherwood said that so long as members paid their annual subscription of 5/., the Society could carry on satisfactorily. The Rev. D.C. Bates said that the Society was performing a useful service in co-ordinating the interests of numismatists, by increasing their knowledge, and in guiding opinion in the matter of medal and coin issues. The Annual Report and Balance Sheet was adopted unanimously. A vote of thanks was passed to the retiring officers.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: The following officers were elected:-

PATRON: Lord Galway. HON. LIFE PATRON: Viscount Bledisloe. PRESIDENT: Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, M.B.E., F.R.S.N.Z. VICE PRESIDENTS: Messrs. J.C. Entrican, Auckland; Archdeacon G.H. Gavin, F.R.N.S., New Plymouth; Mr. E.K. Cameron, Hawera; Mr. S.R. McCallum, Wanganui; Mr. N. Soloman, Napier; the Rev. D.C. Bates; Professor J. Rankine Brown, LL.D., M.A.; Sir James Elliott; Mr. E. Gilbertson, Mr. J.W. Heenan, C.B.E., Wellington; Mr. J.B. Ward, Hokitika, Mr. P. Watts Rule, F.N.Z.I.A., Timaru, Mr. Willi Fels, C.M.G., Colonel G. Barclay, Dunedin, and Mr. J. Robertson, Invercargill. COUNCIL: Messrs. H.G. Mayer, H.R. Ford, A. Quinnell, W.D. Ferguson, J. Berry; HON. TREASURER: Mr. G.C. Sherwood, 103 Willis Street, Wellington; HON. SECRETARY: Mr. Allan Sutherland, F.R.N.S.; HON. ASSISTANT SECRETARY: Mr. M. Hornblow; HON. AUDITOR: Mr. W. Chetwynd.

Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, the new President, took the Chair, and was congratulated on his election.

TRUST ACCOUNT: COMPOSITE SUBSCRIPTIONS: Mr. Sherwood moved and the Rev. D.C. Bates seconded, THAT the name of the new President, Mr. Johannes C. Andersen be substituted for that of Sir James Elliott as a trustee for the New Zealand Numismatic Society Composite Subscription Trust Account. Agreed to.

MEETINGS: Mr. G.C. Sherwood said that in view of the April meetings clashing with Anzac Day, and for other reasons, he moved, THAT the April Meetings be deleted from the Programme, and that the August Meetings be devoted entirely to coin exhibits and exchanges. Miss Tewesley opposed the motion stating that members appreciated papers. After discussion it was decided that the monthly meetings from March to November should stand, but that the April and the August meetings be devoted primarily to coin exchanges, the Hon. Treasurer to receive coins for exchange or disposal.

NUMISMATIC MAGAZINES: Mr. A. Quinnell said that the present chain-circulation list for "The Numismatist" and "Spink's Numismatic Circular" was obsolete, and he moved, THAT a new chain-circulation list be prepared, to contain only the names of members who submitted requests for their names to be added, such requests to be sent to Mr. J.G. Tandy, 83 Beauchamp Street, Karori, W.3. Agreed to.

Mr. Hornblow moved and Mr. Allan Sutherland seconded, THAT the Hon. Assistant Secretary be an ex officio member of the Council. Agreed to.

CHARLES GILBERTSON MEMORIAL COIN COLLECTION: Mr. E. Gilbertson enquired as to the decision reached by the Board of Trustees of the Dominion Museum with respect to his late brother's collection of electrotypes. Pro-

fessor Rankine Brown stated that the Board had decided not to proceed further in the matter.

Mr. E. Gilbertson then moved, THAT the classified genuine coins contained in the Charles Gilbertson Memorial Collection cabinet be retained by the New Zealand Numismatic Society as a nucleus of a coin collection for the Society, and that the unclassified coins and medals be offered for sale at the option of the Council of the Society. Mr. Sutherland seconded the motion stating that the foundation of the Society's collection could not be more fittingly laid than with original gold staters of Phillip, and other coins of the classical period. The motion was carried unanimously, as was a subsequent motion thanking Mr. Gilbertson for his generosity.

**DECIMAL COINAGE:** News Bulletin No. 10 of the Decimal Association, London, and containing the following references to New Zealand, was tabled:-

The Associated Chambers of Commerce of New Zealand, at their Annual Meeting in November, 1938, resolved:

THAT this Conference, being of opinion that a decimal currency would materially facilitate trade and commerce, recommends the Government to consider the early adoption of such a currency.

In August, 1938, the Council of the New Zealand Society of Accountants resolved:

THAT in the opinion of this Council the adoption of decimal coinage in the British Empire would result in important savings in industry and commerce, and the Council will support any efforts to achieve this reform.

**ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIAN NUMISMATISTS:** Reports in connection with the formation of this Society were tabled, and pleasure was expressed at the increased interest in numismatics in Australia. Members interested are invited to communicate with the General Organiser, Mr. J. Hunt Deacon, National Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide.

**HON. CORRESPONDING MEMBERS:** Interesting reports were tabled from Sir John Hanham, Bt., Wimborne, England, and Mr. J. Hunt Deacon, Adelaide, regarding developments in numismatics in their respective countries. Sir John Hanham submitted illustrated catalogue of Glendining's sale of British silver and gold coins on May 23rd, 1939, with prices realised indicated. This forms an excellent guide of current values, and is available to members for inspection on request.

**CANADIAN NUMISMATIC ART SOCIETY:** Mr. Allan Sutherland reported that he had been elected a member of this recently formed Society, and at a subsequent meeting he intended to propose that that Society, or its President, Mr. B. Koper, and General Secretary, Mr. Cyril Deane, (228 Munroe Ave. E. Kildonan, Win. Man.) be elected members of the New Zealand Numismatic Society.

Reports of the Australian Numismatic Society, and the revived Numismatic Society of South Australia (Mr. R.G. Appleyard, Hon. Secretary, The National Gallery, North Terrace, Adelaide) were placed on the table.

**CENTENNIAL MEDAL AND COINS:** By courtesy of the Treasury, photographs of the accepted designs of the Centennial Half-crown (Maori woman), the penny (tui) and the half-penny (tiki) were exhibited; also the accepted design for the Centennial Medal, and Mr. G.C. Berry exhibited a series of accepted designs submitted by him for centennial stamps.

Mr. W. Chetwynd, on behalf of Mr. J.B. Ward, Hokitika, exhibited a copy of the "Office for the Royal Maunday Money", and a series of Spanish coins.

The meeting concluded with a social hour and supper,

12 Gleneagles Flats,  
The Terrace, Wellington.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND, Hon. Secretary.

P.S. Meeting Monday to be devoted primarily to coin exchanges. British coins and New Zealand tokens have already been submitted.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

Report of the 57th Meeting - 28th August, 1939.

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"SPANISH COINS" was the subject of an address by Mr. W. D. Ferguson at the 57th meeting of the Society. The President, Mr. Johannes Andersen, M.B.E., F.R.S.N.Z., occupied the chair. The Minutes of the previous ordinary meeting were confirmed. Mr. W. E. Horwood, Wellington, and Mr. B. Koper, Winnipeg, were elected members of the Society. Brief reference was made to the progress made in connection with the issue of the Centennial Medal.

In an address on SPANISH COINS, Mr. W. D. Ferguson surveyed the most colourful period of Spanish history, using a series of Spanish coins to illustrate his remarks. He paid a tribute to the honesty of Spanish coin portraiture, which, he stated, enabled interesting parallels to be drawn between appearances and performances.

The first coin shown was the gold escudo of Spain inscribed JOHANNA ET CAROLUS "Reges", etc., issued during the joint reign of mother and son, and believed to be unique because the reign was a nominal one only. Johanna, called "The Mad", became insane and Charles I. (who was Emperor Chas. V.) seldom visited Spain during a long reign owing to vast dominions and constant wars; joint reign nominally lasted from death of Ferdinand V. (The Magnificent) in 1516 to shortly before 1555. The coins were undated and bore no portraits.

The early silver coins of Philip V., 1700-46, (Spanish Bourbon), up to 1738, bore on the reverse the crowned shield with arms of Spain, many quarterings, impaled thereon fleur de lys of France owing to his being the grandson of Louis XIV (Duc D'Anjou) and this remained on coins of Bourbon Dynasty until Alphonso XII. Reverse, shield with arms of Castile (Lion and Castle) quartered, shields both sides, type of mediaeval hammered coins. A milled coin of 1740 was then shown. It bore the familiar design of two worlds between crowned columns (Pillars of Hercules), which first appeared about 1733 and persisted on the world-famous "pieces-of-eight", (first, or Pillar type as distinct from the later bust type.) Ferdinand VI. (1746-59), son by first wife, Philip V., used similar designs.

Other coins shown and described were:-

2 Reals of Charles III (1759-88) half brother of Ferdinand VI. dated 1788 showing portrait. He was the ablest of Spanish Bourbons until Alphonso XII., although that did not imply very much.

8 Reals of Charles IV (1788-1808) who was the son of above, and indolent and stupid as the features on coins show. The coin shown was hall-marked with the head of Geo. III. A similar coin was shown with the arms of Portugal counterstamped; this was done in the time of Miguolite wars of Portugal (1826-34) when Dom Miguel, younger son of Pedro IV claimed the crown and right to govern absolutely. He was called the "Usurper" and the constitutionists supported the legitimate ruler Maria II., daughter of Pedro IV. who had abdicated in her favour and with the help of British fleet, prevailed. Shows ubiquity and varied uses made of "pieces-of-eight."

4 Reals (same size as earlier 2 reals) of Joseph Napoleon (1810), eldest brother of Napoleon I. Imperial Eagle impaled on arms of Castile and a peculiar ear is shown; also crown size coin of Joseph as King of Naples and Sicily (1808). This shows a better portrait of Napoleon I., normal ear. Arms on reverse show, in quarterings, triune of Sicily similar to that of Isle of Man, but in this case symbolical of three capes at three corners of Island. He did not reign in Sicily, as Britain had sea power in the Mediterranean after battle of Nile.

40 reals of Ferdinand VII. (son of Charles IV.) 1808 and 1814-33. Same size as 8 reals before wars. Shows five times depreciation of currency, inevitable result of wars, Legends in Spanish from this reign "Eing by Grace of God and Constitution;" latter not true as he was compelled to grant more than one Constitution and disregarded them whenever he could. On one occasion the crown was saved only by French help. He was of an ig-

norant and vicious character as the features on the coin indicate. He abolished all Universities, and founded a school for bullfighters in Seville. He lost his vast overseas American Empire, except Islands of Cuba and Porto Rico. He was married four times and left two daughters, by last marriage the eldest being three years of age in 1833, (Isabella II.)

10 reals of Isabella II of 1842, (reigned 1833-68), showing child's head, crowned arms of Castile surrounded by collar of Order of Golden Fleece. As in last reign, ruled by "Grace of Constitution", hardly more applicable than last reign. Although well meaning, and at times popular with masses, hopeless failure as ruler, reign torn with Carlist wars and almost constant rebellions, etc. Two or three constitutions were tried and dropped. Her mode of living disgusted Church and Grandees. She was no beauty as later portraits show. Coin of shilling size of 4 reals 1863, same size 1865 of 40 centimos. Coinage thus remodelled and reals seen no more. This ruler was forced to flee country in 1868, provisional Government set up to find a suitable King from reigning houses other than Bourbons.

The Interregnum - (Commission of Army and Navy leaders) was reflected on 50 cnts. 1869, showing on the obverse ESPANA above seated female on rock. Copper coins of 1870 were the only modern coins known to the speaker, without name of issuing country, identified by arms of Spain supported by lion (presumably of Castile); two values thereon 10 centimos (on penny size) and 10 gramos. weight given on coins, 100 and 200 pieces to the kilogram.

The crown was foolishly accepted by Prince Leopold of Hohenzollern, and this was the ostensible cause of France-Prussian war. Leopold later refused the crown, which was accepted by Amadeo of Savoy, son of Victor Emanuel II. of Italy, (1870-73.) Five pesetas shown, impaled on arms reverse, cross of Savoy, white on red, retained by Genevese when they obtained independence from Dukes of Savoy in middle ages, (now our Red Cross symbol with colours reversed.) Amadeo was well meaning but had an impossible task. Carlist wars broke out again and in the general turmoil he wisely abdicated 1873. His face did not indicate the strength of character of his father who was a great monarch and statesman and who united all Italy. Coin says, "By law 900 thousands (fine) and 40 pieces to kilogram."

Short-lived Republic 1873-75, general anarchy, in latter year Cortes (Parliament) by narrow majority decided to restore Bourbon line in person of Alphonso XII., (Isabella II having died.) Alphonso, 18 at the time, and gentleman cadet at Royal Artillery School, Woolwich, England, seems to have been a sensible young man. Coins of reign, state "By Grace of God, Constitutional King of Spaniards," a better way of putting it and not untruthful. He signed liberal, but not fully democratic, constitution a year after accession, adhered to same, and exercised stabilising and moderating influence on politics; Carlist wars finally suppressed in 1876, Spain had 10 years of peace and moderate prosperity. Constitution in force until after the Great War (last.) Unfortunately he was consumptive and died in 1885. In 1885 the coinage was remodelled on entering Latin monetary union. Son, Alphonso XIII., born some months later, and older sister, Maria, reigned nominally few months. Five pesetas showing baby head, believed unique on coins. His coins show five of the seven ages of man; baby, boy, child, youth and mature (1926.)

Prof. Rankine Brown in a recent talk stated that Scottish Nationalists considered that Edward VII. and VIII. should be first and second as earlier Edwards were Kings of England only. Numbering of Spanish Kings peculiar, as Ferdinand V. ("The Magnificent", husband of Isabella of Castile of the time of Columbus) was King of Aragon only and Alphonso XI. was King of Castile only, and there were several Kings Alphonso of Aragon contemporaneous with I. to XI. of Castile.

Philip I. of Spain, so-called, the husband Johanna "The Mad" (son of Emperor Maximilian I.) was King of Castile in name only - by virtue of his marriage-for two years after the death of his mother-in-law, Isabella I. and does not appear to have actually reigned. He died in 1506. On the accession of Charles III. of Spain in 1759, (he had been before, placed on the thrones of Naples and Sicily), his younger son, aged 7, was made King Ferdinand IV. of Naples and III. of Sicily. But after the Napoleonic Wars he formally amalgamated the two kingdoms in 1818, and became Ferdinand I. of the kingdom of the two Sicilies; his grandson "Bomba", King of Naples,



was Ferdinand II. officially. Coins of Spain illustrate the persistence of family characteristics, notably a greatly enlarged lower jaw, indicating obstinacy rather than strength, and prominent lower Hapsburg lip. This originated with the powerful Dukes of Burgundy, of middle ages, last of line of Charles, called "The Bold," who died in 1477, and left one daughter, Mary, who married the Emperor Maximilian I. (Hapsburg) and had a son Philip who married Johanna, daughter of Ferdinand and Isabella, of Spain; their sons Charles V. and Ferdinand I. became Emperors in turn and the former was also King Charles I. of Spain, and they transmitted the characteristic down to their descendants. Charles V. and his son, Philip II. of Spain, (husband of our Queen Mary I.) had the characteristic most markedly, as did Philip IV., as may be seen in numerous well-known portraits by Valazquez; owing to the marriage of his daughter Maria Theresa to Louis XIV. of France, the characteristic came to French Bourbons, Philip V. Louis XIV., grandson, had it as did the great grandson, Louis XV. of France. It does not appear in Charles III. (son of Philip V.) but recurs in his sons, Charles IV. and Ferdinand IV. of Naples, and strongly in the former's son, Ferdinand VII. of Spain. It is absent in Isabella II. and dormant in her son Alphonso XII., but comes back strongly in Alphonso XIII. and his children, especially his eldest son who was recently killed in a motor accident in America. The most marked case appeared to be Emperor Charles VI. (1711-1742) who was directly descended from Ferdinand I. and from his brother Charles V. in the female line through the daughters of Philip III. and IV. of Spain. He comes into Spanish history as he was a rival claimant with Philip V. to the vacant throne of Spain on the death of Charles II. in 1700. He had lived for some years at Barcelona prior to his election as Emperor, in 1711, while Philip V. was in Madrid, calling himself Charles III. of Spain, and while the wars of the Spanish Succession raged throughout Europe.

Mr. Ferguson concluded by saying that the coin portraits showed how facial characteristics had persisted from the mediaeval Dukes of Burgundy, about twentyfour generations from the time of Charles the Bold through the Bourbons, Hapsburgs, down to the last ruler of Spain, Alphonso XIII.

Mr. Johannes Andersen thanked Mr. Ferguson for his much appreciated talk, which was so fluently given with <sup>out</sup> notes other than the coins themselves, which showed how, to the enthusiastic numismatist, the coins were eloquent, embalming the history of the particular country where they were current. Mr. Ferguson had chosen a region, interesting because of the vicissitudes through which it had recently passed, beginning with a period when the leading figures were the well-known Ferdinand and Isabella, who were instrumental in inaugurating a time of Spanish conquest and colonization of which hardly a vestige now remained.

Mr. Ferguson had stressed the recurrence, in the portraits on the coins, of a peculiar physical characteristic in the Bourbon dynasty - a protruding lower jaw: he pointed out that this appeared in the men only, not in the women. Mr. Andersen said that it was known that in heredity some characteristics appeared in the men but not in the women - the women being the "carriers." He also referred to the Hapsburg lip as a characteristic of that dynasty which apparently had a parallel in the Bourbon jaw. He also stated that all would have noted the decidedly marked character in the faces of the House of Windsor.

It was illuminating talks like Mr. Ferguson's which justified numismatists in their devotion to their hobby.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,

12 Gleneagles Flats,  
The Terrace, Wellington.

Hon. Secretary.

P.S. Meeting next Monday, 25th September. Paper "The Science and Art of Coin Collecting", to be read on behalf of Mr. A. S. Kenyon, Melbourne.

Centennial Medal Committee Meeting, 7.45 p.m., MONDAY evening,  
25th SEPTEMBER, 1939.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

Report of 58th Meeting - 25th September, 1939.

The Science and Art of Coin Collecting was the subject of a paper read on behalf of Mr. A. S. Kenyon, Melbourne, at the 58th Meeting of the Society. The President, Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, M.B.A., F.R.S.N.Z., occupied the chair. The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Correspondence and reports were dealt with.

The President stated that, notwithstanding the outbreak of War, he hoped the Society would continue to carry on as far as possible.

A report of a meeting of the Centennial Medal Committee was presented, indicating that the dies were cut, and that it was expected that the medal, in silver and bronze, would be on sale at the opening of the Exhibition and later through the Post Offices of the Dominion. The thanks of the Centennial Committee and of the Society had been conveyed to the Director-General of the Post and Telegraph Department for his co-operation in this connection.

Mr. Roger Walpole, Dominion Museum, said that 100 years ago that day an event of interest to numismatists had taken place in the Wellington Harbour when the sailing ship 'Tory' displayed for the first time the miscellaneous barter goods (notably tomahawks, blankets, muskets and glass beads) which was the price to be paid to the Maoris for an extensive area of land including the harbour, islands, and the land on which the city of Wellington now stands.

Mr. Allan Sutherland stated that Parts I and II of his Numismatic History of New Zealand were shortly to be issued, bound together under the title of 'Barter and Coinages of Early New Zealand', and that consideration was now being given to the issue of Parts I, II and III (approximately 150 pages) as the first volume of The Numismatic History of New Zealand, the second volume to be issued after the War. He would appreciate any suggestions for alterations or additions to his 'Tokens of New Zealand' for incorporation in the reprint.

The paper read on behalf of Mr. A. S. Kenyon was as follows:-

"As the beauties of golf can only be properly appreciated by the golfer, so the joys of coin collecting are caviare to the outsider. A hobby, nay, an occupation that reveals to its students the whole history of man since he was given the swaddling clothes of civilisation, that witnesses how in his earliest efforts he very nearly reached the apex in art; and that instructs in that latest of sciences, economics, is one worthy of cultivation. No one, except a millionaire, can expect to make anything like a complete world collection, and that, together with a supposititious idea that the pursuit is costly, has confined it to a select few, most of whom, strangely enough, are poor men; few, indeed, are rich. Unlike stamp collecting, where Kings and squatters, merchants, princes and Indian Nabobs compete for the rare issues and triumph over the rivals, the numismatist gloats almost alone over his acquisitions.

"BARTER AND EXCHANGE. It is hard to say when mankind started to use money. Barter and exchange began immediately he ceased to be a monkey and made and used weapons, implements and utensils. A little later this system proved to be inadequate and the first sort of money came into being. That was the use of some more or less valuable commodity which could be kept and exchanged for anything required later. Even our aboriginals had reached this stage. Pituri, the Duboisia Hopwoodii, with its tobacco-like narcotic qualities and great sustaining powers, were a regular article of exchange, as was also porcupine grass gum for attaching axe heads and spear points. Among the Polynesian, strings of cowrie shells or berries were made into bracelets for convenience in carrying. Thus a man had only to wrench off a bracelet or two to buy a wife, though for that prized animal, a pig, it took the full capacity of both arms. Knives, garments, and all sorts of substitutes were used, resulting in some most peculiarly shaped objects later, which were made in imitation of the original. Thus we have in China, sword, hat, trousers and knife money.

"MORE RELIABLE CURRENCY. But as civilisation advanced and men grow less honest, a more reliable currency was demanded. The precious metals became recognised as the right medium of exchange, pending the obtaining of the

right article for barter. This was quite early in the human play. Abraham when he purchased the field of Macphelah - no relation of the Macleod who used his own boat instead of the Ark - from Ephron, weighed out four hundred shekels of silver, current money with the merchant. As the word, 'shakel' in Hebrew means weigh, it may be assumed that it was simply so much silver and not so many separately marked pieces. A little later the metals were cut to fixed sizes, stamped with their weights, so that the troublesome method of carrying around scales for weighing and implements for cutting off pieces of the metal, could be abandoned. The next stage was the making of pieces of metal in fixed sizes and weights, and multiples of them. There is still another Biblical example. In about 1500 B.C. Micah paid his mother one thousand pieces of silver. Though probably not coins in the strict sense of the word, these were evidently uniform in size, weight and value. At the same time they must have been comparatively small, as one man carried the lot. One thousand of our present pennies weigh nearly nineteen pounds.

"THE COMING OF COINS. But the common people were not satisfied; they had had too long an experience of merchants and their ways. Light weight was not unknown then. But, of course, no right thinking person would question any symbol of divinity. Thus came coins as we know them. Fixed sizes and weights of precious metal struck with the symbol of the divinity most popular in the particular country. This innovation was as recent as 700 B.C., not much over 2,500 years ago. For the new money the Greeks invented the names, *Argyria*, *nomisma* and *chremata*; the Latins, *aes*, *pecunia*, *moneta*, *nummus*. *Argyria* is simply silver. *Nomisma* means by legal authority or proclamation. *Chremata* signifies possessing value. *Aes* is bronze used in the same way as when we say coppers for pennies. *Pecunia* comes from *pecus*, cattle. Prior to the introduction of coins, fines or penalties were paid in cattle. It was possible to pay in fractions as the laws of Aternia-Tarpeia fixed ten sheep as the equivalent of one cow. This method of payment lasted in Ireland until the middle ages. The Swedes were more liberal, their ancient laws allowing fifteen sheep. Our own word *fee*, as applied to a lawyer's emoluments, also means cattle, as does 'skata' or 'sceatta,' the name used for the early Anglo-Saxon coins. *Moneta*, whence is derived the French *monnaie*, meaning a coin. Our word *coin* is simply *coign*, the die or punch used to impress the letters and symbols upon the metal disc by stamping it with a hammer.

"COIN COLLECTORS. It may seem odd to talk about ancient coin in the Roman days; but even then there were coin collectors. Suetonius relates how Augustus Caesar made presents to his cronies at the Saturnalian feasts, of all kinds of ancient coins, both of the Grecian kings and of foreign countries. They even collected forgeries or counterfeits which had by that time become quite common. It is by coins that many historical problems have become solved and even in the Roman times, places had been forgotten since coins had been invented and were rediscovered by their means. All sorts of historical facts come from them. On Roman coins in letters as fresh as the day they were struck, we find 'Judea Capta', the subjection of the Jews, 'Victoriae Britannicae,' the victories over the British, 'Aegypta Capta,' the conversion of the home of the most ancient civilisation into a simple province of Rome. Even Halley's comet was recorded by Augustus Caesar. Coins also give us reliable and generally excellent portraits of the notabilities of the ancients."

Mr. Kenyon was accorded a vote of thanks for his interesting address.

Mr. H. R. Ford exhibited a selection of superior Maori greenstone tikis, and Mr. J. Berry exhibited designs prepared for Centennial coins and stamps.

The meeting concluded with a social hour and supper.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,

Hon. Secretary.

12 Gleneagles Flats,  
Wellington, N.Z.

A Meeting of the Society will be held at the Turnbull Library on Monday next, 30th October, 1939, when Sir James Elliott (Vice-President) and Lady Elliott will be welcomed home from abroad. Sir James will speak on his impressions abroad and of visits to the Royal Mint in connection with the production of the Centennial coins to be issued in January of next year.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

REPORT of the 59th MEETING - 30th OCTOBER, 1939.

The 59th meeting of the New Zealand Numismatic Society was held on the 30th October, 1939. Mr. Johannes Andersen, M.B.E., F.R.S., N.Z., occupied the Chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed. Correspondence and reports were tabled.

Sir James Elliott was the speaker for the evening. In extending a cordial welcome home to Lady Elliott and Sir James Elliott, Mr. Johannes Andersen said that Sir James had represented the Society on the Government Coinage Advisory Committee, and had taken the opportunity, when in London, to assist in completing the details of the designs of the three coins to be issued in 1940.

Sir James Elliott gave an interesting survey of his tour abroad, and of conditions in England on the eve of the outbreak of war. Discussing the Centennial half-crown, and the new bronze coins for New Zealand, Sir James said that considerable difficulty had been experienced in adapting the approved designs to suit the requirements of the Royal Mint. Although the final designs were substantially the same as the photographs already published, certain minor variations had been made to improve the effectiveness of the designs.

The frontal view of the Maori woman on the Centennial half-crown, and the perspective of the background structures presented unusual difficulties which had been cleverly overcome by the efficient staff at the Royal Mint. The tui design for the penny presented less difficulty, but the foliage of the kowhai blossoms had to be slightly varied. It was difficult in metal to obtain a good effect with feathery leaves. The tiki on the halfpenny required some modification, and Sir James said that, being a medical man, he was able to explain the symbolism of this Maori design, and to secure an accurate representation.

Sir James Elliott surprised members by exhibiting advance strikes of the Centennial half-crown, in tin, and of the penny and halfpenny in bronze. The specimens were presented to the Society's collection, and Sir James was cordially thanked therefor. Sir James described a visit to Viscount Bledisloe, at Lydney Park, and he conveyed to the meeting the good wishes of Viscount Bledisloe, and of Sir John Hanham, both of whom still took an interest in the activities of the Society. The speaker concluded by paying a tribute to the Deputy Master of the Royal Mint, and his staff, who were at all times willing to do everything possible to make the coins worthy additions to the distinctive series of coins issued by the Dominion.

Professor J. Rankine Brown, LL.D., said that the designing of coins was obviously a matter for specialists. That had been borne out when dealing with the earlier series of coins.

Mr. Allan Sutherland said that from previous experience he sympathised with those who were required to reconcile conflicting viewpoints regarding coinage designs.

Mr. Johannes Andersen said he was agreeably surprised with the results achieved. Both the tui and the tiki made quite good designs, and the Centennial half-crown was effective. The original design proposed for the Centennial half-crown contained a plethora of detail, which has been progressively shorn away, and the final result was satisfactory. While acknowledging the need for following the advice of experts as far as possible in deciding coin designs, he strongly resisted any claim that the people, who used the coins, should not have a full right, through local consultation, to press for the adoption of designs which they considered were truly representative of the country.

Mr. Quinnell exhibited a series of square, oval, and octagonal currency tokens for 5, 10, 25 and 50 cents, and one Rupee, 1910 (in bone) issued by J. S. Clunes Ross, for use by the natives at Keeling, Cocos Islands.

The meeting concluded with a social hour and supper.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,  
Hon. Secretary.

At a combined meeting of the Centennial Medal Committee and the Council of the Society, held on November 6th, 1939, specimens of the Centennial Medal in bronze and silver were exhibited and approved, and an order was given to strike supplies for distribution through the Post-Offices of the Dominion. The price fixed was 3s.6d for bronze and 7s.6d for silver. Owing to a shortage of silver, it is likely that the silver medals will be limited in number. Specimens of the medal were on sale at the opening of the Exhibition on November 8th, and it is hoped that during the present week supplies will be available at all the principal post-offices throughout the Dominion. Members of the Society are asked to assist in making the issue known in order to make the Society's work a success.

The next meeting will be held on Monday evening next, 27th November, when Mr. Johannes Andersen, President, will read a paper on Currency During the Time of Sealing and Whaling in Southern Seas.

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THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

REPORT OF 59th MEETING - 27th NOVEMBER, 1939.

THE EARLIEST NEW ZEALAND CURRENCY was the subject of a paper read by Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, M.B.E., F.R.S., N.Z., before the 59th meeting of the Society. The Minutes of the previous meeting, as circulated, were taken as read and confirmed. The President occupied the chair. An apology was received from Mr. Allan Sutherland, who was absent from Wellington on official business.

Mr. Johannes Andersen said: "There was trade of a kind going on in New Zealand waters long before there was any regular trading or commercial houses within the shores of New Zealand. That trade was almost altogether a trade of the sea, the objects of trade first of all being composed of sea-creatures or their products, so that the business houses were the ships sailing on those newly-opened waters.

"In recent publications it has repeatedly been stressed that the first trade was the whaling-trade; but sealing preceded whaling by some years. Whilst the first sealing was in Bass Strait, Australia, indiscriminate slaughter soon exhausted that field, and the southern seas were soon thoroughly explored for further fields. In 1770 Cook discovered Dusky Sound, New Zealand, and his reports on this place and on New Zealand generally brought down the traders in seal-skins, and in November 1792 the "Britannia" under William Raven left the first sealing-gang in Dusky. At Luncheon Cove, Anchor Island, in Dusky, a house was built, 40ft. long, 18ft. broad, and 15ft. high; and provisions for twelve months were landed. The gang numbered twelve and they were instructed to build a boat while there so that they could leave in case of accident or in case of the "Britannia" not being able to call. A boat was built, 40ft. keel and 53ft. length of deck, 16ft.10 extreme breadth, and 12ft. hold. Her frame-knees and crooked pieces were from rata growing there. She was planked, decked and ceiled with rimu, which Cook had called apruce-fir, and which, in the opinion of the ship's carpenter, was little inferior to English oak. This was the first vessel built of local materials in either New Zealand or Australia. The gang was there for ten months, and it might be wondered how men could subsist in such an out-of-the-way place for so long. But Cook's account of his stay in Dusky reads like a schoolboy's holiday, and the gang found that fresh provisions in plenty were readily procurable. There were coal-fish (as they called the cod) innumerable, and they could be caught by hook and line in almost any quantity. Ducks, wakas, shags, and other wild-fowl they could get in great abundance; tea they made from the rimu tips and young leaves of the manuka; cattle brought with them thrived in the bush, and it was here that Cook discovered that excellent preventative of scurvy, the New Zealand spinach, usually known as Cook's scurvy-grass.

"Their chief object here, however, was securing sealskins and oil, and the seals were here in great numbers, also great elephant-fish, from which was obtained an oil valued next to spermacetti; and when you read of the gangs collecting so much oil and so many skins, the oil referred to is not whale-oil - that came later - but 'elephant-oil' as it was called. It was the quest of the seal in southern waters that took captains so far afield; it was when engaged in this quest that the southern islands, Auckland, Campbell, Bounties, and so on, were discovered, and all yielded their rich harvest; but invariably the sealers killed the goose that laid the golden egg; there was no control over their actions in these lone waters, and so the slaughter was uncontrolled, and what might have been steady trade was no more than a wild and wasteful and transitory scramble.

"Naturally the sealers constantly saw whales; the convict and other ships from England to Sydney (then Port Jackson) saw them; many were chased, some were captured; but it took years for steady whaling to begin, nor did it begin until the easier sealing, which was shore work, was through wanton destruction, becoming unprofitable. The trade was really begun by Ebor Bunker, master of the WILLIAM AND ANN, who, in 1798, persuaded the then great whaling firm of Champion to fit out for him the "Albion", a 362-ton ship, armed with ten guns, to go whaling in Australian waters. This boat in 1799 made the quickest passage till then recorded between England and Port Jackson - 3 months 15 days - and in 1801 she took to England 155 tons of oil; in 1803, 1600 barrels, and in 1804, 1400 barrels

"On 1st August, 1800, the Enderbys and Champions told Lord Liverpool that they had at last established a whaling-fishery on the coast of New South Wales, but that they were hampered by an Act of George III which prevented southern whalers from proceeding north of the equator and east of Madagascar, because of the monopolistic rights of the East India Company; and for some time this powerful company, jealous of its rights and blind to those of others, delayed the start of the great trade in the south.

"Mention of spermacetti was made above. Spermacetti was the name given to the oil contained in the head of the sperm-whale, or cachalot, where it was found in an almost pure state, in compartments connected with each other. The whale was from 70 to 80 feet long, the head comprising nearly one-half of the whole. The head was called the case, and a large whale would carry in its case 10 to 15 barrels - a barrel containing about 30 gallons. The oil was almost of the consistency of blood, and was ladled out of the case with buckets fashioned for the purpose. Between the case and the upper jaw was a large mass of blubber which yielded nearly double the quantity of oil obtained from the case. When cold, the spermacetti hardened, assuming a snowy, flaky appearance. A large cachalot has yield as much as 130 barrels, realising £1250. When sperming was in vogue the British used the imperial gallon of 9 barrels to the ton, the old measure of 8 barrels, or 262 gallons, being used by other nations. This has to be remembered when the value of ships' takings are compared.

"The cachalot was found in very large numbers all round the Australian and New Zealand coasts. When undisturbed, it swims under the surface of the water at from 3 to 7 miles an hour, but on being alarmed will dive and afterwards rise slowly, perpendicularly, its blunt head held stationary more or less above water, apparently in a listening or sensing attitude and remaining in this position without moving for perhaps half an hour. At times there seems to be an electrical or other physical - or perhaps psychological - communication between them or among them: a school of upwards of a hundred has been seen spread over the ocean as far as the eye could reach and, on one of them being lanced, an instantaneous disappearance of the whole school has taken place, all diving swiftly and together.

"The oil and tried blubber were placed in casks, sometimes of 30 gallons, called barrels, or into larger vessels holding about 280 gallons, called tuns. Readers will often be confused by seeing the two terms "tuns" and "tons" used apparently indiscriminately, and there does seem to have been some confusion - a confusion perhaps encouraged by the oil-changers as confusion is at present encouraged by the money-changers. The English tun of ale or beer held 216 gallons, the tun of wine 252 gallons; and as a tun of water weighs a little more than 2000 lbs., it is possible that the ton weight was taken from the tun measure. In England the hundredweight is taken at 112 lbs., and the ton consequently at 2240: in the United States the hundredweight is taken (more logically it would seem) at 100 lbs., and the ton consequently at 2000. How this squares with the fact that the tun of oil was taken at 280 lbs. I leave the mathematicians to decide. No doubt the terms "tun" and "ton" were often wrongly used though it really no longer matters.

"Once the fisheries became known, the Americans made no delay in joining in the chase; they proved far more efficient than the English, both at organization and at individual work, and for a great part of the time there was ten times as much American shipping as English in Australian and New Zealand waters. French whalers also entered the field, with Danish and Portugese. At least three classics of literature sprang from the adventure and romance of whaling - Herman Melville's 'Moby Dick,' American; Felix Maynard's 'Les Baleiniers', edited by Alexandre Dumas, French (first translated by F.W.Reed, New Zealand), and Frank Bullen's 'The Cruise of the Cachalot.' With so many countries represented, the trade soon become thoroughly cosmopolitan. At first one wonders why whalers should carry guns, but many of the English whalers were given letters of marque and seized, or were seized by ships of foreign powers with whom England might happen at the time to be at war - and during the part of the century concerned she had brushes with the Spanish, the French, the

American, so that whales were not the only prizes that fell to the lot of the enterprising whalers.

"In 1799 several vessels employed in the New South Wales fishery had been driven to the coast of Peru, where Spanish cruisers had captured fifteen of them, but a year or two later the whalers turned the tables, swooping down on the Peruvian coast - then defended only by one ship and two 14-gun brigs - and capturing several prizes, which were brought into Port Jackson and condemned in the prize-court there. When in 1805 Commodore Dance encountered and beat off the French squadron under Lincolns near the Strait of Malacca, whalers from the south seas formed part of Dance's convoy. During the war of 1812-1813, the American 32-gun frigate "Essex" harassed English whalers in the south Pacific, but in 1814 the "Essex" was captured after a smart action by the "Phoebe" and "Cherub" under Captains Sir J. Hillyon and T.T. Tucker. In March 1840 the London Journal of Commerce stated that the whale-fisheries in the south were practically abandoned to the French and the Americans because there were too few English warships on the station. The French had four or five large frigates, while England had only the tiny "Alligator" with 28 guns, the "Pelorus" with 16 guns, and two small survey ships. The "Alligator" and "Pelorus" were both in New Zealand waters; the former came on the first, and unjust, punitive expedition to take place in New Zealand (that following the wreck of the "Harriet" on the Taranaki coast); the second explored the Sound that now bears its name, and the name of the "Alligator" is that of the east head of Pelorus Sound.

"When in these naval encounters prizes were taken, there would naturally be a certain amount of specie in the booty and this would not, as naturally, be thrown overboard, even for patriotic reasons; a ducat would be as good as a pagoda, a guilder as good as a rupee; so that the cash-boxes of the whalers and the pockets of the sailors would soon accommodate coins of all kinds, and these coins would not come to blows when in contact, whatever their issuers might do. There must soon have been some fairly definite exchange-value decided on, and Government proclamations in Port Jackson have put that value - a varying one - on record.

"New Zealand, a no-man's-land first of all, and any-man's-land next, and finally a British colony, was first of all regarded as part of New South Wales, and for a short time New South Wales laws applied to New Zealand. These first money-values, as fixed in Port Jackson, were therefore observed more or less in New Zealand.

"The scarcity of English coin in the early days of settlement was not due only to the distance of the colonies from the sources of issue - not much was being issued even at the sources. For twenty-six years after George III assumed the Crown, no coins (other than gold) were struck in England. He became King in 1760, and not till 1797 was just on £55,500 worth of shillings and sixpences struck. Such of these coins as might reach Port Jackson were not nearly enough to meet requirements, and as Spanish dollars and half-dollars were plentiful, these were in 1897 countermarked with the King's head and declared current coin. At Port Jackson barter was the recognized medium of exchange, and rum, corn, and wheat were the principal objects used. Rum was from the first the great circulating medium - the aesophagal circulating medium it might with justice be called. A labourer's wages were stated as so many gallons of rum; rewards for the apprehension of escaped convicts were paid in rum; for four gallons of rum a wife could be purchased from her husband. The effect of all this was considered to be very demoralizing. Bligh declared that a sawyer would cut a hundred feet of timber for a bottle of spirits, value half-a-crown, which he would drink in a few hours, when for the same labour he would charge two bushels of wheat, which would furnish him bread for two months. It followed as a pernicious consequence that the price for rum varied enormously and unwarrantably. In 1792 it ranged from 5/- to 20/- a gallon. When King arrived he found that rum which cost the importers from 7d. to 10/- a gallon was being retailed at £2. Spirits were bartered by everyone; even the chaplain in 1793 paid partly in spirits for the cost of the erection of his wattle-and-dab church, and the price of admission to the first theatre in Port Jackson could be paid in any of the following:- money, flour, meat, or spirits, according to the market price.



"Apparently the military in Port Jackson had the control of the sale of the spirits, and it is said that it was in consequence of Bligh's attempt to control this degrading monopoly or to burst it, that he was deposed and imprisoned by the incensed men who were the very ones who should have upheld his authority. The most historic case of the use of rum as currency was connected with the erection of the hospital in Sydney in Macquarie's time, the contractors for which were paid with a monopoly of the spirit-traffic for four years.

"The first record of a currency-regulation appeared in a proclamation issued by Governor King on 19th November, 1800. He had received a shipment of pennies, halfpennies and farthings, to meet the need for small coins, and these were to circulate at the value of twopence for each ounce copper, one penny for each half-ounce copper, and a halfpenny for each quarter-ounce copper - in fact, at double face-value, so ensuring their remaining within the colony. Besides this, a table was published detailing all specie legally circulating in the colony, with the rates affixed to each at which they were to be accepted as legal tender in all payments or transactions in the colony:

	£	s	d
A guinea .. .. .	1	2	0
A half-Johanna . . . . .	2	0	0
A Johanna .. .. .	4	0	0
A gold mohur .. .. .	1	17	0
A Spanish dollar .. .. .		5	0
A ducat .. .. .		9	6
A pagoda .. .. .		8	0
A rupee. . . . .		2	6
A Dutch guilder .. .. .		2	6
An English shilling .. .. .	1		8

"To this table a Note was added to the effect that when a sufficient quantity of copper coin was received in the colony, of which notice would be given, no Notes or Cards would be allowed to circulate. As the copper issued was for the purpose of meeting payments of small amounts, it was not to be deemed legal tender for any amount exceeding £5, but even £5 worth of coppers would be a good weighty bagful. The Notes and Cards referred to appear to have been promissory notes issued by the merchants, and were for amounts as small as 3d. The Spanish dollar in the table above played a large part in the history of currency, not only of New South Wales but of the whole commercial world. For several centuries practically the whole coinage of Europe and dependent countries elsewhere came from Mexico, where a mint was established in the year 1535. From this mint were issued the Spanish dollars, or pieces of eight, so well known to buccaneers and captors of treasure-ships, and to readers of fiction based on their doings. The sign \$ now used to signify the United States dollar is supposed to derive from the Spanish 'pillar-dollar' of the value of eight reals; the curved portion of the sign is a rude '8' and the vertical stroke or double stroke is a symbol of the Pillars of Hercules, an emblem of the Spanish Empire. Pieces of eight were known by that name until about 1828, after which date they were called dollars - a name originally invented for silver coins of equivalent value minted in a Bohemian valley - silver coins called thalers, from Joachim's thal. The word 'thal' means 'valley', and as the 'th' is pronounced like 't' with no 'h' sound, the word 'thalers' - 'talers' (with a long 'a' like 'ah') - sounds very like 'dollars.' These dollars circulated through the world, but as our Hon. Secretary, Mr. Allan Sutherland, is dealing with them fully in his book on our currency, including the famous 'holey dollar' and its kitter, the 'dump,' I will refer no more to it here.

"But again I should like to refer to literature, to show how pirates as well as traders (the 'water rats' and 'land rats' of old Shylock in 'The Merchant of Venice') were faced with mixed currency. Take a look at Jim, in Stevenson's 'Treasure Island,' bonding over and sorting 'English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Georges, and Louises, doubloons and double guineas and moldores and sequins, the pictures of all the Kings of Europe for the last hundred years, strange Oriental pieces stamped with what looked like wisps of strong or bits of spiders' web, round pieces and square pieces, and pieces bored through the middle, as if to wear them round your neck - nearly every variety of money in the world must, I think, have found a place in that collection.' Then there is Dumas' 'Monte Cristo'

though here the treasure is rather in gold ingots and jewels than in coins the only ones which he mentions being 'twenty-five thousand golden crowns, each worth about twenty-five francs, bearing the heads of Pope Alexander VI. and his predecessors.' And reference may be made to the amazing recently reported find of a cask of English gold coins during the demolishing of a bridge at Pont Remy, the coins bearing the effigy of the English King Edward III, and supposed to have been abandoned by the English at the battle of Crecy in 1346. Who will say that the pleasure of numismatics is without thrills either in fact or in fiction?

"Dollars were rampant in New South Wales till 1829, when they gradually went out of circulation. They lingered longer in Tasmania, but finally toward the end of 1842 it was enacted that after October of that year foreign coins should cease to circulate legally.

"That sailors and soldiers must have been puzzled by the varieties of the coinage and the vagaries of exchange values, is seen in a good story of English soldiers stationed at Aden. The story is told by Sergt.-Major Bezar, a Maori War veteran, who died a couple of years ago in Wellington at the age of 97. One John Mullins was stationed at Aden what time the current coins were rupees, annas, and Mexican dollars. The first month after their arrival, John's credit at the bank was read out to him - so many rupees, annas, etc. - it had been changed from English to local currency. John roared out 'To hell wid the rupaas; let me hear he credit in pounds. What do I know about your rupaas?' There at Aden, too, they saw a strange gambling-game which very much puzzled them. Some Natives were sitting in a ring, each with a coin in front of him. Suddenly one man scooped up all the coins, and each man put down another. No word was said, no act was done; all gazed intently at the coins, when suddenly another man scooped the pool. It was a mystery until it was learned that Fate took the form of a fly. The man whose coin the first fly settled on was the winner of the lot. It seemed the fairest form of gambling possible - no double-header availed here.

"Some may be curious, as I always was, to know what were the articles upon which whalers and sailormen in the pre-colonizing days spent their hard-earned coin, so I was pleased when some years ago I was given a copy of a shore-whaler's journal in which were entered the day-to-day sales from the ship-store to the men engaged on the party. The following are the consecutive sales to one man during the period of the season from 20th March to the end of October:

	£	s	d		£	s	d
2 lbs. tobacco	9	0		Brought up	9	9	1
1 tin pot	1	3		Half pint per day from 7 June			
1 blanket	15	0		to 14 Sept. 99 days,			
1 red shirt	5	0		6 galls. 1½	3	14	3
1 lb. tobacco	4	6		6 yards canvas	15	0	
½ bar soap	1	6		1 skein twine	1	0	
1 duck frock	5	0		2 doz. pipes	2	0	
1 monkey jacket	14	0		Potatoes 59 lbs.	2	8½	
1 pr. flushing trousers	12	0		128 lbs. flour	1	18	4½
1 duck frock	5	0		95½ beef	2	7	9
7 yards calico	9	4		2 lbs. tea	6	0	
1 lb. tobacco	4	6		18½ sugar	7	8½	
1 duck frock	5	0		3 qrts. ½ pint rum extra	9	9	
1 pr. duck trousers	5	0		123 lbs. potatoes	5	8½	
1 pr. flushing trousers	14	0		121 lbs. flour	1	16	1½
1 twilled shirt	7	6		73 lbs. beef	1	16	6
1 comforter	4	0		2½ lbs. tea	7	6	
1 pr. boots	15	0		28 lbs. sugar	11	8	
1 pr. stockings	3	6		2 qrts. 1 pint. rum his share			
9 yards print	16	6		in mess	16	6	
1 lb. tobacco	4	6		19½ lbs. flour	5	0	
2 lbs. tobacco	9	0		14 lbs. pork	7	0	
1 doz. pipes	1	0		1½ lbs. tea	3	0	
Boat bottles up to 7 June,				4 lbs. sugar	1	8	
8 bottles	18	0		1 jews harp	1	0	
Carried up	9	9	1	Carried up	26	6	6

	£	s	d		£	s	d
Brought up	26	6	6	Carried up	33	17	3½
7 lbs. sugar		2	11	1 lb. tobacco		5	0
2 lbs. tea		6	0	1 pint beer			6
Cooking utensils, his share		9	2	Dr.	34	2	9½
1 pt. beer			6	Share of oil and bone	36	1	5½
2 glasses rum			6	Balance due		1	18 8
4 glasses rum		1	0	Money advanced		4	0 0
1 quart beer		1	0	In debt		2	1 4
6 lbs. sugar		2	6	Settled cred.			12 0
16 lbs. pork		8	0				
2 lbs. tea		6	0				
1 quart beer		1	0				
1 regatta shirt		7	0				
Share of gear lost	2	5	9				
Ditto.		3	9½				
Ditto.		2	8				
Ditto		2	13 0				
Carried up	33	17	3½	In debt	£1	9	4

"This hand was unlucky; after all his season's hard work he remained indebted to the ship. Others were even more unlucky: some were luckier, coming out with 370 or more to credit. How were they paid? In goods? If not, what? There are no packs of cards included in the list of purchases above. There are entries of such in other men's accounts, however, the price being 1/6d. a pack. What did they pay in when they gambled? Possibly rum, which was to be had close by. Apparently, however, the daily allowance was limited - no doubt to make sure that no hand should be incapable during the working season. How they got on in the off-season may be learned from books like E.J.Wakefield's 'Adventure in New Zealand', which gives excellent descriptions of whaling life, showing how the steady ones who had taken Maori wives lived in their little houses, sometimes extremely neat and comfortable, with their vegetable-gardens alongside, and goats grazing near-by, supplying them with milk.

"This life lingered a little after the land became regularly settled, but there was little of the foreign money floating around; that there was some, however, is told by the occasional finds of foreign coins that have occasionally been made. The finding of Spanish money has been taken as an indication that there have been some unrecorded visits of those early adventurers into the then unknown New Zealand seas: the explanation, whilst simpler, is by no means prosaic, as it refers us to a wild and romantic period of our New Zealand numismatology.

"The enormous influx of diggers into New Zealand when gold was discovered in the early sixties would have put a great strain on the currency were it not for the fact that the alluring metal sought could itself be used for currency, and was so used. On the goldfields goods were at Mt. Cook prices; nothing to be had under half-a-crown, and most commodities required were sold by the pannikinful: a pannikinful of flour, half-a-crown: a pannikin of tea, half-a-crown: sugar, half-a-crown: the reason for the high price was largely the cost of packing: there were no roads, or very bad ones, and the best gold was in the worst and most inaccessible places. It was good business for the banks, too, especially for those whose five-pound notes were used as pipe-lights by extravagantly ostentatious diggers. A thimbleful of gold-dust was a handy medium for payment - and some of the diggers had dust by the billyfull! Gamblers here, too, had the means for payment at hand, and in wet weather, when roading palled, gambling was a relief. There is a story which tells how a camp of diggers attempted to relieve the days of ennui brought about by continued wet weather which made outside work impossible for over a week. They had read everything they had to read, some of it for the twentieth time and they knew it by heart. They had tried all the gambling games and were sick of them all, when one bright genius suggested a new game. They would gamble, but the stake should be Beecham's pills, and the winner was to swallow the lot on completion of the game. Those pills were universal then; everyone had his little boxfull, and the gamblers entered on the

new game with zest; but suddenly they found they had to reverse engines -- they had to play not to win but to lose, or the consequences would be disastrous. This so preyed on the players that when they saw one of their number piling up the pellets they thought of his ordeal to come, and, realizing that at any moment the pile and the ordeal might be their own, their heart failed them, and the winner was relieved when the losers threw in the cards and declared the game not worth the candle. It was too nerve-racking, and was never revived.

"Whilst it would be interesting to learn at what date coins of the various denominations came into the country, it seems impossible to discover such dates, but the approximate date may be learned. In the very early days - that is, in the 1820's - the Bay of Islands was a favourite resort for the whalers, for provisioning and for refreshment of various kinds. As many as sixty whalers have been seen at anchor at one time in that commodious harbour. These whalers brought coins with them, some of which passed to the Maoris, and the following story shows that the 'groat' was one of such coins. The chief, Kaiteke, who lived at various villages on Moturoa, and also at times at his place, Te Ti, at the mouth of the Waitangi - famous later on as the place of the signing of the Treaty - was a Ngapuhi and took a fancy to a young woman, Putea, belonging to a local tribe, the Ngare-ramati, who had been conquered by the Ngapuhi and now lived with them more or less contentedly. Putea was a lively but frivolously-inclined young woman, and when she learned that she was desired by Kaiteke she tried to persuade her cousin, Karara, to take her place. But this was overruled by one Korokoro, who had decided on Karara for himself, and he told her she should take no notice of Putea: she, Karara, was his 'popene' (fourpenny). Putea he referred to as a 'kahawai kotiti' (skittish kahawai). This no doubt referred to the Maori proverb, 'A kahawai at sea, a woman on shore' - both, to the inexpert, difficult to capture. There, from a Maori source, we get a note on the groat, showing that it circulated in New Zealand at least a hundred and ten years ago."

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Johannes A. Andersen for his informative and interesting paper.

The meeting concluded with a social hour and supper.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,

Hon. Secretary.

12 Glencables Flats,  
The Terrace,  
WELLINGTON, C.1., N.Z.

NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

REPORT OF 60th MEETING - 29th APRIL, 1940

"THE COINS OF COLCHESTER" was the subject of a short paper read by Mr. W.E.Horwood at the 60th meeting of the New Zealand Numismatic Society held on the 29th April, 1940. Mr. Johannes Andersen, M.B.E., President, occupied the chair.

A motion of condolence was passed to be conveyed to Professor Rankine Brown, ex-President, regarding the loss of his wife, and a similar motion was passed in respect of the death of Mr. W.F.Wilson, Honolulu, who had been a member of the Society almost since its inception.

Reports of the Association of Australian Numismatists, the Australian Numismatic Society, the Numismatic Society of New South Wales, and the Numismatic Society of South Australia, as well as reports from Mr. James Hunt Deacon, Adelaide, and letters from Sir John Hanham, Bt., honorary corresponding members, were laid on the table.

Mr. P. Watts Rule wrote in regard to the Gilbertson collection of unclassified coins (page 96) and the Council decided that these coins, which were mostly Roman, would be offered for sale after consultation with Mr. Gilbertson, and that due notice would be given to members.

The Hon. Secretary reported that during a recent visit to the South Island, he had attended a Philatelic and Numismatic Exhibition at Timaru, and that he was greatly impressed by the display arranged by Timaru members. The numismatic exhibits were outstanding and attracted keen public interest. The Exhibition reflected great credit on the organisers, who were for the most part members of the New Zealand Numismatic Society.

The Hon. Secretary also reported that Timaru members asked that a list of names and addresses of members, together with an indication of their specialties so far as was known, be circulated, and the Council agreed that this should be done. A request was also made for notification to members through the reports, of particulars of any tokens sent to the Society for disposal, and this was agreed to.

Mr. R.Johnson, c/o General Manager, U.S.S.Co., Wellington, and Dr. A.R.F.Mackay, M.Comm., Treasury, Wellington, were elected new members of the Society.

Dealing with the numismatic history of Colchester, which had been traced back 2,000 years, Mr. Horwood said that Colchester was the capital of Cunobeline (Cymbeline of Shakespeare), who ruled Trinobantes, circa 30 A.D. about the same time as Father Tasciovanus ruled Catyeuchlani at Verulamium. At first the coins were imitation gold staters of Philip II of Macedonia. Later the coins indicated improved workmanship and bore the designs of an ear of corn and a horse with the abbreviated names Camulud, Cunobeline. The first Roman mint was set up by Carausius in Londinium and Camulud. A large number and variety of coins had been found bearing inscriptions RIC, PI and ALWIN, Colchester moneyers, of the first coinage of Henry II.

In July, 1902, 12,000 silver pennies in a leaden vessel were unearthed from the surface. The coins were nearly all short cross and the range included Henry II, Richard I, John, Henry III, up to 1248. The first theory of the hoard given by Grueber was that the money was collected for replacement by long cross coins for the re-coinage in 1248. The second theory was that the money was gathered by Hubert de Burre, who held the rank of Constable of the Colchester Castle. During his life he travelled widely on the King's business and he was enriched by his share of the spoils, taxes and marriages, as well as dowries of wards. He fell into disgrace with Henry III and fled the country, dying in poverty. No fewer than 24 mints were represented in the hoard. The total cash in the hoard was not one quarter of the amount in the hoard.

Colchester was besieged from June 13th to August 17th, 1648, by Fairfax. It was defended by Lords Capel and Norwich, with Sir Charles Lucas and Sir George Lisle, all of whom were shot except Norwich.

A gold 10/- siege piece was issued from the Castle. It was roughly circular and the design represented the Castle gate between the crowned initials C and R, and below in two lines appeared OBS. COL. 16 x 48.

A Colchester Bay trade token was issued bearing the inscription "May the Bay Trade Flourish." Tokens were made illegal by the coinage of 1816. Colchester has relapsed into a peaceful country market town. Its present position as head of the Eastern Counties Command continued an association of history, fighting and money, which had extended back to 2,000 years.

In moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Horwood for his most interesting address, Mr. Johannes Andersen said that while members were interested in the great stream of coinage, they were equally interested in the tributaries, and the address had shown the interesting facts that could be disclosed by selecting one town and tracing its history through numismatics.

A suggestion was made that a specimen of the Centennial medal of the New Zealand Society of Engineers be obtained for the Society's collection.

Exhibits included a 5-cent script issued by the Brimelow Stamp and Coin Co., Elkhart, Indiana, the New York Fair medal (A. Sutherland), and the Curie Cancer Medal (J.K. de Rouffignac).

**CENTENNIAL WAR MEDAL:** Further consideration was given to an earlier application by an Australian die sinking firm to be represented in the N.Z. Centennial Medal issues, and to the suggestion that the Society authorise the design proposed, i.e., a New Zealand soldier in battle dress, stance similar to the Maori on the shilling, with a portrait of Captain Hobson on the obverse. It was stated that this design would indicate that the Dominion was at war in the Centennial year. The cost of the medal proposed in bronze would be 3d each if 1,000 or more were ordered, and if the authorities granted the appropriate permission to import, and the Secretary was instructed to endeavour to secure the approval of the authorities, firstly to import a supply of such medals, and, secondly, to offer them for sale through patriotic organisations at 1/- each on the understanding that all the proceeds be used for comforts for men of the Armed Forces. It was suggested that the medal should bear a red, white and blue ribbon, and be sold on street days by patriotic organisations.

**NEW ZEALAND CENTENNIAL MEDAL:** The Hon. Secretary reported that all the silver Centennial medals had been sold, but that a considerable number of bronze medals at 3/6d each were still on hand.

Mr. W.D. Ferguson stated that New Zealand tokens were now on display at the Dominion Museum, Wellington, where there was also an excellent display of Saxon and other coins down to the reign of Victoria.

**BANK NOTES:** Reference was made to the issue of New Zealand bank notes of a new design, and it was decided to endeavour to arrange to exhibit these notes at next meeting and discuss designs.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,  
Honorary Secretary.

NEXT MEETING:

Monday next, 27th May. Papers by Mr. S.J. Sheriff and Mr. C. Prandt, M.Sc. Members are asked to exhibit coins and medals issued during the last Great War.

NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.MEETINGS - 1940(Last Monday in each month - except October.)

The Council of the Society  
invites the following members to submit short papers.

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1940

- 29th April  
(held) Paper by Mr. W. E. HORWOOD, "Coins of Colchester.
- 27th May Short Papers by MR. S. J. SHERIFF, Upper Hutt, and MR. C. W. BRANDT, M.Sc., Wellington.  
  
(Members are asked to exhibit coins and medals issued during last Great War).
- 24th June ANNUAL MEETING: Paper by the President, MR. JOHANNES C. ANDERSEN, M.B.E., F.R.S.N.Z.  
  
Exhibit of coins and medals, MR. H. G. WILLIAMS, Dunedin.
- 29th July Short Papers by MR. W. D. FERGUSON, Wellington, MR. HASSELL MARTIN, Wellington, and MR. J. B. WARD, Hokitika.
- 26th August Short Papers by MISS W. TEWESLEY, Wellington, and PROFESSOR J. RANKINE BROWN, M.A., LL.D.
- 30th Sept. Short Papers by SIR JAMES ELLIOTT, M.D., F.R.A.C.S., MR. O. C. FLEMING, Sydney, and ARCHDEACON G. H. GAVIN, F.R.N.S., New Plymouth.
- 21st October  
(3rd Novr.) Labour Day 28th - meeting one week earlier.  
  
Short Papers by MR. A. QUINNELL, MR. A. SUTHERLAND, F.R.N.S., and MR. H.R.FORD.
- 25th Nov. Short Papers by MR. P. WATTS RULE, F.N.Z.I.A., Timaru, MR. J. W. M. SMITH and Mr. M. HORNBLow, Wellington.

Recess until March, 1941.

Other members are invited to submit short papers (5 or 10 minutes) and also specimens appropriate to subjects dealt with. As far as possible subjects will be notified in the reports for previous meeting.

NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

REPORT of 61st MEETING - 27th MAY, 1940

EARLY PAPER CURRENCY OF NEW ZEALAND and MODERN ANALYSES OF ANCIENT COINS were the subjects of papers read before the 61st meeting of the Society. Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, M.B.E., presided. Mr. S.J. Sheriff asked permission to defer his paper to a later meeting.

A feature of the meeting was the use of a modern type of epidiascope by Mr. A. Bland with which he screened bank notes, coins and illustrations, thus avoiding the necessity for handling round specimens. The actual gleam and colour of the coins were faithfully reproduced on the screen.

Mr. W.J. Kerr, 47 Cavendish Square, Strathmore Park, Wellington, E.5. was elected a new member.

LIST OF MEMBERS: The Hon. Treasurer was asked to send out accounts for subscriptions outstanding for two years, and if still unpaid within two months, to submit names for the purging of the roll preparatory to issuing a list of members with addresses and specialities where known.

Mr. J.D. Ferguson (Spencer Corset Ltd., Rock Island, Quebec) wrote offering to exchange Canadian tokens, medals, coins or early paper money for similar New Zealand items.

Dealing with EARLY PAPER CURRENCY OF NEW ZEALAND, Mr. Allan Sutherland, F.R.N.S., said that during New Zealand's cradle-days as a British Colony, paper currency was issued by traders, private citizens, banks, and the State, and these circulated concurrently with British and foreign coins brought to the country by early settlers, sealers, whalers and traders. Before Governor Hobson arrived, The New Zealand Banking Company had actually established its Head Office at Kororaraka, and presumably this bank issued currency notes and, with the missionaries, acted as a money-changer in dealing with the whalers and traders of many nationalities who had taken up their residence there, or who used the Bay of Islands as their centre. With the arrival of Governor Hobson, British jurisdiction would confer a greater responsibility on the little bank and its clients, and the fact that this institution transferred its headquarters to Auckland when Governor Hobson established his new capital there, suggests that there was some association between the Government and the Bank at this time.

The few bank tellers of those far-off days would have an unenviable task in handling private notes (almost I.O.U.'s), English and Australian bank-notes and a variety of foreign gold and silver coins which were then used. The fluctuating relative value of foreign coins to sterling (as described by the Governors of the day) would be a nightmare to the banks in their struggles to cope with the demands of trade. Whaling firms, too, issued bank notes, notably Enderby and Champion, and, later, Johnny Jones, of Waikouaiti.

Wakefield, the founder of Wellington, was closely associated with the establishment of the Union Bank of Australia, Ltd., which, in 1840, started business with nothing more than a safe containing some notes and specie, housed in a tin shed on the Petone beach (Britannia). This "Bank", or safe, on which the manager sat, was floated across the harbour to the present site of Wellington, and this bank has survived many vicissitudes to become one of the leading banks in the Dominion. On 7th March last the bank held a function in the bank premises, Lambton Quay, when, in the presence of a numerous gathering, His Excellency the Governor-General unveiled a tablet commemorating the hundredth anniversary of the opening of the bank on 28th March, 1840, on which date the Union Bank of Australia opened a Branch at Britannia, Port Nicholson. After the ceremony the Bank entertained its guests, of whom your President had the honour of being one, at afternoon tea at the neighbouring D.I.C.

Bank notes issued at Britannia were redeemable in gold in London, Hobart, and Britannia, and this was a decided convenience to the roving shipmasters and traders. This arrangement, however, tended to drain notes from the Colony in payment for inward goods, and the same problem arose in connection with coins. To meet this difficulty private notes were circulated, and, later, Governor Fitzroy issued Government debentures as legal tender.



To the student of Colonial currency it would appear that Governor FitzRoy has been harshly judged for his action in issuing Government debentures as legal tender. It is only fair to admit that FitzRoy inherited a considerable public debt; he was expected to keep up the Government establishment and develop the Colony, the Maoris were restive, the Treasury was empty, taxes were out of the question, the British Government was not inclined to assist, and in desperation he adopted what he considered was the only practical course of issuing public credit to maintain the meagre British institutions, and to continue to assert British sovereignty. Any modern Minister of Finance would probably do the same in like circumstances.

FitzRoy "shinplasters" (as they were popularly described) were issued for large denominations, and traders issued subsidiary paper notes, usually in coin denominations, to overcome the shortage of coins. These notes were redeemable in FitzRoy debentures. In Wellington, for instance, traders combined to issue notes of small denominations, and gave a guarantee that the face value had been lodged at the Union Bank as security. One private currency-note for 3d. was issued in Wellington at this time and the inscription indicated that it was redeemable in debentures or "would be taken in in mangling done here most perfectly." One popular Wellington currency-note representing "liquid cash" for 3d. was inscribed "Barretts Tap, 1845." Another note issued in Wellington by the proprietor of the Antipodean Ginger Beer Company indicated that the notes were redeemable in Government debentures or in his "celebrated ginger beer, well up, and not like Governor FitzRoy's head, rather weak." At that time the Governor did not live in Wellington. In another town currency-notes were issued for one penny, showing the difficulties associated with the shortage of coins.

With the arrival of Governor Grey, efforts were made to improve the currency of the Colony, and in 1850 the Colonial Bank of Issue was established, taking over from the Union Bank the sole right of issuing notes. About the same time a "Nelson Bank" was started by Morrison & Sclanders, who issued currency-notes payable twelve months after date, thus circumventing a law against issuing "on demand" notes. In 1856 the Union Bank was again given the sole right of note-issue until 1857, when the Oriental Banking Corporation was established in Auckland and Dunedin. The Bank of New South Wales and the Bank of New Zealand followed in 1861, the Banking Corporation and the Bank of Otago Limited in 1863, the Bank of Auckland and the Bank of Australasia in 1864, the National Bank of New Zealand, Ltd. in 1873, the Colonial Bank of New Zealand in 1874, the Commercial Bank of Australia, Ltd. in 1912. In the latter year six note-issuing trading banks remained, and these continued until 1933, when the Reserve Bank of New Zealand was established with the sole right of note-issue. A new series of bank notes bearing designs appropriate to the Centennial year, were issued in 1940, and for the first time for many years the portrait of the Maori "King" Tawhiao did not appear on New Zealand bank notes, although his shadow appeared in the watermark.

Tawhiao had long been associated with bank notes. During his "reign" the Bank of Aotearoa issued a colourful bank-note, inscribed in Maori "This money is available to all persons." The history of this bank is shrouded in mystery. The most distinctive trading bank-notes were those issued by the Bank of New Zealand, which perpetuated the memory of Tawhiao by showing his portrait. The traditional association was not forgotten by the Treasury, and the Numismatic Society when the Bank Note Designs Committee, under the Chairmanship of the Rt. Hon. J. G. Coates, selected the designs for the first issue of the Reserve Bank notes. Following the second issue of Reserve Bank notes, associations of Maoris and others had asked the Society to assist in restoring Tawhiao's portrait in future issues of bank-notes. Through an oversight the Society had not shared in the selection of the new designs in accordance with a promise made by the Hon. Mr. Nash to the ex-President, Sir James Elliott.

Although bank-notes were a subsidiary branch of the study of numismatics, the cost of obtaining specimens was prohibitive, and museums were usually the only repositories of complete collections. The Babylonians and Chaldeans used clay tablets 2,000 years ago as a form of promissory note. In China in 140 B.C. parchment or paper money was used; notes in bark and cloth were also known, and in the 13th century Marco Polo recorded the curious custom of using paper money stamped in a printing press. In 1368 a Ming Emperor issued a currency-note bearing the illustration of ten strings of cash and the inscription, "Current under the Heavens," and "Counterfeiters will be decapitated." In England the active circulation of bank-notes originated with the issue by goldsmiths of receipts for money or bullion deposited in their care.

The lecturer described the method of selecting the designs for the first Reserve Bank of New Zealand notes. The quality of paper, the watermarks, and the distinctive designs suitably embellished to defeat (if not to decapitate) counterfeiters, were the paramount considerations. The stop-gap designs adopted in 1933 reflected great credit on the designers. The clashing colours of the £50 and the 10s. notes were not the fault of the Designs Committee. The Kiwi was given prominence because it was the national bird, and it was not improbable that if a new standard of value were adopted in New Zealand the term "Kiwi" would be used in place of the overworked misnomer "pound." Another alternative was a crown-note. During the 1914-18 war, five-shillings notes were actually printed for a New Zealand bank, to overcome the shortage of silver, but the notes were not issued. It is reported that many years afterwards one of the unissued notes was sent to the Bank from Germany, with a request for payment.

Many interesting early New Zealand currency-notes were then screened, including the FitzRoy debentures, and early private issued described above. Photographs of printing-press money of Germany were also shown, showing mark-notes being used for starting a kitchen fire, for decorating kites and wall-papering, and an actual specimen for 100,000,000 marks was shown. A Chinese bank note, "Redeemable in the Silver Bank of Hades," issued for burning at burial rites, was also shown, with the comment that the inscription was hardly a compliment to the deceased. A cheque by Arthur Wakefield issued in December, 1841, and a guinea-note of Dumfries, were also shown. A pink-red "prank note" was next discussed. "The Preserved Bank of New Zealand" was stated to have been the inscription with "£50" on one side and "10/-" on the other, but otherwise the designs were uniform - a crown and anchor "rampant" with a kookaburra guffawing, and a "portrait" resting near a signature, "Faux Pas." The object of the "issue" (scattered on a city street during a capping procession) was to draw attention to a topical complaint regarding the clashing of colours of notes then in circulation.

Discussing Maori portraits on bank notes, Mr. Johannes Andersen said that Potatau Te Wherowhero was the successor to Tawhiao, the Maori king. The first, Tawhiao, said Gorst, was almost the only man in New Zealand whom the Maoris would have agreed to make king over them. He was revered, not in Waikato only, but generally throughout the tribes of New Zealand, as one of the most renowned warriors of a former generation. The name of his successor, Te Wherowhero, by which he was first known to Europeans, was obtained through his being the first of his people to obtain and wear a scarlet blanket, which in the early days of New Zealand was regarded by the Maoris as a great treasure: red was their sacred colour. The name "Potatau", Gorst says, signifies "He that counteth by night," and this name was given to him on the death of his wife, for whom his love was so great that he sat sleepless, night after night, while she lay dying, "counting," as the Maoris said, "her last hours." (po, night; tatau, to count). The portrait of Tawhiao could be restored in the blank oval, with tattoo marks for the watermarks, thus restoring balance to the design and giving the necessary safeguard.

Dealing with THE COMPOSITION OF ANCIENT GREEK BRONZE COINS, Mr. C.W. Brandt, M.Sc., gave a summary of reviews published in "The News Edition - Industrial and Engineering Chemistry" and "Science News Letter" on a monograph by Prof. E. R. Caley, of Princeton University. Mr. Brandt stated that results of analyses of a large number of early coins had shown how coinage bronzes of various times and places differed in tin, lead and iron contents. Bronze coins from Macedon manufactured in 400 B.C. contained a considerable amount of tin and very little lead. Greek bronze in general contained less tin and more lead as time went on. The changes were so regular in certain series of coins that they could serve to decide questions of serial order or date of issue. Professor Caley had suggested that since in most early coins any decrease in the tin-content was accompanied by an equal increase in lead-content, either lead came to be substituted for part of the tin used in the manufacture of the alloys or that tin-lead alloys were substituted for pure tin. The substitution was thought to have been largely the result of attempts to produce a bronze more suitable for coinage than the high tin-bronze first used, but economic considerations may also have played a part. The instances of very high lead-content (20 to 30 per cent.) occurring in the coins of the first and second centuries B.C. were probably due to melting coins of previous issues with metallic lead. The evidence suggested that that practice came into general use after the middle of the second century B.C., and that production of new coinage bronze largely ceased. The change in minting practice may have been the result

of the destruction of Carthage by the Romans in 146 B.C., with the consequent disappearance of the sea-trade in Cornish tin. The scarcity of tin in the ancient Mediterranean world for a long time after this period was also indicated by changes in the composition of Roman minor coins.

Studies of the micro-structure of the Greek coins showed that only a few (principally the larger coins) had the undisturbed structure characteristic of cast metal. A large proportion had been made by striking cast blanks, but by far the greater proportion had evidently been made by striking blanks that had been prepared by methods other than casting. The study was of practical as well as historical interest, for examination of the degree of corrosion of the various coins had led to the conclusion that the most resistant bronze was one which contained a low proportion of tin and a low to moderate proportion of lead. Thus, not only could chemistry provide some idea of the time of manufacture of previously undatable coins, but the age of objects found along with such coins would in the future be more readily determined. Detection of forgery of ancient bronze could also be aided by the knowledge of the content copper, tin and lead and other impurities such as arsenic and sulphur, which latter were very much lower in modern bronzes.

Mr. Brandt referred also to recent work on tarnishing of silver and copper. It had been shown that these metals, when alloyed with small amounts of either aluminium or beryllium and then subjected to certain oxidising processes, developed protective surface-films consisting of oxide of aluminium or beryllium. These films possessed remarkable resistance to oxidation and tarnishing, but details of their resistance to surface-abrasion was not yet available and it was not, therefore, easy to state the full practical possibilities of the process.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,  
Hon. Secretary.

P.S. Representations have been made to the Treasury that numismatic collections be exempt from the provisions of the Finance Emergency Regulations, and further advice will be sent to members before the end of July.

NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

REPORT of 62nd MEETING - 24th JUNE, 1940.

A paper on BARTER by Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, M.B.E., F.R.S.N.Z., and an exhibition of coins and medals by Mr. H. G. Williams, Dunedin, were the main features of the 62nd meeting of the Society. Mr. Johannes C. Andersen presided. The Annual Meeting was deferred until Monday, 29th July.

Mr. Johannes C. Andersen said: "I have only a few words to say on the subject of barter, based on recorded examples of it in our own country. The same system existed everywhere before money became the recognised medium of exchange. I will start with a few words from Melville's "Typee," which describes his experiences in the Marquesas, more particularly in the valley Taipi (which gives the title to his book), at a date about the same as that in which are laid the New Zealand scenes of which I shall speak. Melville writes: 'One peculiarity that fixed my admiration was the perpetual hilarity reigning through the whole extent of the vale. There seemed to be no cares, griefs, troubles, or vexations, in all Typee. The hours tripped along as gaily as the laughing couples down a country lane. There were none of those thousand sources of irritation that the ingenuity of civilized man has created to mar his own felicity. There were no forebodings of mortgages, no protested notes, no bills payable, no debts to honour in Typee, no unreasonable tailors and shoemakers, perversely bent on being paid; no duns of any description; no assault and battery attorneys to foment discord, backing their clients up to a quarrel, and then knocking their heads together; no poor relations everlastingly occupying the spare bed-chamber, and diminishing the family-room at the breakfast table; no destitute widows with their children starving on the cold charities of the world; no beggars; no debtors' prisons; no proud and hard-hearted nabobs in Typee; or, to sum up all in one word - no money! That 'root of all evil' was not to be found in the valley. There were some spots in that sunny vale where they would frequently resort to deck themselves with garlands of flowers. To have seen them reclining beneath the shadows of one of the beautiful groves; the ground about them strewn with freshly-gathered buds and blossoms, employed in weaving chaplets and necklaces, one would have thought that all the train of Flora had gathered together to keep a festival in honour of their mistress.

'With the young men there seemed almost always some matter of diversion or business on hand that afforded a constant variety of enjoyment. But whether fishing, or carving canoes, or polishing their ornaments, never was there exhibited the least sign of strife or contention among them. As for the warriors they maintained a tranquil dignity of demeanour, journeying occasionally from house to house, where they were always sure to be received with the attention bestowed upon distinguished guests. The old men, of whom there were many in the vale, seldom stirred from their mats, where they would recline for hours, smoking and talking to one another with all the garrulity of age.' And here I might remind you of the garrulous old men in the Iliad, and how Homer makes them give you an impression of the great beauty of Helen without attempting himself to describe what was indescribable; he remarks that even those old men sitting in the sun were silenced by her appearance, their eyes watching her as she passed by.

"Coming now to our own shores. Port Underwood, the northern extremity of Cloudy Bay, Marlborough, was a noted whaling centre a hundred years ago. One of the early colonising ships, the "Lord Auckland", was at Port Underwood in February, 1842, on the way to Nelson with settlers, and Farnicoat has this entry in his journal: 'After breakfast we saw two whaling boats coming from the port towards us, among others - English, West Indian, and Americans. There were some native men and fine native women, the wives of the English, etc. The women were dressed in English cotton gowns with a blanket and shawl. For ear-ornaments they wore half-crowns and dollars tied with black ribbon by a large hole in their ears and another in the coins. There is a schooner now being built here. She is being built by a carpenter who has been living here fourteen years. He has, like several others, married a native woman. She was dressed in a splendid plaid gown and looked very well with a French crown in one ear and an English half-crown in the other.'

"Here in the next note is an example of a good Maori custom, the paremata, illustrated by the Rev. Ironside, who was stationed at Ngakuta, near Port Underwood, just before the time of the Wairau tragedy of 1843. His mission station, with its many branches, was in good working order as the account shows of which I am giving you only extracts. Testaments had been promised to the Maoris and were being eagerly looked for. Ironside writes: 'Early in January, 1842, the long-wished-for supply of native Testaments arrived. The "Triton" on her first visit to Cloudy Bay, brought the treasures, and I shall not forget the morning of their arrival. Soon after daylight we were aroused by natives knocking at the door, tapping at the windows, and shouting out, 'E! whakatika! - ko te kaupuke - Taraitona - ko nga pukapuka.' (Sir, get up - here is the ship, the 'Triton' - the books!) I looked out of the window; there was the little schooner at anchor, a quarter of a mile off. She never looked better to me than she did that morning.' Of the Testaments, 450 had been allotted to Ironside's district - not nearly enough to fill demands, and they had to be divided judiciously. He set out on a paper the list of the villages, with the names of the teachers in charge, apportioning to each as many as could be spared - 10 here, 12 there, and so on throughout the district, till the whole number was exhausted. Now the Maori had a custom of giving as well as receiving; whoever received knew it was incumbent on him to give something in return. Ironside knew this, and wished to convey a hint as delicately as he could, that some return for the books was hoped for to defray cost of printing, transport, etc. There were 700 Maoris at the gathering, and, after the formal opening, the Rev. Ironside addressed them in this way: 'Here is the great feast provided for us by our good fathers and friends in England - a feast of the Word of Life. You have a custom among yourselves called paremata. A chief who accepts an invitation to a feast from another chief, while he is partaking of it, is considering about making a paremata, a return feast; and so by-and-bye there is provided in return, if possible, a larger and richer feast than the first. Shall we have a paremata?' The names of the teachers were then called out, village by village, and each received the portion for his people. I have often wished I could reproduce the scene in a picture - heaven smiling above, the valley <sup>and</sup> surrounding hills clothed in the richest verdure of early autumn, the crowd of Maoris, all with strained gaze looking at the distribution, the teacher, as his name was called out, springing up and rushing to the stand, leaping over the heads of those squatted in front of him, clutching the heap assigned to him, and away back to his place, hugging to his breast the coveted treasure. An angel in his flight might have been arrested by the scene. The scene thrown out about the paremata fell into good soil and soon began to germinate. In two or three weeks I noticed an unusual stir among the people of the village. All seemed to be full of repressed excitement; preparations for a great display were everywhere afoot. I concluded that the paremata was coming. From the front windows of the mission house could be seen several large canoes, fully manned, coming up the bay to the station at racing speed, each frantically striving to be first. From the back part of the house was seen a long line of Maoris, in Indian file, coming over the saddle in the hills separating us from the sound, each one with a full heavy basket on his back, and some, in addition, with a pig on a string in his hand, guiding him along. My wife and I were delighting ourselves with the animated scene, listening to the eager shouting of each fresh arrival, when we were unceremoniously told to go inside the house and shut the door - we were not wanted yet. We submitted and waited patiently. When all was ready we were summoned. There, in front of us, was a long heap of baskets, about three feet high, stretching from one end of the yard to the other. I counted 600 baskets, full of potatoes, Indian corn, & pumpkins, etc. Each basket would weigh fully 56 lbs. On the other side of the heap, tied by the leg to the fence behind, were seven good-sized pigs. On the heap of baskets at one end was a parcel tied up in an old handkerchief to which my attention was specially directed. All being ready, out sprang the master of ceremonies, Hoani Koinaki, chief of the Whakenui village in the sound - as fine a specimen of the Maori race as you would see from Te Reinga to Murihiku. With true native courtesy the place of honour had been ceded to him by the Ngatittoa chiefs of Cloudy Bay. Hoani, tucking up his blanket, with a long native spear in his hand, ran backward and forward from one end of the food-pile to the other, striking the baskets with his spear at intervals. 'Here is our feast!' he cried; 'take it and give it to our loving fathers in England; it is all we can do to show our love to them for their great kindness in sending to us te pukapuka tapu. In the little parcel at the end of the pile was a lot of silver dollars and crown pieces - English, French, Spanish, American. These had been in their possession for many years. Many of them had been

suggestion >

bored through and worn as ear-ornaments by the women, but they were freely sacrificed on this occasion. They amounted to £9.17.6. The 600 baskets and the seven pigs I sold to one of the traders for £25. They were worth much more, but traders were few and I was at their mercy." The little parcel in the handkerchief would have made the eyes of numismatists sparkle. There would have been many good specimens to add to the collection of the polyglot coins circulating in New Zealand during that transition period between barter and banker, between no money and less than no money, for till man knew it he did not know he lacked it. It is a sad word that must be added to this. The Rev. Ironside had made a perfect success of his mission to the Maoris in the Cloudy Bay whaling district, which closely neighboured the Wairau Valley. In little more than a year was to occur that tragedy which ruined and broke up the mission and set back the settlement of New Zealand for many years.

"It should be emphasized that, whilst there was coin included in the gift of the paremata, that did not make it a payment; it was a return gift; the Maoris themselves set the value on the Testaments. It was perhaps hardly barter - it was rather gift than either barter or purchase.

"The following is an example of true barter and it took place before the Pakeha was fully established in New Zealand with all his topsy-turvey financial manipulations and complications of interest and exchange and present value and discount and whatnot. It is recorded by Samuel Marsden, who on 18th January, 1815, was at the south end of the Hauraki Gulf. He writes: 'Several of the natives of the Bay of Islands had brought with them a little trade. Some a few nails, others small pieces of iron hoops, some a few feathers and a variety of articles of no value to Europeans but of much value to themselves. The village was all in motion; they crowded together like a fair from every quarter. Some of the inhabitants brought cloaks to sell and various other articles, so that the whole day exhibited a busy scene, and many things were bought and sold in their way. When the fair was over, the ladies entertained us with several dances and songs. One of them had on a fine upper garment which a chief from Rangihoua, who had come with us, wanted to procure for his wife. He had bought a box of feathers neatly dressed, the pithy part of the quill having been all cut off and only the external part remaining, to which the feather was attached, made the feathers wave gracefully with the smallest breeze when placed in the hair. He opened it in the presence of the ladies. Many of them wanted these feathers. He, on the other hand, required the fine garment. After placing very tastefully two or three feathers in several of the ladies' hair, she that had got this fine garment, when she beheld how elegant they appeared in the heads of those who had them, became extremely impatient to possess such an ornament. He asked her to sell her garment (he, of course, meant exchange): she stood hesitating for some time. At length he laid down a certain number at her feet. This temptation she could not resist, but instantly threw off the garment and delivered it to him for the feathers. The chief on our return presented this precious garment to his wife.'

"The chief referred to was Te Uri-o-kanæ. He was a witness to the deed of sale of the land for the mission which Marsden had just established at Rangihoua, his signature being a copy of his tattoo. Rangihoua is at the Bay of Islands, close to the place where Marsden Cross was later erected in commemoration of Marsden's opening of the mission in New Zealand. John L. Nicholas, who had accompanied Marsden from Port Jackson, was present on that occasion and he adds a little detail, so that his account makes a good supplement to Marsden's. He writes: 'We had here an opportunity of observing how the natives transact the affairs of trade among each other. The merchandise of Te Uri-o-kanæ consisted of a number of white feathers of the gannet, which are universally worn by both sexes in this country, but prepared exclusively in the Bay of Islands, whence they are carried into the other districts and form a staple article of trade. These feathers are neatly dressed, and each of them has a small piece of wood tied round the quill end which serves to stick in the hair. Our humorous friend was now the magnet of attraction to all the ladies in the village in consequence of his valuable and ornamental wares, and, seating himself in the midst of the gay circle, he prepared to untie the box that contained the feathers to gratify their impatient eyes. The sight at once filled the whole group with rapture, and, taking some of the feathers out of the box in which he had laid them with as much dexterity as if they had been packed up by the most experienced man milliner in London, he stuck several of them in the heads of the surrounding ladies who, when thus decorated, congratulated each other with ecstatic transports, while they individually betrayed a ludi-

crous self-complacency. He then counted out twelve of the feathers and laid them down with much gallantry at the feet of the young damsel who had the cloak, giving her at the same time a large bunch of the down of the gannet, which is used as an ornament for the ear. Upon receiving these she immediately gave him the cloak in exchange, and Te Uri-o-kanae, carefully tying up his box again, walked off to supply more customers. The ladies now commenced dancing and singing, which they kept up for some time, much in the same style that we had witnessed in the Bay of Islands.'

"The fair lasted for some time, while Te Uri, like another Autolycus, wheedled from impressionable maidens valuables more regarded in the Bay of Islands than the feathers he had for disposal. Savage writes of some of the articles for which Autolycus wheedled in vain. He says: 'Some of the most beautiful cloaks we had yet seen were exhibited for sale. Four of the ladies decorated with these, which were very large and richly ornamented, appeared to great advantage, being extremely handsome women and not disfigured by any extraneous devices. On these cloaks they set a very high price (he means value) and would take nothing for them but axes, of which we had none to barter (there he actually uses the word), so that our desire to obtain them could not be gratified. I offered them tokis, and large fish-hooks, but they declined the exchange; and even our friend Te Uri-o-kanae's feathers were not of sufficient attraction. The common cloaks they parted with readily enough, but the dress ones were not to be bought, unless by articles they considered of equal intrinsic value.'

"I ask you if this display of their cloaks by the four handsome young women was not an early mannequin parade? And can any of you tell me what sort of reception you would get if you went into Kirkcaldie's or the D.I.C. and offered a few axes in exchange for some of their fine evening cloaks? And as a matter of fact, those same evening cloaks, even the best of them would not, in open market, fetch one-tenth of the price of those four dress-cloaks, as Savage calls them, which their owners then were willing to part with for axes which now would not fetch a tenth of one of the Kirkcaldie's cloaks. What a topsy-turvy world, where so much depends upon the mere whims of men and women who are on the scene for so short a while.

"One final picture from the far South of New Zealand. On 22nd April, 1850, Capt. Stokes was at the Neck, Stewart Island, and saw an old Maori woman with tattooing on arms, breast and back - but not Maori tattooing. To each of the pictures a history was attached, the separate groups being an abstract and chronicle of some event in her experience. There were Maori men engaged in mortal combat with their tomahawks, women as spectators, seemingly encouraging their husbands and brothers to lay on with right good will. The tattoo on the left arm was a man holding a gun perpendicularly with the muzzle to his head, the suicide of a relative in years past detected in improper intercourse with another chief's rib. Anticipating unpleasant results usual in such cases and exasperated at losing his paramour, he had 'jumped the life to come'. Half-crown pieces pierced for the purpose, and of old George IV coinage hung as pendants to her ears. They also wore shillings and sixpences as ear-rings. Northward their country women usually affect the brilliant white tooth of a species of ground shark, tipped with red sealing wax, which from its showy tint is extensively used for personal adornment. A single drop of semi-transparent greenstone suspended in the ear by black ribbon, is also much worn - and many thrust into the enormous apertures slit in that delicate portion of their person and small articles of European workmanship they can lay hold of. Thus I have seen old brace-buckles, a piece of a gun-lock, soldiers' brass buttons, a brass-tipped cotton-reel, so applied.'

"The Maoris in their generation were wiser than the children of light - they put the noble metals to their true use - ornament and adornment."

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,  
Hon. Secretary.

Gleneagles Flats,  
WELLINGTON, N.Z.

E R R A T A

- Page 118, par. 2, line 12.      Substitute the word "irritation" for "irrigation."
- Page 118, par. 3, line 9.      The quotation ends with ---- garrulity of age.' Please, therefore, insert apostrophe after the word "age" and delete apostrophe after the last word in the same paragraph.
- Page 119, line 31 from foot.      The first word in the line should be "suggestion", not "scene."
- Page 119, line 35 from foot.      The Fourth word should be "name," not "named."
- Page 120, par. 1, line 4.      The quotation ends at "mercy." Please insert apostrophe accordingly and delete apostrophe after the word "years" at end of same paragraph.
- Page 120, par. 3, line 14.      The last word in the line should be "brought" not "bought."
- Page 121, para. 1.  
Page 121, para. 1.      The quotation ends with the paragraph. Please therefore insert apostrophe after the last word in the paragraph - "Islands." Then alter the apostrophe at the beginning of the next paragraph to a quotation mark ("").
- Page 121, par. 4, line 5 from end.      The word "work" should be "worn."  
ditto.      line 3 from end.      The word "and" should be "any."  
ditto.      line 3 from the beginning of the paragraph:  
Before the words "To each of the" insert an apostrophe, and also an apostrophe after the word "applied" at the end of the paragraph.
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NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

ANNUAL REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET - 1939-40

The Council of the New Zealand Numismatic Society has the honour to present its Annual Report and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st May, 1940. The year covers an eventful period in the history of the country, firstly the outbreak of the second Great War, and, secondly, the centennial of New Zealand as a British possession. The Society, with the aid of the Government, issued a Centennial commemorative medal, in silver and bronze, and the Government issued a Centennial half-crown, and bronze pennies and halfpennies, bearing distinctive New Zealand designs. New Reserve Bank Notes were also issued during the Centennial year.

Meetings of the Society were held at regular intervals during the year and regular reports have been issued to members. During the war, difficulty may be experienced in carrying on the activities of the Society, but it is hoped to continue as far as possible, as meetings provide a valuable cultural antidote to the strain of war.

During the year the Hon. Secretary published the first half of his "Numismatic History of New Zealand," thus making available, for the first time, much original historical information which has laid the foundation of numismatic literature of New Zealand, and which will remain a standard reference on the subject for many years. The papers read before the Society also contain much historical and numismatic information, and reflect a quickened interest in the history of the country during the Centennial year.

The membership of the Society stands at 146 and the finances, as shown in the balance-sheet, reflect a very satisfactory position, having regard to the difficult times through which we are passing.

For the Council of the Society,  
JOHANNES ANDERSEN, President.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDING 31st MAY 1940

<u>INCOME</u>		£ s d	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		£ s d			
To Balance P.O.S.B. Trust Account .. .. .	62	9	6	By Printing & Stationery ..	18	18	2	
Balance Ordinary A/c. 1/6/39 .. .. .	14	17	8	Subscription to "Numismatic" .. .. .	18	6		
Cash on hand 1/6/39 ..	1	10	0	Cash in hand 31/5/40 ..	15	0		
Subscriptions received	14	15	0	Balance P.O.S.B. Trust A/c 31/5/40 .. .. .	64	6	8	
Interest P.O.S.B. Trust Account to 1/4/40 ..	1	17	2	Balance Ordinary Account 31/5/40 .. .. .	10	18	9	
Interest Ordinary A/c. to 1/4/40 .. .. .		7	9					
		<u>95</u>	<u>17</u>			<u>95</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>1</u>

(Sgd) G. C. SHERWOOD,  
Hon. Treasurer.

Examined and found correct:  
(sgd) ~~D~~ CHE WYND, Hon. Auditor.

CENTENNIAL MEDAL ACCOUNT This account was not finalised at the end of the year, but is slightly in credit. All silver medals have been sold, but approximately 200 bronze medals, at 3s.6d. remain to be sold. These may be purchased through the larger post offices. A sub-committee is formulating a scheme for the disposal of these medals. Suggestions from members would be welcomed. Members are asked to assist sales in their centres by asking jewellers and others to display medals in shop windows. Authority for the release of specimens for display may be obtained through Mr. H.D.Ferguson, 39 North Terrace, Wellington.

ANNUAL MEETING: Monday, 29th July. Election of Officers. Members are asked to invite visitors.

EMERGENCY FINANCE REGULATIONS: Subject to final confirmation by Treasury, members of the Society in Wellington are not listing genuine numismatic specimens.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

REPORT of 63rd (9th ANNUAL) MEETING, 29th JULY, 1940.

The Ninth Annual Meeting of the Society was held at the Turnbull Library on the 29th July. Mr. Johannes Andersen, M.B.E., F.R.S.N.Z., President, occupied the Chair. Apologies for absence were received from Professor J. Rankine Brown and Archdeacon G. H. Gavin, F.R.N.S., Vice-Presidents. The Minutes of the previous Annual Meeting were confirmed.

The work of the Society was reviewed by Mr. Johannes Andersen, Mr. A. Quinnell, Mr. H. D. Ferguson and Mr. A. Sutherland. Satisfaction was expressed at the continued strength of the membership and the success that had attended the efforts of the Society during the Centennial year.

OVERDUE SUBSCRIPTIONS: Attention was drawn to outstanding subscriptions £46, and Mr. H.D. Ferguson stated that in view of increased cost of sending out reports, members be asked to co-operate by remitting overdue subscriptions. Members valued the reports which were well worth the modest subscription of 5/-. After one month the names of unfinancial members should be removed from the roll. The Treasurer reported that after the recent reminder subscriptions were coming in well and that the absence of earlier reminders was due, in part, to the amount outstanding.

CENTENNIAL MEDALS: The Hon. Secretary reported that there were 171 bronze medals (at 3/6d.) on hand and that all silver medals (at 7/6d.) had been sold. Mr. M. Hornblow reported that it had been decided to permit members to order silver medals until end of August, after which the dies were to be marked and placed in Dominion Museum. Mr. Sutherland stated that Mr. H.G. Williams of Dunedin had some silver and bronze medals for disposal. Gifts of medals to Museums and Hon. Corresponding Members would have to be considered. Efforts would be made to dispose of the balance before the end of the year. At the invitation of Mr. H.G. Mayer, members of the Society had, from time to time, visited his works and witnessed the interesting process of striking centennial medals. The number of processes and the modern press impressed all who were able to witness the work in progress.

The Annual Report and Balance Sheet were adopted unanimously.

Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:- Patron, the Rt. Hon. Lord Galway; honorary life patron, the Rt. Hon. Viscount Bledisloe; president, Mr. Johannes C. Andersen; vice-presidents, Messrs. J.C. Entrican (Auckland), E.K. Cameron (Hawera), Archdeacon G.H. Gavin (New Plymouth), S.R. McCallum (Wanganui), N. Solomon (Napier), the Rev. D.C. Bates, J.W. Heenan, C.M.G., Professor J. Rankine Brown, Sir James Elliott, E. Gilbertson, (Wellington), J.R. Ward (Hokitika), P. Watts Rule (Timaru), Mr. Willi Fels, C.M.G., Colonel G. Barclay (Dunedin), H.G. Williams (Dunedin), and J. Robertson (Invercargill); council, Messrs. H.G. Mayer, H.R. Ford, A. Quinnell, W.D. Ferguson, J. Berry; hon. treasurer, Mr. G.C. Sherwood; hon. secretary, Mr. Allan Sutherland; hon. assistant secretary, Mr. M. Hornblow; hon. auditor, Mr. W. Chetwynd.

In returning thanks for his re-election as President, Mr. Johannes Andersen said he always enjoyed attending meetings of the Society, not only because of the friendly and enthusiastic atmosphere that prevailed, but also because of the good standard of the papers read and the vitality shown by the Society in all matters relating to numismatics.

Good wishes for the continued success of the Society were read from Viscount Bledisloe, Sir John Hanham, Bt., (who has rejoined his regiment in England), Mr. C.A. Priaux, President of the Numismatic Society of South Australia, Mr. J. Hunt Deacon, Adelaide, Mr. A.S. Kenyon, Melbourne, Messrs. Owen Fleming and C.J.V. Weaver, Sydney.

The Gilbertson collection of unlaminated coins (mostly Roman, Greek, Turkish and Continental, silver and bronze) will be submitted for offers at next meeting. A series of bronze English medals submitted by Mr. H.G. Williams, Dunedin, was held over for offers at next meeting.

EXHIBITS: Mr. P. Watts Rule, Timaru, submitted a large-scale illustration of a medal, in gold coloured metal, depicting a Czecho-Slovakian soldier,

in chains, with a wife and child weeping. These medals were recently struck in New York for relief funds and the design, powerfully executed, tells its own tale. (9/6d. H.G. Williams, Dunedin).

Advice has been received that the N.Z. Institute of Architect's gold medal for 1939 has been awarded to Mr. P. Watts Rule, F.N.Z.I.A., (Vice-President, Timaru), for the surgical block at the Timaru Public Hospital. It was decided to ask Mr. Watts Rule to submit a paper on the history of the award and a description of the medal which is awarded annually for the most notable building erected.

Lists of Foreign coins circulating in New Zealand until 1850, and available for sale by Mr. H. G. Williams, Dunedin, will be submitted to next meeting for possible inclusion in next report.

In a short paper on "THE SIAMESE TICAL OR BAHT", Mr. Hassell Martin said, "Siam is a small kingdom of South Eastern Asia lying between Burma (which has been prominent in the news of late) and French Indo-China. In 1928 the Siamese Currency Act was passed which established the Unit of Currency as the Baht or, at it is usually referred to in English, the Tical. It is worth, at the present rate of exchange, about 1/8d., but with world conditions as they are it is doubtful whether this is a stable figure. Siam went off the Gold Standard in May, 1932, and the present medium of exchange is paper money. Actually paper has been in circulation since 1902 but not to such an extent as is the case today. Silver Ticals or "bullet" money in the form exhibited were struck until about 1850, when the form of the Siamese coinage was changed from stamped circular or bean-shaped pieces of silver to metal discs similar to European issues and bearing portraits of the reigning sovereign. The issues of modern coins are in gold, silver and copper. The three specimens exhibited bear two stamps indented on them. The larger stamp is the insignia of the reigning monarch and the smaller one (which is the same on all three) is probably indicative of the value, in this case the unit, one tical. This unit is divided into fractional parts, the half tical known as a two salung piece and the quarter tical or one salung. Actually provision was made for 10 tical piece in gold but to the best of my knowledge this was never struck. The coin, if it can so be called, appears to have been formed by squeezing together the extremities of a bean-shaped piece of silver, and although it has been suggested that it was cast in its present shape, I think this hardly likely. This bullet shape is peculiar, to our way of thinking, and there appears to be so little utility in the form that one would think that some primitive form must be preserved in it, the exact origin of which is lost to us. How long the Siamese have used this type of currency prior to their conversion to modern types would be difficult to ascertain, but the East is long-enduring and has always been strongly resistant to innovations, at any rate up to the end of last century. We all wish that a certain Eastern Country not far from the land of the tical, had not been so keen to adopt our ideas and thus have saved us our present misgivings as to her next move!

"The earliest form of currency, before the advent of the disc type was the bullion type which consisted of crude lumps of precious metal, the values of which were determined by weight and it may well be that these ticals are a preservation of this early type. I had one of these specimens weighed and it is 238 grains. The weight should be 230 grains approximately but the little extra is probably accounted for by the presence of solder which I will explain later. The quarter tical weighs approximately 58 grains, which seems to indicate that there is something in the weight theory. Incidentally the unit of weight in Siam is also called the tical and equals 15 grains. The word "tical" is very like the Biblical tekell which conveys the meaning of weight or weighing as in the oft-quoted "Mene Mene tekell upharsen". It is also interesting to note that the shekel weighed 219 grains which is not much less than the tical but this may be purely a coincidence.

"As a matter of topical interest, you may be amused to hear how I came to possess the specimens before you. They were given to me by a relative who was an officer in the marine branch of the Anglo-Saxon Petroleum Company. Ticals were greatly prized by the officers of the oil tankers, of whom he was one, and they had shanks soldered to them and used them as buttons for their white drill suits. If you will examine these you will see where the shanks have been filed off, leaving, however, a little of the solder behind and this accounts for the extra weight I mentioned.

"If any member has specimens of the modern Siamese currency, I should very much like to see them. I am also keen to date my specimens and would greatly appreciate assistance in doing this." Mr. Hassell Martin was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his interesting paper.

A paper to be read on behalf of Mr. J. B. Ward, Hokitika, was held over until next meeting.

ENGRAVERS OF DIES FOR BRITISH COINS, was the subject of a short paper by Mr. H. D. Ferguson, who based his remarks on an article by Wm. G. Rayson, Chicago, appearing in "The Numismatist" for April, 1939:-  
"In the latter part of the eighteenth century the private mint of Boulton & Watt of Birmingham had so far advanced their steampower machines for coining that they were employed by the Government to strike coins: the best known of these were probably the copper 2d. and penny, commonly called the 'cartwheels'. The bust of George III finely drawn and engraved, the dies being made by Conrad Kuckler, a Flemish artist. Many engravers of merit made their beginning at this mint, from which came all British colonial coins and the first coins of the U.S.A. even.

"Boulton, above mentioned, is identical with the Matthew Boulton referred to by Mr. Johannes Andersen in his paper on Cook Medals of December, 1938, and the Boulton & Sons of Birmingham mentioned on page 69 of Mr. Sutherland's 'Coinages of Early New Zealand', and Watt is identical with the famous inventor of the steam engine. According to the Encyclopaedia Britannica, Matthew Boulton (1728-1809) was a manufacturer and engineer born at Birmingham. At Soho two miles north of Birmingham, he undertook the manufacture of artistic objects in metal, and also the reproduction of oil-paintings by a mechanical process in which he was associated with Francis Eginton who subsequently achieved a reputation as a worker in stained and enamelled glass. About 1767 Boulton made the acquaintance of James Watt. In 1775 Boulton & Watt formally entered into partnership (after date of Cook medal 1772) and Boulton devoted all the capital he possessed or could borrow to making the steam engine a commercial success. It was owing to Boulton that in 1775 an Act of Parliament was passed extending the term of Watt's patent of the steam engine of 1769 to 1799. In 1788 Boulton turned his attention to coining-machinery and erected at Soho a complete plant with which he struck coins for Sierra Leone and the East India Companies and for Russia, and in 1797 produced the new copper coinage for Great Britain. In the same year he took out a patent in connection with raising water on the principal of the hydraulic ram. The two partners retired from business in 1800 which they handed over to their sons, Matthew Robinson Boulton and James Watt Junior. Boulton died at Birmingham in 1809. The partnership was a happy one; Boulton left the work of inventing to Watt, in whose genius he had the fullest confidence, while he attended to the business side. Watt retired to Heathfield Hall, near Birmingham, and devoted his time to mechanical pursuits and died 1819."

Mr. Ferguson added that much of the so-called "cartwheel" money of the early part of last century was struck in the Soho Mint. The Russian 5 Roubles, the George III Copper twopence, and the emergency money of England struck from Spanish dollars in 1804 were cases in point, and the greater part of the copper money of Great Britain until 1860 was struck in the Soho Mint.

Mr. Ferguson was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his interesting paper.

Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Allan Sutherland on their recent marriage were extended on behalf of the Society by the President, (Mr. Johannes Andersen), Sir James Elliott (Vice-President) and others.

At the conclusion of the business section of the meeting, all present were the guests of Mr. Johannes Andersen (President) to a delightful supper.

NEXT MEETING: will be held on MONDAY EVENING NEXT (26th August) when papers will be read by Professor Rankine Brown, LL.D. and Mr. J.B. Ward of Hokitika.

Gleneagles Flats,  
The Terrace,  
Wellington.

A. SUTHERLAND,  
Hon. Secretary.

P.S. The President wishes to add that the return of the Secretary from a short holiday with his usual animated "obverse" and a new charming "reverse" added a touch of gaiety to the meeting which was as agreeable as it was unexpected.

NUMISMATIC HISTORY OF NEW ZEALAND

Efforts are being made to complete the printing of this work before the end of the Centennial year. THE ISSUE WILL NECESSARILY BE LIMITED TO 150 COPIES, COMPRISING SIX PARTS (ILLUSTRATED), 300 PAGES, SUITABLY BOUND AND INDEXED, AND THESE COPIES WILL BE NUMBERED AND AUTOGRAPHED. Approval has been given to melt the type of the first three parts already printed. A few extra copies of Parts IV, V, and VI will be separately bound in paper, to meet orders already placed.

Approximately 100 of the 150 copies of the bound volume comprising the six parts of the NUMISMATIC HISTORY OF NEW ZEALAND have already been ordered, and in order to enable the printing work to be proceeded with all those who have ordered copies are asked to forward as soon as possible 22/6d. which is less than the actual cost of printing, plus postage. Members of the N.Z. Numismatic Society and others, may place orders for additional copies up to the end of October, after which the price of the remaining copies will be advanced to 35/-. The price of the separate parts IV, V, and VI, in paper, will be 5/6d. each, including postage. THE NUMISMATIC HISTORY OF NEW ZEALAND comprises a history from 1840 to 1940 of the following subjects, suitably illustrated:-

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| I. Gift Exchange and Barter.               | IV. Paper Currency 1840-1940.                   |
| II. Foreign Coinages of Early New Zealand. | V. Medals, Historic, Commemorative and General. |
| III. Tokens of New Zealand.                | VI. New Zealand Coins.                          |

It is proposed to include at the end of the work a short history of the New Zealand Numismatic Society, a list of the names and addresses of members, and their specialties, where known, so that members may correspond and exchange specimens with others interested in the same fields. When remitting, members should give their addresses and specialties for inclusion in this part. Receipts will be posted immediately on receipt of remittances. A form is appended for orders and remittances, and members and booksellers are asked to return these without delay so that the completed volume may be made available before the end of the Centennial year.

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ORDER FORM.

To Hon. Secretary,  
N.Z. Numismatic Society,  
12 Gleneagles Flats,  
69 The Terrace,  
WELLINGTON, C.1.

I enclose 22/6d., being payment for one copy of "NUMISMATIC HISTORY OF NEW ZEALAND".

I also enclose ..... for Parts .....  
already ordered.

NAME .....

NUMISMATIC SPECIALTY .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

REPORT OF THE 64th MEETING, 26th AUGUST 1940

PROPAGANDA ON COINS was the subject of a paper read by Professor J. Rankine Brown before the 64th meeting of the Society. Mr. Johannes Andersen, M.B.E., presided over a good attendance of members.

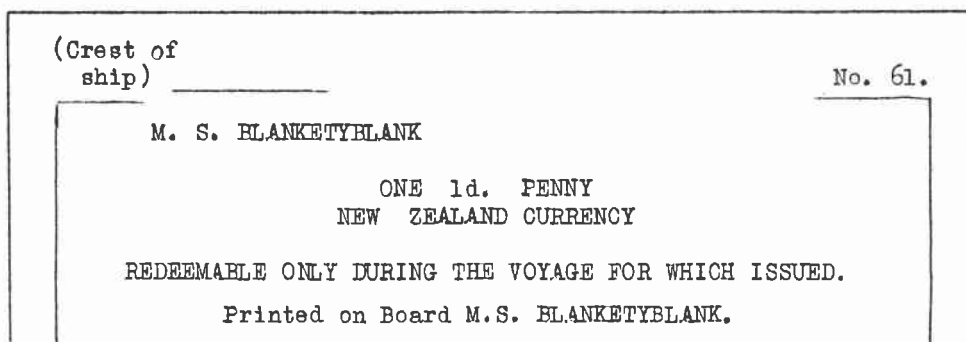
Interesting reports from the Australian Numismatic Society, the Numismatic Society of New South Wales, and the Numismatic Society of South Australia, as well as "Money Talks," published by the Canadian Numismatic Art Society, were tabled for the inspection of members.

At the request of Mr. E. Gilbertson, the unclassified extra coins from the collection of the late Charles Gilbertson, Invercargill, were presented to the Southland Museum and the Society has been advised that the collection will be assured of an honoured place in the new building.

In association with the British Numismatic Societies, the Lord Mayor of London has organised sales of coins, tokens and medals on behalf of the Red Cross and St. John Fund, and any members prepared to assist are invited to send specimens to the V.Rev. Edgar Rogers, Gloucester House, 149 Park Lane, London, W.1.

A fine collection of New Zealand tokens, including some rarities, has been offered for sale in aid of the patriotic funds, and it is hoped to include with this report a list of the specimens and conditions of sale so that all members will have sufficient time to submit offers in writing; also, particulars of New Zealand foreign coins submitted by Mr. H. G. Williams will be listed.

TROOPSHIP CARD MONEY: Mr. G. C. Sherwood exhibited two interesting specimens of coloured card money (threepence and one penny) issued on a troopship which carried members of the first echelon to Egypt. The penny blue card is inscribed as follows:-



The reverse bears the ship's rubber stamp in red, and date. Efforts are being made to secure sets of this card money for sale to members, all proceeds to be credited to Patriotic Funds.

NEW MEMBERS were elected as follows:- Mr. David Drummond Anderson, 43 Bolton Street, Wellington, and Mrs. Allan Sutherland.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN NUMISMATICS: All silver, copper, and aluminium-bronze coins have been withdrawn in Germany, and zinc coins, from Polish zinc, have been issued for 1, 5, and 10 pfennigs: Southern Rhodesia is issuing notes for the first time: Emergency paper money in large quantities, and tin cents and half-cents have been issued in Indo-China. The Bank of England is issuing new notes of different colour combinations. Malta has issued currency notes for 2s.6d. to be legal tender to £2.

AN EXHIBIT of British medals was submitted by Mr. R. Johnson on behalf of Mr. H. F. Norman.

ERRATA: Page 123, Overdue subscriptions - "one month" should read "one year." Page 124 - "Engravers of dies for British coins" should read "the Soho Mint," and "Roubles" should read "Kopeks."

On behalf of members, Mr. Johannes C. Andersen presented to Mr. and Mrs. Allan Sutherland a piece of silver on the occasion of their recent marriage, and Mr. Sutherland suitably responded.

NEXT MEETING: Monday next, 30th September, 1940.

In a paper on COINS AS A MEANS OF PROPAGANDA, Professor J. Rankine Brown said: "As has been my practice with such papers as I have read before the Society, I confine my remarks tonight to the coinage of Greece and Rome. It was only during the period of the Roman Empire that coins were used for propaganda purposes. I shall refer briefly to Greek coinage merely by way of contrast. I doubt if the more modern European coinages have been used for propaganda at all - the only instance I can think of in our own coinage as at all parallel to the practice of the Roman Empire is the Fidei Defensor which has been dropped from our own and other Dominion coinage, but which still appears on the coinage of the Mother Country. There was also some little propaganda during the Commonwealth period.

"Propaganda on coins can be carried out by the use of some design or device on the coins, but mainly and most naturally by lettering. Neither of these methods was employed by the Greeks or indeed could be employed. Each issuing city or state among the Greeks had its characteristic design or trade mark on the reverse, the design on the obverse being almost invariably the head of a God or Goddess until the establishment of the great Eastern monarchies after the collapse of the Empire of Alexander, following his death in 324 B.C., when the monarchs began to put their portraits on the coins which they issued. There was very little lettering on Greek coins, just enough to signify the town of issue, like ATH on the coins of Athens, and KOPPA on the coins of Corinth - but even this was not necessary as the device on the reverse was enough to identify the coin. These reverse designs were almost invariable, such as the owl, on the coins of Athens, the Pegasus, or the winged horse, on the coins of Corinth, and the tortoise on the coins of Aegina, and so on. To use coins for propaganda purposes you must vary the device or legend which must signify the event or achievement to which you desire to call attention. The permanence or fixity in the devices on Greek coins was to some extent the natural outcome of a marked feature of all artistic endeavours among the Greeks, and was by no means confined to their coinage. The Greeks, having once adopted the most suitable design for anything, adhered to it, only diverging slightly and within definite limits from the norm. That is why Greek temples have nothing like the wide variety and extravagance which is visible even during the great period of Gothic architecture in Europe, and in our own attempts at ecclesiastical construction in New Zealand. No Greek temple is exactly the same as any other Greek temple, but all conform to the same type. They have a general similarity and the same is true of Greek tragedy. The same essential similarity, with minor differences, is visible in Greek sculpture of the classical period. The variety which appeared in the Hellenistic age coincided with the collapse of the art. This general desire for uniformity, characteristic of Greek art in the wide sense, may be regarded as one reason for the fixity and permanence of Greek coin design, and the consequent impossibility of using Greek coins for propaganda purposes, but the main reason is something quite different and is based on one of the uses that the Greeks made of their coins. The main object of coins or money is to facilitate the exchange of goods. Greek coins were, of course, used for this purpose, but were also used for profit. Greek states which had access to a supply of cheap and abundant silver - Athens is the most striking instance - used their coins as a means of profit by making them so attractive by reason of their purity and reliability, that they circulated freely in other states, and were even purchased as bullion by the states. This is very obvious in the coins of Corinth which for a long time had control of the Greek trade with the Western Mediterranean and, in several cases, in the Greek cities in the south of Italy. These purchased Corinthian coins and re-stamped them with their own devices. It is well known that modern states treat their stamp issues as a source of revenue and for this reason they vary their stamps from time to time to encourage purchases by stamp collectors and dealers. In New Zealand a special issue of stamps was brought out in connection with a conference of British Chambers of Commerce held in Wellington. We have, of course, the Centennial issue of stamps - issued for a good reason but also a source of profit. The position is entirely different in the case of coins when fixity and permanence is essential if the coins are to become a general or universal medium of exchange. That is why Athenian coins adhered to the old and archaic type long after the other Greek cities had produced more artistic coins, for the Athenian coinage was the general medium of exchange throughout the Aegean, and beyond it, for a long period. This general fixity in the types of Greek coins made them quite unsuitable for propaganda. The distribution is mainly commercial, and their historical evidence is very slight. The copying of certain types of Greek coins by foreign or barbarous peoples, for instance, is evidence of Greek trading with these peoples. It is well known that the

early coins of Gaul, i.e. France, and of Britain are debased forms of the coins of Philip of Macedon, and the early coins of the Levant and Arabia are copies of Athenian tetradrachmas, showing that Athenian silver flowed east and south, i.e. the Athenian trade.

"In coinage, as in all else, the contrast between Greece and Rome is clear. The Greeks were always a divided people until reduced by the Romans. The great land empire into which the city of Rome grew made a world power out of a single central authority, bringing with it a single central coinage which ultimately put an end to almost all of the old autonomous mints of the Greek states and of other countries embraced by the Roman Empire. The staple metal of Greek currency had been silver, and so it eventually became with the Roman, though that currency started with copper, the Greek drachma was roughly equated in value with the Roman denarius, but here the resemblance ends. Rome ultimately had a complete monopoly of metals and did not need to compete in the world market which she controlled. Trade was easy and not fettered by international animosities. The silver denarius circulated everywhere and was of the same value all over the Empire; its weight and fineness varied little, i.e. from place to place, though it was most scandalously debased in the later empire. Roman coinage throws little light on economic conditions as the study of Greek coinage does. On the other hand, it is of very great value from a political and historical point of view, just the opposite of what is the case with the coinage of Greece.

"Originally the Roman coinage was of a fixed type like that of the Greek states. The devices were, on the obverse, the head of Roma - Rome - and, on the reverse, Diana driving in a two-horse chariot. But gradually personal or abstract references make their way in foreshadowing the propaganda of the Empire. Under the Republic the moneyers began to put on the reverse designs allusions to their family history, and personifications appeared such as Honour, Virtue and Piety. This was always a feature of Roman religion, which tended to substitute abstractions for the concrete and personal deities of the Greeks.

"Propaganda proper began in the first century B.C. when Sulla and Pompey, as commanders of armies serving abroad - and one ought to remember that a Roman army was the army of a general commanding it and not the army of the state - began to strike coins themselves for the payment of their troops. On these coins they do not repeat the types of the coin struck at Rome itself; they select instead types and legends, i.e. inscriptions and references to their own history or achievements. It was not a long step forward when Caesar not only reserved to himself the right of coining gold and silver, but in the last year of his life received the right to have his portrait placed on the coinage. The transition from this to the fully-developed coinage of his nephew, Octavian or Augustus, the real founder of the Roman Empire, and the Imperial coinage generally, was easily effected. The final result was, therefore, that the Imperial coinage served not only the end of currency but most of the uses of the modern medal. The accession of a new emperor, the adoption of a successor, important concessions to Senate or people, the building of temples, roads or harbours, journeys in the provinces, or victories over foreign enemies, are all brought to the public notice on the coins, which thus in a sense played the same part in Roman life as the newspaper and radio do in our own. In this use of the coins as a means of publicity is implied its use as an agent of propaganda. The Emperor ruled by tradition and consent as much as by force; it was most important for him to have public opinion on his side. He therefore seized the opportunity which the issue of coins presented of representing events in the light in which he desired them to appear, and in announcing not only his actual achievement, but also his hopes and policy.

"The coinage of copper was reserved for the Senate, a body which theoretically was free from Imperial control. During the early Empire the Senate did exercise some choice in the events and policies for commemoration on its copper coins, but this is only true of the early years of the Roman Empire. The Senate very soon fell into line so that a complete unity of direction developed throughout the earlier coinage. The study of the coin types of the Empire is a very big subject, and I can only illustrate what I mean by a few references from the early Empire. Augustus was not only a skilled and cunning politician, but also a master of propaganda. Thus, to take only his foreign policy, he commemorates the recovery of the East by the types of Asia Capta and the crocodile of Egypt. He represents his great diplomatic triumphs over Parthia and



Armenia in 19 B.C., when he recovered the standards lost by Crassus in 53, by the kneeling Parthian offering a standard, and by the suppliant Armenia, his wars in Phaetia and Noricum, and on the German frontier, in the type of the soldiers acclaiming him as Imperator, of the barbarian offering a hostage and the German kneeling to surrender a standard.

"In 28 B.C. Augustus, or rather Octavian, as he was then called - the title Augustus came later - prepared for the constitutional changes he had in mind by styling himself on his coins Libertatis Populi Romani Vindex - champion of the constitutional freedom of the Roman people. The secular games for which Horace composed the official hymn herald a new age, roads are built, the Emperor falls ill and recovers and makes his various plans for the succession to the throne, all foiled as a matter of fact. These and other events are recorded on coins either by legend, device or by both.

"This brief enumeration will give some idea of what I mean by Imperial propaganda. All this propaganda centred round the glorification of the ruler, and a glance at the coins of any reign will show what exactly were the achievements for which the princeps claimed credit.

"But matters went further than this, for the Emperor not only claimed credit for what he had himself done, but for the whole administrative record, both past and present. During the reign of Tiberius, the stepson and son-in-law and successor of Augustus, on the bronze coinage of the Senate there are references not only to the earthquake in Asia, the illness and recovery of the Emperor's mother Livia, the military exploits of his nephew, Germanicus, but to such general ideas as Justitia, Pietas, Clementia, Moderatio, words which may be taken to sum up the character of the age as the official mind wished it to be regarded.

"Passing over Caligula who used his coinage mainly to advertise his direct descent from Augustus, whose great grandson he was, we come to Claudius. This Emperor who was in many ways a pedant and has often been likened to James I of England, and VI of Scotland, was a man of original mind who started several new ideas. He advertised his family and the exploits of his reign in the usual way, but instead of bare words, such as Justice, Piety, Clemency and so on, we find Constantia Augusti, Pax Augusta, Victoria Augusti, Libertas Augusta, and so on, the result of the addition of the epithet being to imply that these general blessings were due to the policy of the Emperor; it is implied that owing to the Emperor's steadfastness and victories his subject enjoyed these blessings.

"A further development in this coin propaganda technique is made when the Emperor gives expression not only to past achievements but also to his future programme. His coins give expression to what he expects or desires to happen. This appears to have commenced during the year of chaos, 68, when, after Nero's death, there were three emperors in one year, for on the coins issued by the temporary authorities in the provinces words such as Bonus Eventus - happy outcome - Salus Generis Humani - salvation of the human race - appeared, and are really prayers that such results should emerge from the confusion. Vespasian, by becoming Emperor in 78, put an end to this confusion and on his coins and on those of his son Titus, appear such expressions as Fides Publica - national credit - Securitas Populi Romani. Also the conquest of Judaea, the great exploit of Vespasian and Titus, is recorded by types of the captured province mourning.

"Titus was followed by his younger brother Dimitian, a tyrant who brought chaos into political life again. On the coins of his successor, the weak but well-meaning Nerva, we have such hints at insecurity as Concordia Exercitium, Salus Publica and Pax Augusti. There are also references to such reformatory measures as a corn dole, reliefs in the system of postal service and the developments of the alimentary system for the upkeep of poor children, for we must not make the mistake of imagining that social services of which we make much nowadays is a modern, much less a New Zealand expedient to alleviate the troubles of the world.

"Trajan, Nerva's vigorous successor, asserted once more the strength of the Principate. He was a great warrior and conqueror and returned to the Augustan precedent of recording little but definite achievements of which there were plenty. The type of Arabia with her camel records the addition of

that province in 106. With Trajan's successor, Hadrian, a happy if somewhat somnolent reign, we find a return to the types like Tranquillitas, Patientia, Indulgentia, honour is paid to the *Locupletator orbis terrarum* - the vice-gerent of God on Earth by the *Providentia Deorum*. Hadrian's reign really fixed the propaganda programme, and from this suggestive and often false idealism, Imperial propaganda did not afterwards depart to any marked extent."

Passing on to a review of the history of the Roman Empire from 158 A.D. to 337, up to the death of Constantine, Professor Rankine Brown said that Constantine was one of the greatest and most famous of Roman Emperors, the founder of Constantinople destined to take the place of Rome as capital of the Roman Empire, and the Emperor who brought the Empire together again under one rule after a period of divided sovereignty. He was one of the world's greatest military commanders, but was best known for the favour he showed to Christianity which became almost a state religion, and for that reason he was a man who changed the whole course of world history. How far Constantine was himself a Christian is a subject of dispute; he did many un-Christian things in the course of his reign. He was baptised only on his deathbed, but there is no doubt that he not only put a stop to persecution of individual Christians but showed the religion great favour and sought to advance it in many ways. The vast majority of his subjects, and certainly all the important elements in the Empire, were pagan. But it appears that he saw in Christianity a means of keeping the Empire together. His ideal was certainly one state, and possibly one religion, and this explains his anxiety to heal the two great heresies which divided Christianity during his reign - the Donatist heresy in Africa and the more widespread Arian heresy. The change in his own beliefs are shown on his coins.

As the son of Constantius, Constantine represented the dynasty that was under the protection of Hercules, and other and leading dynasty being under the protection of Jupiter. When Constantine was acclaimed Emperor by his soldiers on the death of his father in 306 it was Hercules who on the coins of his first four years of his reign was honoured as his guardian deity under the title of *Conservator and Comes*. In 310, in order to substantiate his claims to the Empire, Constantine circulated the story that he was the direct descendant through his father of the Emperor Claudius Gothicus. Claudius was a sun-worshipper, so that now *Sol Invictus* - the unconquered sun - became the Emperor's tutelary deity. This we may regard as a step towards Christianity, for sun-worshippers were at least monotheists - i.e. they believed in one God. After this date *Sol Invictus* is the common legend on his coins. About this period Galerius, the ruler of the East and an arch persecutor of Christians, died, and for this or some other reason Constantine was led to the opinion that the Christian God was the most powerful supernatural agent on the earth. When this change in the view of Constantine took place is not known but it is certain that he was convinced that it was under the banner of Christ that he would conquer his enemy, Maxentius. Constantine is said to have had a vision in which, athwart the sun, he saw the Cross inscribed with the words in Greek "By this conquer," and this subsequently appeared in a Latin form on coins. When his army was before the walls of Rome, Constantine was warned in a dream to put the Christian monogram on the shields of his soldiers.

It was in the belief that the Christian God was on his side that Constantine fought and won the epoch-making battle of the Milvian Bridge, 311 A.D. On the triumphal arch that still stands between the Palatine Hill and the Colosseum, decorated by carvings removed from earlier arches, we read that Constantine won his victory partly by his own greatness and partly *Instinctu Divinitatis*. Constantine never entirely gave up the solar legend on his coins, and that is one of the inconsistencies of his complicated character. It was not until 325 that the solar legend disappeared entirely from the Imperial coinage and the *labarum* or Christian monogram took its place. The solar religion had many analogies with Christianity. The Church had long thought of Christ as the Light of the World, as the Sun of Righteousness rising with healing on his wings. The day of the sun was the day of the resurrection. Further, sun-worship was innocuous in that it was entirely free from degrading rites and ceremonies of Eastern religions. All this has as much to do with the historical as with the propaganda value of coins. The propaganda used on the coinage of Roman Emperors has therefore contributed to their very great historical value. The propaganda that we in New Zealand get in floods over the air, the uneducated Romans got by means of their coins, but not so blatantly but quite as convincingly, because they had their coins always before them, for they used them every day. Professor Rankine Brown was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his learned and interesting paper.

NEW ZEALAND TOKENS SUBMITTED FOR OFFERS AS A LOT, OR INDIVIDUALLY.

Numbers are those given in Allan Sutherland's "Tokens of N.Z."

H - - Holed  
B - - Bad  
P - - Poor

M - - - Mediocre  
F - - - - Fine  
VF - - Very Fine

102 Alliance Tea Co. Ch.	2 F	127 Kirkcaldie & Stains, Wgn.	3 F, 2 VF
103a Anderson D, Wellington	1 M	127a ditto.	1 M
104 Ashton, H., Auckland	1 M	128 Levy, Lipman, Wgn.	1 P (b)
104b " " 1 H, 1 M		129 Licensed Victuallers Assn.	2 F
104c " " 1 F		132 McCaul, Geo. Thames	3 F
105 Barley, Chas. C. Auck.	1 H	134 Merrington, J. M. & Co.	
" " 2 P, 1 M		(Nelson)	2 H
107 Beven, S. Invercgl.	1 F, 1 VF	135b Milner & Thompson, Chch.	1 M, 2 F
108 Brown & Duthie, N.P.	1 F(h)	135c ditto.	1 F
109 Caro, J. & Co. Chch	1 M	135d ditto.	1 P, 2 F
110 Clark, Archibald, Auck.	1 M	135e ditto.	2 F, 1 VF
111 Clarkson, S. Ch.	1 F	135f ditto.	1 H
111b do. 1 H, 1 P, 1 M, 1 F		135g ditto.	1 M, 1 F
112 Clarkson & Turnbull, Timaru	1 M	136 Morrin & Co. Auckland	1 P, 2 M, 1 F
112b do. do.	1 H	139 Petersen, W. Chch.	1 H, 1 P, 1 F
113a Coombes, Sam., Auck.	2 F	140 ? Pratt, W. Church.	1 M
113b do. do.	1 M	141 ? Reece, Edward, Chch.	1 P (b)
114 Day & Mievill, Dn.	2 H, 2 P	141c ? ditto.	1 P
115 De Carle, E & Co. Dun.	1 M	141d ? (different variety)	1 P
117 Gaisford & Edmonds, Ch.	1 P, 1 M	142 ? Smith, S. Hague	3 M
118 Gilmour, Jn. New Plym.	1 F, 2 VF	143 Somerville, M., Auck.	2 M, 1 F.
119 Gittos, B. Auckland	1 P, 1 M, 1 F	144 Union Bakery Co. Chch.	1 F
120a Gourlay, T.W. & Co, Ch.	1 F	145 United Service Hotel,	
121 Grattan, R, Auck.	1 M, 3 F	(Auckland)	3 P, 1 F
122b $\frac{1}{2}$ d Hall, Henry, Ch.	1 F	145a ditto.	2 F, 1 VF
1d do. do. (34 mm)	3 M, 4 F	146a Wallace, James, Wgn.	1 F
123 ? Hobday & Jobberns, Ch.		147 Waters, Edward, Auck.	1 F
(2 varieties)	2 M	147a ditto	1 P, 1 F
124 Holland & Butler, Auck	1 P, 1 M	149 Prof. Holloway	1 P, 1 M
125 Hurley, J & Co. Wang.	2 M	149a ditto	1 P
125a do. do.	2 F	149b ditto	1 P, 1 F
126 Jones & Williamson, Dun.	2 M	149c ditto	3 F

AUSTRALIAN TOKENS

Numbers are those given in Allan Sutherland's "Tokens of N.Z."

1 Abrahms, Lewis, Tas. 1d	1F	27 McFarlane, J., Melb.	1VF
do. $\frac{1}{2}$ d	3F	28 Marsh Bros., Tas.	1M
2 Andrews, John & Co. Melb.	2F	29 Merry & Bush, Queensland	1M
3 Annard Smith, Melb.	1M	30 Miller Bros., Melb.	1M, 1F
4 Advance Australia	1P	31 Mowbray Lush & Co., Melbourne	1M
5 Booth, J., Melb.	1VF	32 Murray & Christie, Victoria	1F
6 Campbell, Jas. N.S.W.	1P	33 Nokes, James, Melbourne ( $\frac{1}{2}$ d)	1F
7 E. de Carle & Co. Melb.	1F	34 Parker, R., Victoria	1H, 2M
8 do. 1H, 2F		35 "Peace & Plenty", Melb.	1H, 2P, 1M, 2F
9 Flavell Bros. & Co. Sydney	1F	36 Petty, George, Melbourne	1F
10 Fleming, J.G. Tas.	2F	37 Ridler, R.B., Melbourne	1M
11 Friedman, I. Tas.	2M	38 Robinson Bros. & Co. Melbourne	1M
12 Gippsland Hardware	1F	39 Sawyer, J., Queensland	1F
13 Grundy, J.R. Vic.	1M	40 Smith, Peat & Co., Sydney	1M, 1F
14 Hanks & Lloyd, Syd.	2M	41 Stewart & Hemnant, Queensland	1P
15 Harrold Bros., Adelaide	1F	42 Stokes, T. Melbourne, 1d.	1P, 2F
16 Henderson, John, West. Aus.	1F	43 W.H.M. surcharged on T.Stokes, Melb.	1P
17 Henry, R., Tas.	1M	44 A. Walker, surcharged on T. Stokes,	
18 Hide & DeCarle, Melb. 2P, 1M, 1F		(Melbourne)	1P
Do. $\frac{1}{2}$ d	1F	45 Taylor, W.J., Melbourne $\frac{1}{2}$ d	2F
19 Hodgson Bros. Vic. ( $\frac{1}{2}$ )	1F	46 Thrall & Cross, Melbourne $\frac{1}{2}$ d	1F
20 Howell, John, Adelaide	1VF	47 Toogood, A., Sydney	1H(b), 1F
21 Iredale & Co., Sydn.	2P, 1F	48 Warburton, T., Melbourne	1H, 1VF
22 Jarvey, W.A., Tas.	1H	49 Warnock Bros., Melbourne	1M, 1F
23 Josephs, R., Tas.	1VF	50 Weight & Johnson, Sydney	1F
24 Leigh, J.M., Sydney	1P	51 White, Thomas, Tasmania.	1H
25 Lipscombe, H., Tas.	1F	52 Wood, W.H. Tasmania	1F, 1VF
26 Mather, R.A., Tas.	3P		

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

Report of the 65th Meeting - 30th September, 1940.

THE PROPOSED NICKEL COINAGE OF AUSTRALIA and SOME MEMORIES OF A COIN COLLECTOR were the subjects of two short papers read before the 65th Meeting of the Society. Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, M.B.E., President, occupied the chair. A cordial welcome was extended to Mr. A. J. McPherson of Timaru, who is now at the Trentham Military Camp. An interesting report on the activities of Australian numismatic societies was read from Mr. C.J.V. Weaver of Sydney. A series of reports from various Australian Numismatic Societies was tabled, also "Money Talks", the printed monthly journal of the Canadian Numismatic Art Society.

COIN EVENING. It was decided to hold a special coin evening on MONDAY, 21st OCTOBER, to give members an opportunity to acquire specimens from the New Zealand and Australian token collection submitted for disposal for patriotic fund purposes. Written offers, or instructions to purchase, may be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. G. C. Sherwood, 103 Willis Street, Wellington, C.I., who is not a token collector, and who has consented to act on behalf of members outside Wellington. Other members may also be deputed to act. Silver and bronze Foreign coins of the types circulating in New Zealand until 1850 will also be submitted at the coin evening, on behalf of Mr. Williams, Dunedin, and members may submit written orders to Mr. Sherwood.

As the last Monday in October is Labour Day, the ordinary meeting of the Society has been advanced to 4th November.

"SOME MEMORIES OF A COIN COLLECTOR" was the subject of a short paper by Mr. J. B. Ward (Vice President), Hokitika, and read by Mr. W. C. Chetwynd. He said, "My first collection of coins - a small boy's treasure consisting of a "Sou" of Napoleon III, an "ore", a farthing, and a few other trifles which were kept in a tortoiseshell snuffbox - were stolen through my room window. The loss of the coins did not grieve me overmuch but the tortoiseshell snuffbox was mourned for many a long day. From then on my interest in coins was confined to a Bank of England dollar which drew me like a magnet to a case of curios in my Grandfather's best room whenever I visited his home. The years passed and in due course I became a Bank Clerk and made my first purchase of a coin, a Kruger sovereign in 1900, and that started me collecting oddities that came my way as a Teller. A small collection purchased in Christchurch and another small lot given by a friend who had travelled, brought me up to about 250 specimens of what one authority calls 'foreign waste.'"

About 1910-11 I purchased a set of Everyman's Atlases, containing well-illustrated articles on the coins of England, Asia, Australia, America and Africa, and this added considerably to my interest in them.

My fate as a collector was finally sealed when, after a discussion on half farthings, I wrote to England for one and received a gift of a set of 14 and also a catalogue from Mr. Daniels - that settled it completely. I promptly gave up smoking and decided to spend £5 or so every year on coins instead - smoking didn't agree with me so 'twas no sacrifice - but month by month that list of temptations came along and nearly every month an order went back, every time asking for some British coins specifying good portraits, and frequently I obtained one of his collections, or a foreign coin that took my fancy, and occasionally a reference book.

Here are a few of the incidents which occurred during my collecting:-

- (1) Looking around a general store here which was being pulled down and finding myself treading upon a plate of Siege pieces of Charles I. Of course I fossicked round, and was lucky enough to recover most of the 42 plates of "Fokes's Coins" covering William I to George II, including 2 plates of Scottish coins, James VI to William III, but unfortunately no trace of the letterpress.
- (2) Ordering 'Monnaie Obsidionale' with memories of Prescotts 'Peru' and hazy forms of Incas, with their obsidian weapons, in my mind and getting a copper coin of Antwerp instead!
- (3) Waiting to be served in a stationer's shop and idly turning over the pages of a cheap Ladies' Weekly till I came to the grim tragedy of red tape which befell the original of the graceful and vigorous sower on the obverse of French silver coins.
- (4) Receiving a request from the Greymouth Collector of Customs for duty on a consignment of 'Fancy goods' from Mr. Daniels. He said consignment comprised Bullet, came, and hat money

from Siam and Manilla, and trade bead-rings from West Africa, and a couple of glazed China coins. (5) My one, and alas! only attendance at a meeting of the Society.

I have found coin collecting very far indeed from being a dry-as-dust scientific study. Coins have far too intimate a connection with our daily lives, even in these days of Reserve Bank Notes and cheques, to be without interest for their associations apart from their beauty or intrinsic value. They are durable records, not only of the skill and artistry of their designers, diesinkers and coiners, but of much of the Religion, History (both political and natural) and Economics of their day. Love and hate, Generosity and Greed, Fidelity and Treachery, Courage and Despair, every Godlike virtue, every human weakness and many a diabolical crime have expressed themselves in the passing of a coin. Fortunes have changed by the tossing of them.

So, may I, in conclusion, say that if Collectors will, in addition to valuing their specimens for their perfect condition, or their rarity, find out for themselves the human interest behind their coins, i.e., the lives and customs of the people who used them, the history of the Kings, or the mythology of the gods portrayed upon them or the heraldry of their shields, they will open to themselves a new gate to the knowledge of mankind."

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Ward for his interesting paper.

In a paper on THE SUGGESTED NICKEL COINAGE FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA, Mr. Owen Fleming of Sydney, said, "Nickel, for use in coinage has, at different times, been considered for the lower denominations of currencies throughout the World. Economy has enforced the use of this metal in some countries, even to the replacing of silver pieces. On this subject let me quote a paragraph from 'Australasian Coins and Tokens' by Dr. Arthur Andrews, (1921);

'Much work has been done in Melbourne with a view of producing a smaller and hardier coin than the bronze, either of nickel or other light metal, but no definite decision has yet been made. The production of coins of inferior alloy, owing to the enormous appreciation in the value of silver, has also engaged the attention of the Officials in Melbourne as in other parts of the British Empire.

It would appear that a depreciation in the fineness of the material employed in the production of any coins must eventually lead to a differentiation and possible loss in exchange, especially while the former issues of better alloy remain in circulation.'

Nickel pieces, to replace the bronze penny and halfpenny of the Commonwealth of Australia, had progressed as far as the 'Pattern' stage, but never passed it. In 1919, the Federal Treasurer, Mr. W. A. Watt, conceived the idea of nickel pieces to replace the bronze, and during that year Mr. C. D. Richardson executed designs for pence and halfpence and patterns were struck. With slight alterations, patterns were completed in 1920, and with further alterations again in 1921. These last were forwarded to England for dies to be cut and were again altered; this time the bust on the obverse being changed to Bertram Mackennal's Imperial design. In the meantime the Federal Treasury had suffered a change, and linked with the fact that the Australian Numismatic Society had led the public outcry against the innovation of the square nickel pieces, the proposal lapsed and the 'Patterns' found a resting place in the Museums of the Capital Cities of Australia.

Again in 1937, Mr. R. G. Casey (Federal Treasurer) urged the adoption of a series of nickel coins to replace the bronze, suitably emblematical of Australia, and this received further consideration, but to no avail. Mr. Fleming submitted photos of the obverse and reverse designs proposed with an Australian penny for purposes of comparison of size. The Australian nickel Patterns were after the style adopted for Ceylon in 1910 for a 5 cent piece, square with rounded corners, and were of exactly the same size, i.e. 23/32 inch. Worthy of note is the fact that permission had been sought and granted for the use of the uncrowned head for the King's bust. This was unusual and was not adopted until 1937 under the reign of King George VI. On all pieces exhibited, the inscription has been shortened by discarding the titles 'Defender of the Faith' and 'Emperor of India' as portrayed on our usual coinage by the letters FID, DEF., IND. IMP. On the first piece of 1919 the English

'George' was used in the title, later pieces used the Latin 'Georgivs'.

Halfpence were also patterned for the three years concerned and were about  $\frac{2}{3}$  or  $\frac{3}{4}$  the size of the pence and similar in all respects. These, however, are practically unprocurable.

Descriptions of the pieces are as under:-

1. O. Large uncrowned head to left with date 1919 under bust, inscription encircling bust 'GEORGE V D.G. BRITT: OMN: REX.'  
R. Kookaburra on branch facing right. Above 'AUSTRALIA' in semi-circle and below lower right 'ONE PENNY' in two lines, with slightly smaller lettering.
2. O. Smaller uncrowned head to left with date 1921 under bust, inscription encircling bust 'GEORGIUS V D.G. BRITT: OMN: REX.'  
R. Larger Kookaburra on branch facing right; 'AUSTRALIA' above in semi-circle, 'ONE PENNY' below in one line, lettering all one size.
3. O. Small head (Bertram Mackennal) uncrowned to left with date 1921 under bust, inscription encircling bust, 'GEORGIUS V D.G. BRITT: OMN: REX.'  
R. Large Kookaburra on branch facing right, 'AUSTRALIA' above in semi-circle, 'ONE PENNY' below in one line, lettering all one size."

On the motion of Mr. Allan Sutherland, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Fleming for his interesting paper.

Mr. W. D. Ferguson said that nickel coins had been adopted for 3 and 5 cents in U.S.A. for two generations. There was a world trend towards the use of nickel for coinage.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,

Hon. Secretary.

12 Glenengles Flats,  
69 The Terrace,  
Wellington, C.I.

NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

REPORT OF 66th MEETING - 25th NOVEMBER 1940.

The history and evolution of numbers; Brass Patu used for Barter, and THE NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS GOLD MEDAL, were the subjects discussed at the 66th meeting of the Society. Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, President, occupied the chair. Reports from various Australian Numismatic Societies were tabled. The Hon. Secretary reported that his Numismatic History of New Zealand should be available for distribution at the first meeting in the New Year.

TRANSPORTATION AND DISCOUNT TOKENS: The Hon. Secretary reported that Mr. J.C. Entrican, of Auckland, had obtained two "Safety Travel" tokens used between Thames and Tararu, and one discount token, not previously listed. These are:

- 168a McMILLAN'S RETURN SAFETY. Reverse blank. Copper, oval, 30 mm.
- 168b S. YOUNG'S RETURN SAFETY, Reverse blank. Copper and zinc, oval, 34 mm.
- 183a THE TARANAKI FARMERS COMPANY 20/- 26 mm.

HISTORY AND EVOLUTION OF ALPHABETS AND NUMERALS: Mr. A. Quinnell gave a short address on the history and evolution of alphabets and discussed numerals, leading from the cuneiform, through the Roman to Arabic. The address was illustrated by a series of drawings. An interesting discussion on the curious properties of numbers followed. Mr. Quinnell was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

BRASS PATU USED FOR BARTER: The President, Mr. Johannes Andersen, gave a short address on Brass Patu, which are stated to have been used by Capt. Cook as an article of barter. The address was given as a result of an enquiry by Mr. A.F.M. Paterson, of Timaru, who stated that an American publication declared that Capt. Cook arranged for several brass more to be cast in England, following his first voyage, and that subsequently he used these articles in bartering with natives in the Pacific area. One brass more was found in America, and Mr. Paterson asked whether any had been found in New Zealand. Mr. Johannes Andersen said that on page 84, Vol. 36, Journal of the Polynesian Society, the following note appeared:

"The following extract from an account of Cook's third voyage seems to show that some brass weapons of mere form had been made in England, doubtless for trade purposes, etc., in these parts: "On the 23rd February 1777 in the morning, the old Indian who had harangued the captains when they approached the shore, repaired on board the Discovery and made a present to her captain of a complete stand of their arms . . . and, in return, Capt. Clerke gave him a brass patoo-patoo, made exactly in their fashion and manner, on which were engraved His Majesty's name and arms, the name of the ships, and the date of their departure from England and the business they were upon." Probably a number of these weapons were made and distributed, but we have not heard of any specimens thereof being preserved or found. Of the medals distributed by Capt. Cook, several have been found.

"The trouble with the quotation is that on looking up Cook's Voyages of that date the words do not appear, so that it seems as if the date is incorrect, nor has the correct date been ascertained. Perhaps some reader can supply correct reference. However, going on the words themselves, the late Harry G. Beasley, F.R.A.I., of London, sent the following note on this subject, published in Vol. 36 (1927) p. 297: "My acquaintance with such, extending over a good many years, is that although they exist here and there, but few have come down to the present day. At Oxford is a brass or gun-metal onewa-shaped example, formerly in the Sir Joseph Banks collection. Mr. Balfour has kindly sent me the following particulars - 'This specimen was in the old Pitt-Rivers collection, 1874, and the entry in the old catalogue of the collection, as shown in the Bothnal Green museum, dated 1877, reads - 455, Patoo-pattoo of the same shape (i.e. as basal example) in gun-metal. Made by Sir Joseph Banks to take out to New Zealand, with his arms engraved upon it. - Among the Banks objects at Oxford there is no onewa at all like the shape of the gun-metal one, which, however, may be amongst the Cook specimens found in Banks' house in 1887, and which were sent to Sydney by Sir Saul Samuel.' . . . It will be recalled that Banks went to New Zealand only once - that is, on the first voyage. It is obvious that meres were unknown at that time, and could have been cast in metal only subsequently to the Endeavour's return. It is recorded that Cook took some out as trade objects, and al-

though Banks did not accompany him, it is probable that he was associated with the later voyage, and obtained one of these as a memento. The use of gun-metal, even to-day, is peculiar to the Royal Navy, and it is therefore probable that they were cast in the Royal dockyards for Cook's particular use. In 1907 I secured from a junk-shop three cast-iron meres; two are from the same mould, are  $15\frac{3}{4}$  in. long, and weigh 5-lb. 5-oz. They are somewhat thin in the blade; a thong-hole is provided, and in powerful hands would prove a very dangerous weapon. The third is from a different mould, measures  $14\frac{7}{8}$  in. in length and weighs  $9\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. In section the blade is much thicker than the former two . . . In use it would be a most unserviceable weapon, the balance being bad, while the great weight would retard its utility. All three meres have at one time been painted green to imitate jade.

"References to the use of metal meres by previous writers are rare. Nicholas, Narrative of a Voyage to New Zealand, London, 1817, p. 134, speaks of seeing an iron mere at Whangaroa in the hands of Te Pahi, who was brother to George, a chief frequently mentioned by early writers . . . . Elsdon Best, Dominion Museum Bulletin, No. 4, p. 85, refers to the Tuhoe people grinding iron meres (patupora): Heke is also said to have possessed an iron mere beaten out of an iron bar."

"The shield upon which the Banks arms are engraved is a modification of the shield described as 'heater-shaped,' which is itself a modification of the narrow Norman shield; its shape is that of the modern electric iron; that is, in the sides the curves begin immediately at the ends of the upper side, trend inward gradually for nearly half the depth of the shield, then increasing to meet at the point at the foot. In the drawing in the Journal the width at the top is two inches and the depth of the shield two inches. The shield is divided into four quarters by a 'Cross Humette' - that is, a St. George Cross with its limbs coupé (ending just before they reach the edges of the shield, which means that the foot of the cross is pointed to correspond with the point of the shield. In each quarter is a fleur-de-lis. Above the top of the shield is printed: 'Jos. Banks, Esqr,' and below the point, '1772.' The right-hand and lower lines and curves are thickened throughout the design as shading, each thickened line or curve having an inner light line or curve close to it."

A paper on the NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS GOLD MEDAL was read on behalf of Mr. P. Watts Rule, Vice-President, Timaru. He said:

"Many years ago it was felt by some of the members of the Institute of Architects that it would be desirable to institute the award of a medal annually for the encouragement and recognition of good service to architecture in the Dominion, and in 1913 the Council of the Institute decided to make provision for such an award. A competition was organized among the members of the Institute for a suitable design, and three designs were received. Mr. Alfred Atkins, F.R.I.B.A., who was the President and also the donor of the prize, suggested that the condition requiring six designs as a minimum should be waived, and one prize given. This was agreed to, and the designs were handed to Mr. A. Hamilton, the Curator of the Dominion Museum and an honorary member, to make an award. In selecting design No. 3 as the best, Mr. Hamilton remarked that it was "a very fine design." On the sealed envelopes being opened it was found that Mr. Percy Holst, Associate, of Invercargill, was the winner, and it was then resolved that Mr. Holst's design be adopted for the medal of the Institute, and that Mr. Atkins, in conjunction with Mr. Hamilton, should arrange for the cutting of the dies. The designer of the medal, Mr. Percy Holst, was later killed in action in the Great War.

"The dies for the medal were cut by Mr. W.R. Bock, of Wellington, and the dies and the first medal were presented to the Institute by Mr. Atkins. The war intervened, and nothing further was done until the annual meeting in February, 1926, when it was decided that conditions should be prepared governing the award of the N.Z.I.A. Gold Medal annually to the architect of the building judged to be most deserving of merit among those nominated. Nominations are made on a form issued to members, and any member is entitled to nominate the member who has designed any building coming within the period laid down. As in the setting up of a Jury of Award, the architects most eligible to undertake the task might be among those who most rightly merited the award for their good work, it was considered preferable to ask the parent Institute, the Royal Institute of British Architects, to undertake the work of making the award. The



Council of the R.I.B.A., in response to the request, agreed to undertake the work, and drawings and photographs of the buildings are forwarded to London for adjudication by the Jury of Award which annually makes the award of the London Street Architecture Medal. A condition of the competition is that, with the consent of the owner, a bronze tablet will be affixed to the building for which the Gold Medal is awarded, thus perpetuating the distinction.

"Atkins Prize Essays. Although no arrangement was made in 1913 as to the award of the gold medal, it was arranged that a silver medal for an essay by an Associate of the N.Z.I.A. be awarded to the successful competitor, and a bronze medal for an essay by a student of the Institute in a similar competition.

"List of winners of the N.Z.I.A. Gold Medal: The following members are those who have thus distinguished themselves in the years since the award was established, with the buildings for which the medal was awarded to them:-

- "1927. Messrs. S.W.Fearn and the late Austin Quick - William Booth Memorial Training College, Wellington.
- 1928. Messrs. Gummer and Ford - Remuera Library, Auckland.
- 1929. Messrs. Grierson, Aimer and Draffin - Auckland War Memorial Museum.
- 1930. Mr. S.S.Alleman - Hampton Court Flats, Wellesley Road, Auckland.
- 1931. Messrs. Gummer and Ford - Auckland Railway Station.
- 1932. Messrs. Gray, Young, Morton, and Young - Wellesley Club, Wellington.
- 1933. Messrs. Tole and Massey - St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church, Remuera.
- 1934. Mr. H.W.Hall - St. David's Memorial Church, Cave, South Canterbury.
- 1935. No award, as no entries were forwarded to the R.I.B.A.
- 1936. Mr. K.W.Aimer, - Marina Gardens Apartments, Auckland.
- 1937. Mr. H.L.Massey - Cintra Flats, Auckland.
- 1938. Messrs. Morgan and Massey - Public Library, Whangarei.
- 1939. Mr. P. Watts Rule - Surgical Block, Public Hospital, Timaru.
- 1940. Mr. H.L.Massey - Wellington Provincial Centennial Memorial, Petone.

"Description of medal: Metal - gold. diameter - 39 mm. thickness - 3 mm. weight - 20½ dwt. Obverse: Inside a beaded edge is a circle of raised lettering, THE N.Z. INST / OF ARCHITECTS / INCORPORATED / FOUNDED 1905 divided in the four quarters with keystone shaped panels having a four-pointed star on each. Inside the previous circle in the upper half of medal is an inner circle divided into panels and lettered . ALLIED . TO . THE . R.I.B.A . In the centre is a shield having the field lined out in masonry blocks and charged with seven ancient lamps, each flaming, three in pale and two on either side. The space on either side of the shield is filled in with sprays of fernleaf. The lower portion of the shield is surrounded by an intertwined ribbon having in raised lettering the names of John Ruskin's Seven Lamps of Architecture:

SACRIFICE OBEDIENCE TRUTH  
MEMORY POWER LIFE BEAUTY

Reverse: Inside a grooved edge is a laurel wreath in low relief; inside this the upper portion of the medal is inscribed in raised lettering - THE N.Z.I.A. MEDAL / AWARDED / ...TO... The remainder of the surface is a modelled panel for the name of the recipient and the date of the award, in incised lettering. In the exergue appears in very faint lettering the name of the engraver of the dies, W.R.Bock."

Mr. Watts Rule was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his informative paper.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND, Hon. Secretary.

29 Mayfair Flats,  
The Terrace, Wellington. 43-397.

P.S. The NEXT MEETING of the Society will be held on MONDAY, 31st MARCH next, when an illustrated address will be given by Professor J. Rankine Brown, M.A., LL.D., (Vice-President) on Selected Roman Coins from his own and the Charles Gilbertson Memorial Collection.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

REPORT OF 67th MEETING -- 31st MARCH, 1941

The 67th meeting of the New Zealand Numismatic Society was held on the 31st March. There was an excellent attendance of members. Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, M.B.E., presided. The minutes of the previous meeting, as circulated, were taken as read and confirmed. Correspondence was read, and reports of the Australian Numismatic Society, the Numismatic Society of New South Wales, and the Numismatic Society of South Australia, were tabled. Good wishes were sent by Capt. Algie, Takapuna, and apology for non-attendance from Mr. Roger Walpole.

CENTENNIAL MEDAL: The Hon. Secretary reported that although the medal account was not quite complete, the indications were that there would be a credit in the account. Several bronze medals were still on hand. These were being sold through Vice-Presidents. Acknowledgments of gift medals were received from the British Museum, Viscount Bledisloe, Sir John Hanham, the Royal Mints, London and Melbourne, and Hon. Corresponding Members in Australia. Hearty congratulations on the production of this medal were extended to the Society, and to Mr. Mayer, who struck the medal. Members present expressed their pleasure at the attitude of the Centennial authorities in financially assisting this project and in securing the co-operation of the Post and Telegraph Department to sell the medals, thus enabling the Centennial to be commemorated in an enduring manner.

NUMISMATIC HISTORY OF NEW ZEALAND: Advance copies of this work were exhibited, and congratulations were extended to the author on the completion of the work. The Distribution Committee reported that copies ordered and paid for had been posted, and that a final report on distribution and accounts would be presented in due course.

CLOSING OF SECOND VOLUME OF REPORTS: The meeting decided that Volume II of the Reports would be closed following the next Annual Meeting, when the Society would be ten years old. Each volume would then contain, as far as possible, reports extending over five years. The Hon. Secretary read the following letter received from Mr. Frank C. Ross, 15 East 62nd Street, Kansas City, Missouri, thanking the Society for copies of its reports:

"On this, our National Thanksgiving Day, we all enumerate the things we are thankful for, and the most "thankfullest" thing on my roster is that, through your kindness and thoughtfulness, you continue sending me the programs of your New Zealand Numismatic Society. As the contributor of "Numismatic Thoughts" in the Numismatic Section of the HOBBIES MAGAZINE, the largest of its kind in America, I naturally contrive to secure all current numismatic literature, and I want to say honestly and sincerely that your programs cap them all. I quote from them quite freely - more than any other - giving credit always to the person, and mention your Society. I will pay your Society the highest possible compliment by saying 'The papers are full of new material, and not re-hashes; consequently, in reading them one is learning and not reviewing.' You have a wonderful Coin Club . . . and my proudest boast numismatically is that I am favoured by the Society by keeping me on the mailing list . . . My best wishes to your Society for its continued success and usefulness, and kind personal regards."

Professor Rankine Brown, speaking from notes, gave an interesting talk on a number of coins which had come into his possession recently. The coins were five denarii in good condition belonging to the Antonine period, and a number of bronze Greek coins, the most interesting of which were associated with Alexander the Great, though not necessarily struck by him. From the character of the coins it was his opinion that they had been picked up at Salonika during the 1914 war, but as the owner of the coins had passed away it was probably impossible to discover their provenance.

Taking the Antonine denarii as his text, and basing his remarks on a quotation from a speech which Tacitus puts into the mouth of the short-lived Emperor Galba (68 A.D.) justifying his adoption as his heir of Piso Lucinianus, the Professor showed that this principle of adopting an heir to the Imperial throne worked well during the early Roman Empire, while that of hereditary descent had

worked badly. Theoretically the position of Emperor was open, and the appointment of Emperor lay with the Senate, which selected a suitable candidate for presentation to and adoption by the people. This principle, however, rarely worked, as an Emperor, naturally perhaps, took means to keep the succession in his own family so as to found a dynasty. Augustus, the founder of the Roman Empire, took various steps in this direction and though his original measures failed, and he had no direct heir to succeed him, he did found the Julian dynasty of Tiberius, Caligula, Claudius, and Nero, who were all, in some measure, connected by birth with Augustus and, through him, with Julius Caesar, his great-uncle. Of these four Emperors, Tiberius was an exceedingly able and most competent man, but he had been soured by his early life and, in popular Roman history, figures as a tyrant. Caligula was what we euphemistically call "mental." Claudius was a well-meaning man - often compared with James I of England - to whom justice is now being done. Nero, after five happy years when he was under the control of the Seneca and Burrus, the Commander of the Praetorian Guard, got completely out of hand and so mismanaged things that the Empire rose against him and he committed suicide. He is the typical tyrant, and it may be said that with him the Julian line came to an end in a blaze of infamy.

After Nero's death there was a year of confusion with three short-lived Emperors - Galba, Otho, Vitellius - after which Vespasian seized the throne and founded the Flavian dynasty. Vespasian was a most competent Emperor. His son, Titus, did not reign long enough to do much harm; his other son, Domitian, was a tyrant, and was murdered in 96 A.D.

With Domitian, the Flavian dynasty came to an end. After his death the principle of adoption came into play with most happy results. Nerva, a respectable but old man, was declared Emperor by the people and the soldiers. He reigned with some success for three years, and was a well-meaning but weak Emperor though in comparison with his predecessors his reign was, by his contemporaries, regarded as a Golden Age. His most creditable achievement was the adoption of Trajan as his successor. Trajan was a most able man, a great Emperor and a successful conqueror. Fortunately, Trajan had no heirs so that he adopted as his successor a distant relative, Hadrian, who reigned from 117 to 138, and who was a most enlightened Emperor. He kept the peace, encouraged the arts, and did much building throughout the Empire. He established a competent civil service and is well known to Britishers as the builder of Hadrian's Wall from the Tyne to the Solway, the best preserved of all the Roman fortified boundaries.

Hadrian's son, Lucius, was too young to succeed him, and Hadrian chose as his successor Aurelius Antonius. It is from this Emperor that the Antonine dynasty gets its name. Antonius reigned from 138 to 161, and is by all historians regarded as one of the very best rulers who sat upon a throne. He is known as Antonius Pius, either on account of his general character or on account of the respect he showed to his predecessor Hadrian about whose burial there was some difficulty owing to the dislike of him by the Senate. He was deeply enamoured of his wife, Faustina, of whom he wrote in a letter, "I would prefer to live with her in Gyaro - the Botany Bay of Rome - than in the palace without her." She did not live long after Antonius came to the throne and he showed his affection for her by founding and naming after her a hospital for the reception of orphan girls, and by building and dedicating to "Diva Faustina" the Corinthian temple of which the well-preserved facade is still one of the best-known sights of the Roman Forum. A good deal of scandal has been attached to Faustina but there is no conclusive evidence of the truth of the charges of immorality which have been brought against her. Walter Pater's well-known work "Marius the Epicurian" deals with the reign of Antonius Pius.

Antonius had two sons but they died young. He adopted Marcus Aurelius and Lucius Verus, but the arrangements he made clearly destined Marcus, and not Lucius, to be his successor. In 147, shortly after his adoption, Marcus was granted the Proconsular Imperium and the Tribunician powers, which really made him partner in the Empire. He was also called Caesar, which by this time had ceased to be an Imperial title but, like our own title "Prince of Wales," was conferred on the man marked out as the heir to the throne. Aurelius was married to Faustina the Younger, daughter of Antonius and his wife, the elder Faustina. When Antonius Pius died in 161, Aurelius succeeded him. Marcus was a great fighter and waged almost continuous war with the people outside of the Empire who were now beginning those attacks which ultimately led to the downfall of the Roman Empire. He is better known as the author of the "Meditations" - one of the

most read books in the world. It is a sort of commonplace book giving his thoughts and feelings on moral and religious topics. He was an excellent ruler.

Two denarii of Aurelius were shown, one of these was inscribed on the obverse AURELIUS CAESAR AUGUSTUS PII FIL, and on the reverse TR POT VII COS II. This was issued in 154 A.D. before Aurelius had become Emperor, as the inscription and the title "CAESAR" prove. The other coin had on the obverse M ANTONIUS AUG TR P XXVII, and on the reverse IMP COS III. The coin was issued in 175 A.D. in the fourteenth year of his reign.

A denarius of the younger Faustina was also shown, inscribed on the obverse FAUSTINA AUGUSTA PII AUG FIL, and on the reverse a seated female figure holding a cornucopia in the left hand and surrounded by the legend CONCORDIA. When this word is found - as it often is - on coins with the head of an Empress on them it refers to the "harmony" which was supposed to exist between the Imperial couple. Stories somewhat similar to those told about her mother are recorded about the younger Faustina, but there is little evidence of their truth. Faustina used to accompany her husband on his campaigns. She was called "Mater Castrorum" - Mother of the Camp - and died while with him, of gout.

The name of Faustina has been immortalised by Swinburne, who, in the form "Faustine" made it the title of one of his best known ballads. In this brilliant tour de force (there are 41 rhymes to Faustine in the poem), Swinburne undoubtedly had Faustina in his mind, as the Latin line at the head shows, but in this most telling description of a Roman lady of position - as Swinburne conceived her to be - none of the details have, as far as I know, any relation to either of the historical "Faustines." Neither of them died in a bath, as Swinburne's heroine did, though bleeding to death in a warm bath was a favourite form of suicide. Seneca died in that way.

For about a century since Nerva - i.e. from 96 A.D. to 180 A.D. - the Empire had been well governed, so much so that Gibbon calls the period the happiest period in the entire history of Europe. These Emperors had been adopted by the ruling Emperors as their successors. Unfortunately, Aurelius had a son, L Aurelius Commodus, who reigned from 180 to 192. This youth, who ascended the throne at the age of 20, was one of the worst men who ever sat on a throne. He was poisoned by his mistress, Marcia, and strangled by a celebrated athlete, Narcissus, on December 13th, 192. His immediate predecessors had all died in their beds, as not many Emperors did.

The denarius of Commodus shown had on the obverse AURELIUS COMMODUS AUG. and on the reverse TR. P. III IMP. II COS.(?) The illegible figure was probably IV as TR. P. III shows that the coin was issued in 183, the third year of his reign, when Commodus celebrated his fourth consulship. The reverse design depicts a seated figure making an offering.

After the murder of Commodus, Helvius Pertinax, a distinguished soldier then 65 years of age, was persuaded to accept the Empire. His attempt to restore military discipline, which had gone to pieces under Commodus, led to his murder by his soldiers after a reign of three months.

The Empire was then put up for sale by the Praetorian Guards and, by the offer of a large donative, was purchased by Didius Salvius Julianus, who, however, had a very short reign for his money, for before two months had elapsed he was murdered by the soldiers when they learned that Severus was marching on Rome.

Septimus Severus (193-211) was not a man of a pleasant character, but he was an efficient Emperor and a great warrior in the East and in Britain, where he got further North than any other Roman commander. He died at York. He was succeeded by his son, the notorious Caracalla, who commenced his career by attempting to kill his father, and did kill his brother, Geta, in the arms of their mother. As one would expect, the fratricide was himself murdered.

The denarius of Severus shown had on the obverse SEVERUS AUG. PONT. MAX. (i.e. Pontifex Maximus - Chief Priest - a post and title sometimes assumed by Emperors). On the reverse there was the representation of a soldier making an offering and holding a spear in his left hand. The legend RESTITUTOR URBS (restorer of the city) refers either to his putting Rome in order after the dis-

orders connected with Pertinax and Didius, or perhaps to his extensive building policy. There has been a fire in 191.

Basing his remarks on the denarii he had described, the Professor then explained the general types of inscriptions which are found on Roman Imperial coins, as a knowledge of what one may expect was of the greatest value in enabling collectors to decipher what is often worn and almost obliterated lettering. The rule of the Roman Emperors was based on the possession of two powers, both of which go back to republican times. In virtue of the PROCONSULAR IMPERIUM, or proconsular power, he commanded the army and had control of the finances. By means of the POTESTAS TRIBUNICIA, or Tribunician power, he had complete control of the civil administration. There is no reference to the Proconsular Imperium on inscriptions or coins until the reign of Septimus Severus - in the form of TR.P. or T.POT., or some other contraction, but the Tribunician Power appears from the very start of the Empire. It was conferred for life, not only on the Emperor, but often upon his adopted successor, and the years of the Emperor's reign are counted by it.

AUGUSTUS was a new title invented for the first holder, the great Augustus, as a name to distinguish him, and to set him apart as something sacred from other men and, in the feminine form of the word, was used by the Emperor's wife.

CAESAR was a family name belonging to the Julian dynasty, and derived, of course, from Julius Caesar. It was borne by all the members of the Julian dynasty, but for some time passed out of use for the Emperor and was used by his adopted successor. Thus it is found on the denarius of M. Aurelius issued before he ascended the throne, but does not appear on the denarius issued after his accession. It is absent from the denarius of Commodus.

CONSUL (contracted COS or CO.). This was the title of the Chief Magistrate of the Republic, two consuls being elected annually to hold office for a year. It is not an invariable part of the Imperial titles, but from time to time the Emperor assumed the title, often to pay a compliment to some friend who shared the office with him. Thus, on the earlier denarius of Aurelius is found COS II, and on the later, COS III: several pairs of Consuls came to be elected in the course of a single year in order to extend Imperial patronage. When this was so, the Consuls elected for the first part of the year were the most important and the year was called after them, so that when an Emperor assumed the office he was always one of these. During the Empire, and even before the collapse of the Republic, the consuls had become merely municipal magistrates of Rome. The really important men were the pro-consuls, i.e., the Provincial Governors.

IMPERATOR (IMP). This title is used in two ways. It appears before the Emperor's name and, ultimately but not at first, as an essential title. It does not appear on any of the denarii shown. From this use our word "Emperor" is derived. On the coins shown the IMP appears after the name, followed by a numeral. This is a relic of the original use of the word. When a Roman General had won a great victory, his army hailed him "Imperator" on the field of battle, and this acclamation was generally followed by a triumph in Rome by the consent of the Senate. Thus, IMP. VI. on the later of the Aurelius denarii means that the Emperor had won six triumphs. Under the Empire only the Emperor or a member of his family was allowed to celebrate a triumph. The victorious general had to be satisfied with an equestrian statue in the Forum.

PIUS. This title granted to Antonius was often assumed by later Emperors, many of whom had no right whatever to the compliment.

These are the main Imperial titles as they appear on coins, but a full discussion would require a lecture to itself.

In addition to the five denarii, the Professor exhibited a number of Greek copper coins, some connected with Alexander, and all apparently connected with Northern Greece or Macedonia, though he was not prepared to state that even the two which corresponded exactly with Alexander's copper coinage as described in Head's "Historia Numorum" had been struck by the conqueror. It is agreed that coins on the lines of Alexander's coinage were struck long after his death, as late even as the early Roman Empire. His belief was that the coins in question which had come into his possession mixed up with the five Antonine denarii, were probably of this character. The thickness of the coins may be in favour of an

early date for, with the exception of one Roman Imperial coin (very much defaced), they are much more solid than the Imperial copper coins of about 200 A.D., but in the absence of the necessary literature and expert knowledge the Professor was not prepared to express a definite opinion.

The Professor then proceeded to describe two trays of Greek coins from the Charles Gilbertson Memorial Collection. These were screened by Mr. J. Bland, and the interesting commentary by the Professor on the designs and inscriptions of the coins was appreciated by all present. The Professor consented to screen and describe the collection in sections, and consideration is to be given to the possibility of supplying members with photographs and notes on this collection. The Professor was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his interesting and instructive address.

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#### REPORT OF THE 68th MEETING

The 68th meeting of the New Zealand Numismatic Society was held on the 28th April, 1941. Professor J. Rankine Brown presided. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Mr. Johannes Andersen (President), absent in Auckland, and Mr. W. D. Ferguson, Wellington.

On behalf of Mr. S. R. McCallum, Wanganui, Professor Rankine Brown read a paper on THE HISTORY OF COINAGE AND SOME TYPES OF ENGLISH COINS. A digest of Mr. McCallum's paper is as follows:-

"It is difficult to say when mankind commenced to use coins. Barter and exchange began immediately he started to make use of weapons, implements and utensils. A little later this system proved quite inadequate and the first sort of money came into being. That was the use of some more or less valuable commodity which could be kept and exchanged later for anything required. Regular articles of exchange in parts of the world were, common salt, cowrie shells, porcupine grass gum for attaching axe heads and spear points, knives, garments and all kinds of substitutes were used. Thus, we have in China, sword, hat, trousers and knife money.

"The Greeks were the inventors of coinage as we know it, and perhaps the Chinese commenced about the same time. The method of making early coins was by placing lumps of molten metal on something resembling an anvil and, while pliable, punching them with a punch or coign, on the face of which a design was engraved. Later, the mark or design was cut in the surface of the anvil and this served to hold the metal in position, but it also permitted a relief to be produced. Thus, coins reached their complete development when a design was cut into the end of the punch as well as the anvil. Beauty of early Greek coins is due to the high relief made possible by the thickness of the coins, and the silver tetradrachm of Alexander the Great shows the little progress in artistic value made in 2300 years.

"The Domesday Book contains a great deal of information concerning mints and moneyers. In some English towns mints were farmed out to a community of the moneyers who paid what were then considerable sums for the privilege of making profits. The moneyers of Leicester paid £20 annually to the King, and Thetford, £40 for the privilege, but here, and in Bedford and Cambridge, not the moneyers, but the body of burgesses farmed the mint.

"The silver used in coining was heated in crucibles and hammered into sheet metal and then blanks were cut by shears. The obverse die was securely fixed in a block of wood and on it was laid the blank of silver. The reverse die was then placed in position on the blank and held in place with the hand while the necessary blows were struck with a hammer until the desired impression was produced on the blank. In view of the crude method adopted it is surprising that the weight of each coin - about 21 grains - varied less than one grain.

"The silver penny continued to be coined and while it increased in weight to 22½ grains of silver, after William died the execution of coins became worse, and in the reign of Henry I coins of impure metal and light weight appeared. The

issued coins became worse and worse and now we come to the dreadful happenings of Christmas 1123. 'This year there was much unreasonable weather which spoilt the corn and all the fruits of England,' says the Anglo-Saxon chronicler. It was because corn was scarce that the penny was so bad. Before Christmas of this year King Henry commanded that all moneys of England should be deprived of their right hands so that they could no longer make their mark. They were assembled at Winchester at Christmas and they were taken one by one and dealt with. 'This took twelve days doing and was good justice because they had ruined the land with the great quantity of bad money with which they had trafficked.' Ninety-four moneys were mutilated and only ten acquitted. One chronicler attributes a money scarcity in the following year to a lack of moneys.

"When Henry II succeeded to the throne, the currency was in a disgraceful condition, but in 1180 he established a better type of coin and this was practically unaltered by himself or his sons for sixty years - producing the longest period of unchanging design that English currency has ever known.

"Clipping of coins was prevalent in John's reign, and Jews were generally blamed. It is interesting to note that the moneys name at York was Isaac. In 1205 dies were made and these were a great improvement. The King's portrait is so distinctive that it would appear that an actual attempt at a true portrait was made.

"In 1257 Henry III issued a gold penny, the forerunner of gold currency, but it was soon withdrawn. Only six samples exist, and in 1903 one was sold at £325. The need of coins of higher denomination induced Edward III to issue a Noble, and half and quarter, the Noble being of gold and exchanged at 80 pence. The title of the King of France appeared on these coins, which, for some extraordinary reason, continued until 1816.

"The Trial of the Pyx now commenced, and this has been a regular practice down to the present day. This was a test of the fineness and correctness of weight of the coins, which were selected haphazard without picking and placed in sealed boxes, Pyxides, and weighed in the presence of the King or his representatives, and finally melted and refined in order that their fineness might be verified.

"Edward III struck three new gold coins - a two-leopard piece to circulate for 6/-, a one-leopard worth 3/-, and a helm, or half-leopard for 1/6d. In a petition dated 1330 it was pointed out that beer was one penny for three gallons and the petitioners prayed that smaller coins be struck to pay for smaller purchases and for works of charity. In 1351 a master carpenter or tiler was paid a daily wage of three pennies. With that he could keep a wife and family. Money had varied in its ability to buy. A journeyman got 2d, and boys 1½d. The salary of the Lord Chief Justice in 1402 was £40 per year. In the days of Henry VII an excellent admiral could be got for 4/- a day. Joan of Oxford nursed the young Black Prince in 1350 and received what was considered a big salary of £10 a year. In fact, for this sum one could once buy a farm of 300 or 400 acres, complete with stock.

"In 1489 Henry VII issued the first gold sovereign, or Double Ryal, which was the largest and most valuable coin ever yet seen in England, to be followed by the shilling between 1504 and 1505. A side-face portrait of Henry was shown on the new shilling - a drastic change in that for nearly 350 years the King's portrait was always shown full-face. Henry VIII took over from his father the best executed and the most handsome coinage in Europe and left the most disreputable looking, badly struck money since Stephen. The gold was heavily alloyed and the silver turned black or brown with the alloy. Henry introduced the Gold Crown, or Double Rose, in 1526, along with the half-crown.

"In 1551, Edward VI's protector, Northumberland, in order to pay off pressing Crown debts, coined 20,000 lbs. of silver into new shillings with only 3 ounces of silver to 9 ounces of base metal. The coins were to be 'printed with the whole face and inscription of the King's most deere late father,' i.e., Henry VII. 'Our deere late father' was to get the discredit of it. These were the worst coins England ever saw. In 1551 Edward VI issued the first silver crowns and half-crowns, along with a half-shilling and quarter-shilling.

"Mary became Queen in 1553 and, after her marriage with Phillip of Spain, issued coins showing two heads facing each other - something new for England. There was great rejoicing and relief when Queen Mary and her unpopular Spanish husband died in 1558 and Elizabeth succeeded without a shadow of opposition. The great financial achievement of her reign was the complete rehabilitation of the coinage. The method by which Elizabeth started her re-coinage was the drastic one of 'calling down all the base money and after a year demonetizing it altogether.' A great experiment made by Elizabeth in 1561 was the first attempt to coin by machinery instead of hand-struck. The machinery appears to have consisted of a rolling mill for reducing the sheets of silver to exact thickness, a cutter which stamped out the round blanks and a press which impressed the dies upon the blanks. Mestrel, an employee of the Paris Mint, where the first 'mill money' had been struck ten years before, was engaged at a salary of £25 per annum, with house-room and allowances. There was strong opposition to the mill money and, after being employed for about ten years, Richard Martin, the Warden of the Mint, drew up an elaborate report to the effect that he had set up Mestrel and his machine to compete against skilled hammermen and the latter had worked ten times as fast. Mestrel's coins were better struck in every way but the Frenchman was discharged and six years later he was hanged at Norwich for making dies and striking false money, along with his three English accomplices. Elizabeth reigned for nearly 45 years and the whole coinage amounted to £5,513,716. Two other numismatic experiments, both of which failed in this long reign, were the introduction of a copper currency for small change and a non-English type of coin purely for overseas trade and commerce.

"When James I came to the throne he did his best to establish a universal coinage for Scotland and England. This was very necessary. As an instance, his Scottish coin called the Sword and Sceptre, valued at £6 Scots, passed in England for ten shillings, and the Scottish mark of 13/4d., for thirteen pence halfpenny in England, so low had the credit of the Crown sunk in the realm North of the Tweed. His first crown-piece was coined with identical types for England where it represented 5s., but in Scotland it ran for 60/-. James issued a new gold coin - a four-shilling piece called a Thistle Crown - a Rose Ryall valued at 30/-, Spun Ryal, 15/- and an Angel, or half-sovereign, 10/-. Then came the financial crises owing to the influx of silver from America. Silver was no longer one-twelfth of gold in the international markets, and the King and Council had the nominal value of gold money 'cried up ten per cent.' Rose Ryals were ordered to pass at 33/-, Spur Ryals 16/6d, and half-crowns, 2/9d. The experiment of conducting the trade of the country on these denominations was tiresome to say the least, and after seven years it was declared intolerable and a new coinage was struck by reducing the size of gold coins and producing sovereigns, half-sovereigns, crowns and half-crowns.

"In the ninth year of James' reign it was estimated that there were over 3,000 tradesmen, vintners, tapsters, chandlers, bakers, butchers, etc., who were circulating lead pledges or tokens for pennies, half-pennies and farthings, principally the latter. James, for a monetary consideration, (a true Scot), delegated the prerogative of striking copper farthings to John Baron Harrington. This monopoly was much abused and brass was used as well as copper, so much so that in London there was scarcely any gold or silver left in circulation, the whole of the currency consisting of brass farthings, whence the eloquence of the remark, 'It isn't worth a brass farthing.'

"It had to be left to Charles II, who fifty years later introduced the permanent copper coinage.

"Charles I's coins fall into two sections - the first, a normal issue down to the great Civil War, while the second is a period of chaos. Gold was scarce during the war and large sums were required to pay for the army, and enormous silver pounds and ten-shilling-pieces were struck with a Latin abbreviation that the King would 'defend the Protestant religion, the liberties of Parliament, and the laws of England,' while a three-pound gold piece was also struck, along with a few gold pound pieces. Then we have siege pieces. A limited number of strongholds, cut off from free access to any of the Royalist Mints, governors of a practical frame of mind, paid their soldiers by cutting up plate dishes, bowls, tankards, etc., without endeavouring to round the pieces into coins, and stamping them with their estimated value and sometimes the name of the fortress. Some fortresses adhered to square pieces, and others to diamond-shaped pieces, or octagonal, while the thickness varied greatly. Many denominations are known, some of odd sums such as 3/4d., 1/3d. or 1ld., where the shears had cut off a piece of silver too big or too small for a half-crown or shilling.



"The practice of striking private promises to pay or pledges in brass, by small merchants, shopkeepers and innkeepers, which had been prevalent forty years before, cropped up again. This was natural in a time of Civil War when all cross-country communications and travel had become dangerous and was hindered by military operations. From 1648 onwards the issue of tradesmen's tokens for pennies, half-pennies and farthings on the largest scale recommenced and spread all over the land. These were struck in the smallest villages and, of course, were useless outside the limited circle of customers whom the local dealer was serving. Token currency began at a time when trading conditions were very different from what they are now. There was no postal service, no railway, no telegraph, no telephone, to mention only a few of the present conveniences we take for granted, while road communication was primitive and even worse than our worst back-blocks.

"The coins of the Commonwealth were interesting in that their inscriptions were for the first and only time in English on the obverse. The St. George's Cross enclosed in a garland of laurel and palm with the inscription "The Commonwealth of England" and, on the reverse, the shields of England and Ireland with the value of the coin in Roman figures above them, and, around, "God With Us" and the date. Cromwell's coins were made by the mill process but he refused to have his own effigy on the coins of the Commonwealth, although medals, with his head on them, were struck.

"When Charles II came to the throne he reverted to the old hammering process of manufacture and he began the custom of turning the King's head on the coinage in a direction contrary to that of his predecessor. This was for the purpose of turning his back on Cromwell and gratifying his aversion to the uncrowned King, the Lord Protector of England. In 1661 during Charles II's reign, English coinage took its final change in shape and appearance and ceased to be struck by the medieval method of the hammer and anvil, and all money bore an indication of its worth. Accordingly gold had XX, X and V behind the King's head, and silver, XXX, XII, XI, II and I. In the middle of 1661 Mint Warden Pankhurst was paid £1400 for expenses in setting up engines and houses for new machines to provide for inscriptions for the edge of larger coins and graining for the edge of smaller ones.

"Charles found himself in one of those periodical difficulties between the relations of gold and silver which began under Edward III and never ceased until a single gold standard was established under George III. Charles tried 'crying up', and a proclamation was issued that gold units of 20/- for 21/4, crowns at 5/4. Gold commanded a premium and soon sovereigns were taken at 21/- or 22/-. The African Company had just at this time brought gold from Guinea which had been struck into sovereigns and the official pound in common parlance was nicknamed a "guinea" and the name stuck to it until 1813. In the monetary crisis in the reign of William III it mounted up to 28/-. Charles II issued the first special Maundy coins. Maundy celebrations take place every Easter Thursday in Westminster Abbey.

"In 1672 came the first issue of copper halfpence and farthings with the pleasing classical figure of Britannia, which had its origin in a Roman coin of Hadrian in A.D. 122. Some authorities question the common belief that Frances Stuart, the Duchess of Richmond and lady friend favoured by the Merry Monarch, was the model for the reproduction of Britannia. Charles made a further experiment with tin farthings, with the curious inscription on the edge 'Nummorum Famulus' (the servant of the coinage). These coins soon oxidised and were not a success. James II's reign was of little numismatic interest after his flight to Ireland in 1688. His lavish coinage of 'gun money', struck from old brass cannon, defrauded his Irish subjects.

"When William of Orange and his wife, Mary Stuart, were proclaimed joint sovereigns in 1689 the Mint Master had a problem which had occurred only once before. How were the heads of the King and Queen to appear on the coins? The heads were superimposed - the King's bust in front and the Queen behind, but projecting so as to show her whole profile. The gold issue consisted of five- and two-guineas, guinea, and half-guinea pieces. The usual silver issue, and for some years the half-ponny, and farthing, were continued in tin with a central plug copper to prevent forgery.

"Queen Anne continued to issue similar denominations but struck no copper coins, although some charming pattern farthings were struck but unfortunately never reached circulation, and have a somewhat unjustified reputation for rarity. As a general policy, all through Anne's reign an indication of the origin of the metal Vigo below the Queen's bust signified that the metal had come from Spanish treasure fleets captured in Vigo Bay. Small elephant indicates that the gold came from Africa. The Welsh plume on silver, from Wales, and the rose on silver, from England, and a combination of the plumes and roses, where Welsh and English silver have been melted together.

"George I's coinage was uninteresting. He struck a quarter-guinea which failed to find public favour. On some coins we find S.S.C. for the South Sea Company, and W.C.C. for the Welsh Copper Company, signifying the origin of the silver. George insisted on having on the coinage his German titles as well as his English ones. Naturally, these were contracted, but expand into 'George, by the Grace of God King of Great Britain, France and Hibernia, Defender of the Faith, Duke of Brunswick-Luneberg, Arch-Treasurer of the Holy Roman Empire and Prince Elector.' George was the first to put 'Fidei Defensor' among his titles, a legacy which he left to the succeeding English coinage.

"George II continued indicating where the metal in the coins came from. E.I.C., East India Company; Lima on coins struck from booty from the Pacific by Admiral Anson. Why Lima was chosen is a mystery as that city was not captured, and none of the silver came from Peru.

"George III is perhaps more interesting to the economist, for his reign covers two vast experiments hitherto unknown in English history - one, which lasted from 1797 to 1816, being an attempt to make paper take the place of gold for the main part of the national expenditure, and the other, which started in 1816, the adoption of the single gold standard and the rejection of the old bimetallic system, with gold and silver both legal tender to any amount. During a famine of silver the Government tried the experiment of re-stamping foreign coin for currency in England. Spanish dollars were valued at 4/9d, which gave rise to the popular jest, 'two kings' heads are not worth a crown.' George struck guineas, half-guineas, and third-guineas. One type of guinea had a very plain spade-shaped shield on the reverse and was generally called the 'spade guinea.' For reasons impossible to fathom, the spade guinea has achieved celebrity denied to other such coins. It is of poor design and has nothing to recommend it, not even rarity compared with many other coins. Silver became so scarce and expensive to buy that practically no silver was struck at all. Things went from bad to worse after the commencement of the war with France in 1793 and a gold famine loomed up. Supplies of gold were cut off and a general hoarding of gold added to the difficulty and a panic was commencing. The crisis came in 1797 and an Order-in-Council made bank-notes legal tender to any amount and gave the bank leave to refuse to issue gold or silver for any transaction for more than one pound. Thus, for nineteen years Great Britain worked on paper currency. One new coin struck by George was a gold seven-shilling piece, which was not a success.

"In 1897 came the 'cartwheel' twopence, which weighed two ounces, and its corresponding penny, weighing one ounce. These coins were too heavy to be practical and only one issue was struck. Local trade tokens became very general again in an endeavour to overcome the change question while the Bank of England issued 5/-, 3/- and 1/6d. silver tokens. Finally, the whole currency got out of hand and a new re-coinage of the largest was announced in 1817, which was done with a minimum of friction but to the heavy disadvantage of revenue. In the re-coinage we have the sovereign with St. George and the Dragon on the reverse, the work of an Italian, Benedetto Pistrucci. George IV first produced the famous 'Lion shilling' which was copied 70 years later for the coinage of Edward VII and George V, and he also issued a double-sovereign in gold.

"William IV produced nothing interesting by way of coinage except that the words 'one shilling' and 'sixpence' appearing on these two coins - which, although it has not been done on silver coins since Charles II's hammered issue in 1662 ) was an innovation which had come to stay. The one novelty in William's coinage was the issue of a groat for general circulation and not a part of the Maundy set. Silver 1½d. were struck for use in the West Indies, while half- and third-farthings were struck for Malta and Ceylon, as under George IV.

"During the 64 years of Queen Victoria's reign there were only three general changes of type. The threepence, originally only part of the Maundy set, was issued in large numbers for general circulation after 1845. The chief novelty was the issue of the two-shilling piece in 1848, called a florin because its dimensions were about the same as those of the current Dutch and Austrian florins at the time. The florin was the result of an agitation which had been going on for seventy years for decimal coinage. A motion in the House of Commons in 1847 for the adoption of decimal coinage was withdrawn upon a promise of the Chancellor of the Exchequer that as a matter of experiment he would cause pieces of two shillings - i.e., one-tenth of a pound - to be struck. The first 1848 florin omitted the 'D.G.' after the Queen's name and a rumour spread abroad to the effect that the Master of the Mint, being a Roman Catholic, objected to stating that Victoria reigned 'by the Grace of God.' This coin was known as the 'graceless, or Godless, florin.' This was soon corrected and was followed by the 'Gothic Crown' with the inscription in Gothic letters. The next change was the withdrawal of the old copper penny and its fraction in 1860 and the substitution of bronze coins of less weighty dimensions.

"Our present system of coinage based on the pound, shilling and penny, has been handed down to us from time immemorial. Whether it has outlived its usefulness and some new method would prove satisfactory, is a point upon which there is no agreement. It is, however, certain that the antiquity of our present system, and its interesting connection with our history, are factors which will not be overlooked or forgotten should a change ever be made."

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,

Hon. Secretary.

## Report of the 69th Meeting - 26th May, 1941.

"ENGLISH SILVER CROWNS - EDWARD VI to GEORGE VI" was the subject of the paper read before the 69th meeting of the Society. Professor J. Rankine Brown occupied the chair in the absence of the President who was visiting Auckland and who sent an apology.

A letter was read from Mr. Johannes Andersen, President, stating that during his stay in Auckland, Mr. J. C. Entrican (Vice-President) proposed inviting Auckland members to meet and to discuss the possibility of forming an Auckland branch.

Reports of Numismatic Societies in Australia and Canada were tabled.

In an address on ENGLISH SILVER CROWNS - EDWARD VI to GEORGE VI Mr. W. D. Ferguson said:- EDWARD VI. In early years of this reign the debasement of the coinage, started by Henry VIII owing to his personal extravagance, was continued and increased until the silver had only 3 oz. silver to 9 oz. alloy. In 1551 an entirely new standard of silver coins was struck, having 11 oz. 1 dwt. silver to 19 dwt. alloy, including silver crowns which were struck for the first time and which bore the date 1551, and the design of the boy-king, mounted on a richly caparisoned horse to right, crowned and holding a sword erect with date below the horse (also dated 1552/3). These crowns were the work of a French artist, Deric Antonie (Anglicised to Derek Antony) and are of excellent workmanship being a big advance on previous coinages of England; on obverse the Latin legend reads Edward VI, King of England, France and Ireland; the reverse has a large shield with arms of England and France quartered with Latin legend meaning "I have made God my helper." These were struck at the Tower mint and at a mint at Southwark, the former issues having a mint mark of a tun (barrel) being a rebus on the name of the master of the mint, (Francis Throgmorton), and the latter the letter "Y" from Yorke, the master of that mint. The first dated English coin was a debased shilling of 1549 of this reign. These silver crowns were rather large coins for convenient striking by the hammering process. Small-size gold coins continued to be struck in this and succeeding reigns, the last quarter-guinea being struck in 1762, (George III). In many cases the silver crowns are rare. MARY I. No silver crowns struck.

ELIZABETH. No silver crowns struck till 1601 and 1602 near the end of her long reign. In early part of her reign the fineness of her silver coins was fixed at 11 oz. 2 dwts. silver to 18 dwts. alloy, which remained the standard of coinage silver until 1920. The crown shows the Queen's head and shoulders only, to left, wearing ornate and jewelled dress and jewellery with a small crown perched on top of what appears to be a large wig. She wears a large ruff and she carries in her right hand the sceptre held erect in front of her and in her left hand the orb. These crowns are undated except for the last numerals of the dates 1 and 2 which figures serve also as mint marks on obverse and reverse. The reverse is similar to that of Edward VI crowns except that the shield is smaller.

JAMES I. Coinage of this reign rather confused. A large number of small gold coins were struck of different values in three distinct coinages; however, silver crowns were struck for each coinage as well, but they are all very rare; they all show the King mounted with a rose or a thistle on the trappings of the horse, and bear different Latin texts on the reverses to Edward VI crowns.

CHARLES I. At the Tower mint silver crowns were struck during most years till 1641, and in the King's name by Parliament for a few years after; they are all undated but the dates of striking are known approximately by the mint marks; as, owing to the wear of the dies in the striking on the hammer new dies were constantly required and each had a fresh mint mark. They all show the King mounted to left; at first the horses were decorated with plumes and trappings and later bare; and large shields were on the reverses, at first square topped, and later oval and sometimes having the letters C.R. over, or at the sides of the shields. The finest crown from this mint was the work of Nicholas Briot, a native of Lorraine, who was given employment by Charles after being master of the Paris mint, and after much opposition

from those already at the mint, was installed therein in 1633 and engraved a series of dies very much superior to the ordinary work of the mint which was carried on at the same time. His crown is a very fine specimen of hammered coinage and conforms to the type of other Tower crowns but the reverse has a large crown over the shield and C. & R. with small crowns over the letters on each side of the shield. Briot had invented a collar in which the coins were struck and so his coinage is of regular round shape unlike many pieces struck with the hammer; his coinage can be distinguished by Briot's use of his own mint marks too. The crown is believed to have been struck in 1633; his best work was done at Edinburgh from 1633 to 1638 or 9 but he worked again at the Tower before the Great Rebellion in 1641. Of the many emergency mints set up at provincial towns during the Civil Wars, crowns were only struck at Shrewsbury (very rare), at Oxford and Exeter. These all have the King, mounted, on the obverse; on the reverse across the centre in two lines are six abbreviated Latin words stating Charles' promise or declaration to "Protect the Protestant Religion and the laws and liberties of England and the Privileges of Parliament", hence the term "Declaration Money", and recalling Professor Rankine Brown's interesting paper of August 1940 on propaganda on Roman coins. They were also called "Exurgat" money from the first word of the text round the edge of the reverse meaning: "Let the Lord arise, may his enemies be scattered." The Shrewsbury and Oxford crowns are dated 1642 and 1642 or 43 respectively in large figures on the reverse (not to be confused with the famous pattern crown by Rawlins called by numismatists THE Oxford Crown and which was dated 1644.) There were also on the reverse three Prince of Wales feathers, or plumes, and a V for mark of value. The Exeter crowns, of which several types exist, are dated 1644 and 5 and have two mint marks. Crowns of the Tower mint bear on the reverse the text meaning - I reign under the auspices of Christ. Also might be mentioned the large silver pound and ten shilling pieces struck at the Oxford mint when the gold plate given to the King was exhausted, the former is easily the largest silver coin ever struck in England and they both conform to the general type of the crowns and have XX and X instead of V as marks of value.

COMMONWEALTH. Silver crowns were struck during five years as described in Sir James Elliott's paper of June 1938.

OLIVER CROMWELL. The series of coins described by Sir James included a rare silver crown considered by some to equal in excellence of execution Simon's masterpiece, the "Petition" crown.

CHARLES II. The first coinage of this reign was hammered from Simon's dies and did not include a silver crown. In 1662 Peter Blondeau was recalled to London with the machinery of the screw and press he had invented and was installed at the Tower. Charles II employed the three brothers Roettier to make dies for a new coinage, Jan, or John, Roettier being made Chief Die Engraver; they were natives of Antwerp, and Simon rightly felt that he should have the chief post at the Mint, hence the famous "Petition" crowns. Two of the Roettier brothers soon after returned to the Continent, one to become master of the mint for Louis XIV. Crowns were struck in every year from 1662 to 1684 inclusive, though in seven years they are rare, some years very rare. They are of very good workmanship though not of the excellence of Simon's work, but it is wrong to say that Charles II displaced Simon for incompetence. The Crown of 1662 is of rather a different type to those of following years, and this coin was the basis of the "Petition" crown. All have two C's interlaced between each of the spaces between the four shields on the reverse. There are four busts, the last after 1679 being the best. The reverse is unaltered after 1663. Owing to Blondeau's press the edges of these coins are lettered for the first time and all bear the text meaning, "An ornament and a safe-guard." From 1663 onwards all also have the regnal year, on the edge, dating from 1649, not Charles' restoration in 1659, at first in Roman numerals and after 1667 in Latin. Some crowns of 1666 have an elephant under the bust and some of 1681 have an elephant and castle there; these are rare, especially so in good condition. There are four varieties of the first or 1662 crown, two of which have a rose under the bust.

JAMES II. There are two busts on these crowns, the first, dated 1686 only, is very rare; the reverses are the same as in previous reign except that they are without letters in the spaces between the shields.

**WILLIAM AND MARY:** Crowns were struck in 1691 and 92 only and are fairly rare; they show the profiles of the sovereigns facing left, the head of William being in front and shown in full. On the reverse in the centre between the four shields instead of the Star of the Order of the Garter as in previous two reigns, there is the Lion of Nassau, the family badge of William III. The date is in figures round this badge, one figure between each shield; also between the four shields are the letters W. & M. combined in a monogram.

**WILLIAM III.** There are five busts in this reign on the crowns, two being very rare and are more patterns than coins. All show the King in Roman armour and wearing the large periwig then the fashion, which William probably welcomed to add apparent height to his small stature. A large re-coinage took place in this reign and crowns dated 1695/6 are common. Except for the Lion of Nassau the reverses are of the type of James II crowns, and there are two types with larger and smaller shields.

**ANNE.** The famous Sir Isaac Newton was appointed Master of the Mint at commencement of this reign and he employed John Croker, a native of Dresden, who designed the coinage dies until his death in office in 1740. The crowns have three busts, but all are much alike. On the crowns of 1703 the word VIGO appears under the bust; this signifies that they were made from silver captured from Spanish ships by Sir George Rooke in his daring sea battle when in command of the English and Dutch fleets he entered Vigo Bay in Spain and destroyed the French and Spanish fleets sheltering there. Prior to the Parliamentary union of England and Scotland in 1707 the arms of England, Scotland, Ireland and France appear on each of the four shields, but after 1707 those of England and Scotland appear conjoined on two of the shields. In this reign first appear Prince of Wales feathers, or plumes, between the shields on reverse. These signify that the silver was mined in Wales; on others the crowns have two plumes and two roses on the reverse signifying that silver was mined in both England and Wales.

**GEORGE I.** Crowns have one bust only; on the reverse the arms of England and Scotland are conjoined on one shield and those of Hanover on the fourth; all the Kings' continental titles appear in very abbreviated form in the legend. The letters F.D. (Fidei defensor) appear for the first time on coins of this reign and have remained on British coins since. Most of the silver coins were struck in 1723, and all these have the letters SS & C. between the shields on the reverse repeated; these letters signify South Sea Company (South Sea Bubble) and make this reign unique in having letters of a private company on the regal coinage. Roses and plumes are found on the crowns of other years of the reign.

**GEORGE II.** First bust (called the Young Head) by Croker, and after 1743 comes the second (Old Head) by J. S. Tanner who succeeded Croker. Crowns of 1746 have letters LIMA under the bust; this represents silver captured by Admiral (afterwards Lord) Anson on his adventurous three year voyage around the world (1741/4) to harrass the Spaniards off Chile, and the silver used was booty taken from a galleon off the Philippines. It is fitting that Britain's "sure shield" should be commemorated on the Vigo and Lima coinage. The reverses of the crowns are like those of George I and have plumes and roses in angles at first, then roses only, and after 1746 they are always plain.

**GEORGE III.** As with Elizabeth, silver crowns were not struck until near the end of long reign and only after the great recoinage of 1816, following the long wars. Crowns were minted from 1818 onwards. The bust was a very fine one by the Italian artist Pistrucci, whose name appears in full underneath and on the reverse, the bust is different from all his other coinage busts of George III. The King's continental titles are omitted from the legend as is the empty title, "King of France". The reverse has the famous design of St. George and dragon, as first devised and enclosed in the Garter with famous motto, "Honi soit", etc. The design which was taken, it is said, from an antique gem was criticised, for the naked St. George would, from his position on the horse, immediately fall off if he tried to strike at the dragon with his short Roman sword.

**GEORGE IV.** Crowns were struck for circulation in 1821/2 only and have fine head by Pistrucci. On the reverse was a modified design of St. George in larger scale as the Garter is omitted, and signed by the letters B.P. only. Of the later silver issue by W. Wyon, only pattern crowns were struck.

WILLIAM IV: No crowns, other than patterns, were struck.

VICTORIA: Crowns showing young head by William Wyon were struck in 1844/5 of similar type to half-crowns minted before 1887; for first time the motto and regnal year is incused round the edge. In 1846, 47 and 51 the beautiful "Gothic" crowns were struck, the last year being very rare. These were also by W. Wyon and are considered the most beautiful of modern coins; Victoria is shown crowned in coronation robes with a braid of hair around under her ear and caught up again. Reverse shows four shields and rose (repeated) and shamrock and thistle between same. Legends are in old English, or Gothic, letters and the reverse has a text on the face ("Praise one God") for the first and only time since Charles I crowns. The edge has the usual text and regnal year in small raised Gothic letters; florins minted prior to 1887 were of same general type but much less fine. Although a fairly large number of these crowns were minted they were never put into circulation. The Jubilee year of 1887 saw a new crown with bust by the noted sculptor, Sir Joseph Boehm; these had milled edges, for first time in crowns, and reverses as in George IV crowns; a large number were struck in years 1887/9. In 1893 a new head by Thomas Brock (the book illustrator) was struck with the well-known veiled head and with same reverse but the edge had letters raised as on the crown of 1844.

EDWARD VII: Crowns were struck in 1902 only, type as in 1893.

GEORGE V: First crowns were struck in 1927 with second silver coinage of reign, having designs on reverses by M. Kruger Gray; the bust by Bertram Mackennal the famous Australian sculptor as on other coins. Reverse shows large crown, with date over it, surrounded by wreath of shamrocks with three roses and thistles spaced therein. These crowns were not intended for circulation and command a premium. In Jubilee Year a special crown with reverse by Mr. Percy Metcalfe with a futuristic design of St. George and dragon thereon, which has been much criticised. Edge has letters incused. A few special ones were struck in silver and fifty in gold.

GEORGE VI: Obverse bare head by Mr. Hugh Paget (as on other coins). Reverse by Mr. Kruger Gray shows crowned shield with supporters of lion and unicorn with words "Dieu et mon droit" on scroll below. The edge is milled.

Mr. Ferguson who illustrated his talk with a fine collection of crown pieces, was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his instructive address.

OFFICERS FOR ENSUING YEAR: Nominations will be received by the undersigned until 30th June.

NEXT MEETING: Next meeting will be held on Monday, 30th June, when, it is hoped, short papers will be read dealing with "American Coins", and "Numismatic Contacts between New Zealand and United States of America."

ANNUAL MEETING: This meeting will be held in July on a date to be advised.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,

Hon. Secretary.

Hansard Room,  
Parliament Building,  
W E L L I N G T O N.

NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

REPORT OF 70th MEETING - 30th JUNE, 1941

"TRADING AND NUMISMATIC LINKS BETWEEN UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND NEW ZEALAND," and "THE SILVER AND BRONZE COINAGE OF GEORGE V," were the subjects of two short papers read at the 70th meeting. Mr. W.D.Ferguson presided. An apology was received from the President, Mr. Johannes Andersen, M.B.E., who was absent in Auckland.

Reports from overseas Numismatic Societies, and general correspondence were tabled.

ERRATA: In the paper read by Professor J. Rankine Brown on 31st March, 1941, pages 137-141, ANTONINUS was erroneously typed as ANTONIUS.

Mr. W.D.Ferguson's address:- Page 148. Charles II. Line 13 - delete "for incompetence" and insert therefor "or that the Roettiers were incompetent." Line 19 - after "safe-guard" add, "this text was continued in succeeding reigns." Line 21 - after "Latin" insert, "words".

Page 149. ANNE. Add at end of paragraph "Others are without emblems or 'plain'."

Page 150. VICTORIA. Last line - between "raised" and "as" insert, "otherwise."

NEW ZEALAND MEDALS: Mr. F.M.Paterson, Timaru, drew attention to the discovery of three varieties of the Peace Medal 1914-1919, THROUGH GOD WE HAVE GAINED VICTORY (No. 410 Sutherland) as follows:

- (a) New Zealand soldier standing on straight ground, with curved pattern-work above soldier.
- (b) Similar, but no pattern-work above soldier.
- (c) Similar to (b) but soldier standing on curved ground.

Mr. Paterson referred to a Masonic 50 years medal, and a medal issued during the last war for conscientious objectors. Particulars of medals not listed will be welcomed by the Society for record purposes.

In a short paper on U.S.A.-NEW ZEALAND TRADING AND NUMISMATIC CONTACTS, Mr. Allan Sutherland, F.R.N.S., said: New Zealand shares an ocean frontier with the United States of America, and from the earliest sealing and whaling days the United States of America, as the dominant trading nation of the Pacific, exercised an influence over the trade of New Zealand. That influence, which was marked during the days of sailing vessels, waned to some extent with the advent of steamships and protective tariffs, but during the present international stress the United States of America, Australia and New Zealand were "rediscovering" their neighbours in the interests of self-preservation and in the defence of democracy.

From about 1800 to nearly 1850 U.S.A. sailing vessels from Nantucket, New Bedford and Boston almost swarmed the virgin fishing waters around New Zealand and the Southern Seas. During a large part of this time, New Zealand was "no man's land," while Australia was a British possession, and this resulted in foreign whaling vessels congregating around the free shores of New Zealand, which provided good anchorages and provisioning depots close to the rich sealing and whaling grounds of the Pacific.

In 1834 the number of American whaleships engaged in the Southern Seas, and mainly in and around the coasts of New Zealand, was 273 - employing about 9,000 men - and this was at a time when the number of British whalers operating off the coasts of New Zealand, together with the number of British residents at shore stations, did not greatly exceed 2,000. It will be seen, therefore, that the influence of American sailors, sojourners, and traders at this stage was much greater than that of the British in accustoming the Maori to the ways of European modes of living and trading. Despite the fact that British whaling ventures were subsidised, they could not succeed as well as the more fully organ<sup>ised</sup> and unsubsidised American whaling companies operating from nearer home bases. In March, 1840, the London Journal of Commerce stated that the whale fisheries in the Southern Ocean were practically abandoned to the French and American interests.



On outward journeys many American whaling ships brought cargoes of "Yankee notions" with which to barter with the Maori for food while operating off the New Zealand coasts. Although whaleships of other nationalities operated around the shores of New Zealand, particular centring on the Bay of Islands, it seems clear that sailors of the United States of America did more than the British at this stage to "civilise" the cannibal Maori and to accustom him to the ways of the white man.

One of the principal guides to the dominance of American trade and influence is to be found in the fact that when British sovereignty was declared in 1840, Governor Hobson and succeeding Governors were compelled to declare that the coinage of U.S.A. - and of France, Spain, the East India Company, and the South American States - would continue to be the currency of the Colony, and the Blue Books of the 'forties show these gold and silver coins listed, with their sterling equivalents, as the legal coinage of New Zealand, circulating concurrently with the less plentiful British coins. The American and Spanish silver dollars predominated. The Spanish golden doubloons - reminiscent of treasure-trove days - were officially listed by Governor Hobson to pass in New Zealand for £3.4.0. The early Maori synonym for silver money was "moni torra" and for gold "moni koura." Values were often discussed in terms of "torras," even when golden sovereigns were passed.

The early Maori frequently valued coins for their decorative value and many American silver dollars were exchanged for the smaller and duller golden coins, to the complete satisfaction of both parties. But when the Maori "got his coins right" there was no more astute merchant than this erstwhile cannibal. When whaling vessels did not carry trade goods for bartering with the Maori, money had to suffice. At the outset the Maori got rid of his coins by purchasing anything from subsequent visitors, but later he found that these visible riches, in the shape of goods, were an embarrassment in view of the Maori custom of communal ownership. In order to avoid sharing his property with others, in accordance with the correct custom, some of the more astute natives began to prefer money - coins - which they could conceal under their blanket capes and spend at leisure with the smug satisfaction of a Wall Street capitalist. In some old hoards of coins found in New Zealand, early issues of United States coins, as well as coins of other countries, have been discovered, and occasionally golden eagles of U.S.A. have been uncovered by the waves at the sites of early whaling bases in New Zealand where the seamen of all nationalities often foregathered - mostly in rum-drinking carousals - prior to the advent of British sovereignty. The American influence at the Bay of Islands is reflected in the fact that Mr. J.E. Clendon, a wealthy British trader and shipowner acted as the first Consul for the United States of America at the Bay of Islands, from 1838 to 1842.

Sailors of the United States Navy have successively "invaded" New Zealand shores, firstly in 1908, when a medal was struck to commemorate the event. In 1925 a much augmented American fleet again "invaded" the country, and this time left behind many souvenirs, including golden sovereigns said to have been specially struck in Australia from bar gold brought with the fleet. This was the first and last occasion when gold coins freely, but temporarily, circulated in New Zealand since the Great War.

Captain Cook, who rediscovered New Zealand in 1777, is buried on American soil at Hawaii, and coins and medals commemorating his name add to the numismatic links between the two countries.

Although New Zealand is indissolubly bound to Great Britain, the United States, which is closer geographically, also shares with New Zealand a common heritage of birth, ideals and language. Steadily and imperceptibly America is spreading her influence in Australia and New Zealand, and is likely soon to become a more dominant influence in the great commonwealth of Western democracies. The present war is not only welding parts of the British Empire more closely together, but is also influencing closer adherence between Great Britain and the United States. Canada and U.S.A. already share a common language and similar currency and trading methods. If prophecies regarding a complete union between U.S.A. and Great Britain were fulfilled this would bring interesting possibilities in its train in unifying customs tariffs and currency. If this did not eventuate, but if the financial centre of the Empire were transferred to Canada, the dollar instead of the pound would probably become the Empire unit of value.

Dollars were used as supplementary coins in both England and New Zealand a hundred years ago and, with the march of events, New Zealand may see the dollar again, this time not as a coin of expediency but rather as a symbol of the union and strength of democracy.

In conclusion, reference was made to a prophecy by an American General, G. Watson Webb, in 1854, when discussing the possible combination of European countries against England. The American General said: "We (America) shall come to her aid. Our excuse may be self-preservation, but in such a contingency come we will; and be assured that the youthful giant - for we shall be a giant before that day arrives - will not come the less willingly or strike less effectively because his strength will be put forth on behalf of a parent who, if she was not always a kind mother, gave us our Anglo-Saxon blood, and sent us forth imbued with her laws, her literature, and her love of constitutional liberty."

Mr. W.D.Ferguson, Chairman, who moved a hearty vote of thanks for the interesting paper, said that the history of early trading contacts with New Zealand undoubtedly showed that American nations played a part in opening up the country to the outside world. Mr. Ferguson exhibited three U.S.A. commemorative half-dollars, one of which commemorated the Monroe Doctrine Centennial (1823). He said that early writers in U.S.A. were prone to "twist the lion's tail" but history showed that were it not for the assistance of George Canning (Foreign Minister) and Great Britain generally, the Monroe Doctrine could not possibly have been implemented. Canning was opposed to the so-called Holy Alliance of the great European Powers of the day and "called in the New World to redress the balance of the Old." Hence the Monroe Doctrine, which Britain assisted in implementing, and the British share should be recognised. Mr. Ferguson also exhibited a Massachusetts cent-piece, 1787, which might possibly have been introduced to New Zealand by early Massachusetts whalers, bearing the design of a Red Indian with the legend, "Massachusetts" and "Commonwealth". The latter term, which on the only coin officially struck for currency by a State government, -- passed into disuse in favour of "States." A Washington jeton of copper was also shown depicting on each side the portrait of Washington in 18th century uniform crowned with laurels - an incongruous combination. On another piece dated 1783 the reverse was a figure of Liberty. Like Cromwell, Washington was opposed to his portrait appearing on Republican coins and the copper jeton was one of the popular reactions to this usage.

Mr. J. Smith said that Clendon, first U.S.A. Consul at Bay of Islands, sold his land at old Russell (Okiaito) to the Government for a fixed sum which was not paid. Later Clendon received a grant of other land and subsequently became a British magistrate at Hokianga. The East India Company's claim of a trading monopoly in the Southern Seas was asserted in respect of an early shipment of wool from Australia, and the Courts rejected the claim.

EXHIBITS: Cape of Good Hope medal, Mr. J. K. de Rouffignac; a collection of gold coins of U.S.A., Mr. H.R.Ford; doubloon (5.3a.) A. Sutherland.

In a paper on THE SILVER AND BRONZE COINAGE OF GEORGE V, Mr. Eric Horwood, R.N.Z.A.F., said, "The two main features of this reign consists firstly of the debasement of the silver coinage in 1920, for the first time in 400 years. This was due to the high cost of silver at that time. The proportion of alloy to silver was increased to 50%, at which figure it still remains. The alloy at first was very poor and the coins soon became discoloured, but later the alloy was considerably improved and this fault is now almost completely eliminated. The second feature is two issues of silver and bronze coins, the first from 1911 to 1927, and the second from 1927 until his death in 1936. All coins of this reign depict the King's head to the left with the usual inscriptions. Little imagination is shown in the design of the reverses of the first issue, which are similar to those of the previous reign. There are two exceptions, however, firstly of the florin, which reverts to the design of the Jubilee florin of Victoria, with the difference that the shields are smaller and not so elegant. The other change is the sixpence, which shows the lion and crown on the reverse as on the shilling. No crowns were struck for this issue. The bronze coins show no change from the previous reign. During pressure of work at the Royal Mint in 1912 and 1918 pennies were struck by Messrs. Hentons, of Birmingham, and by them and the King's Norton Copper Company in 1918, these pennies being identified by the initials H and K.N. in the exergue to the right of the date. The Royal Mint

reports show a nominal issue of pence during 1923-25 inclusive, and in 1933, and if the dates coincide with the years shown, these coins will undoubtedly be rare.

In September 1927 a new set of designs was issued for both silver and bronze, the designer being Mr. Kruger Gray. The only coin not affected was the farthing, which remains the same throughout the reign. On all other coins of the new issue the King's head is smaller. The crown was struck to complete the set but was not in general circulation. For a description of this coin I will refer members to the report of the address on English Crown Pieces by Mr. Ferguson before the May meeting. The shields on the half-crown are narrower than those of the previous issue and the whole reverse is simplified. The shields of this issue are flanked on either side by two interlocked G's which are back to back. The florin and shilling remained substantially the same, although the sceptres which divide the shields became surmounted with crowns, and the shape and size of the lion and crown on the shillings are altered. The lion becomes less natural in shape and more of a heraldic emblem. It is refreshing to note a complete change in design on the threepence and sixpence, the new coins having intertwined acorns and oak leaves on their reverses. The Maundy money retained its traditional design, with the value in pence indicated by a large numeral on the middle of the reverse. A more substantial figure of Britannia appeared on the penny and half-penny and, as on the silver coins, the King's head was reduced in size. In 1935 the silver jubilee year was commemorated numismatically by the issue of a crown piece for whose description and artistic merits or otherwise I must again refer members to Mr. Ferguson's address. The usual crown was reverted to in 1936, but is scarce. As with the other coins of 1936, they are usually looked upon as belonging to Edward VIII's reign as King George V died on 20th January of that year and no different coins were issued until those of George VI in May 1937. The coinage of George V's reign shows no great changes in design in spite of two issues and it is, with only one or two exceptions, adapted or copied from previous designs, so that numismatically it does not reflect the great happenings and changes which occurred during those twenty-five momentous years."

Mr. W. Ferguson, in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Horwood, stated that the British coins described were as recently as 1933 in everyday use, but it seemed long ago when they were in our pockets. They were now regarded as numismatic specimens.

Mr. A. Bland read a report regarding the experimental issue of British 12-sided 3d. pieces. From August 1937 to December 1938, 55,000,000 had been issued and nearly all had disappeared, presumably as souvenirs. In 1937 the Royal Mint had issued 417,000,000 coins - more than double the annual output in the previous decade.

The evening concluded with a social hour and supper.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,  
Hon. Secretary.

29 Mayfair Flats,  
The Terrace,  
WELLINGTON.

ANNUAL MEETING, MONDAY next, 28th JULY.  
Johannes Andersen, M.B.E.

An address will be given by Mr.

NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

TENTH ANNUAL REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET -- 1940-41

The Council of the New Zealand Numismatic Society has the honour to present its annual report and balance sheet for the year ended 21st July, 1941.

During the year regular meetings of the Society were held at which papers on various aspects of numismatics were presented. Most of the papers were illustrated by exhibitions of coins and medals, and at times specimens were screened by Mr. A. Bland, thus giving added interest to the subjects discussed. The continuance of the war throughout the year under review has necessarily restricted the activities of the Society. Several members are absent with the Armed Forces, and the good wishes of fellow members are extended to them.

The Council records with gratification the fact that on the 20th July, 1941, the Society completed the tenth year of its existence. In that time 70 ordinary meetings were held, and the two volumes of the transactions of the Society, as well as two commemorative medals and the "Numismatic History of New Zealand" bear testimony to the usefulness and progress of the Society as an organised body representing the numismatists of the Dominion.

The membership of the Society stands at 106. The balance sheet shows a credit balance of £1.15.7 in the General Account, a decrease of £9.18.2 on the balance at the end of last year. The Composite Subscription Trust Account shows a credit of £91.18.4 and the Centennial Medal Account a credit of £84.12.1.

The thanks of the Society are due to the authorities controlling the Turnbull Library for the use of a meeting room there.

The usual officers and members of the Council are to be elected at the Annual Meeting to be held on Monday, 28th July, 1941. It is hoped that the wives of members will attend on this occasion in order to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Society.

For the Council,

JOHANNES C. ANDERSEN,

President.

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR PERIOD ENDED 21st JULY, 1941.

<u>INCOME</u>	£ s d	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	£ s d
To Balance P.O.S.B. Trust		By Wreath . . . . .	1 1 0
Account 1st June 1940	64 6 8	Income Tax . . . . .	7 8
Balance P.O.S.B. Ordinary A/c. 1st June 1940	10 18 9	Printing & Stationery ..	24 7 2
Cash on hand 1/6/40 ..	15 0	Cash on hand, 21/7/41 ..	4 5
Subscriptions and Donations received .. ..	40 4 6	Balance P.O.S.B. Trust A/c. 21st July 1941 ..	91 18 4
Interest P.O.S.B. Trust A/c. to 1/4/41 .. ..	2 7 2	Balance P.O.S.B. Ordinary A/c. 21/7/41 . . .	1 11 2
Interest P.O.S.B. Ordinary A/c. to 1/4/41 ..	17 8		
	£119 9 9		£119 9 9
Cash on hand 21/7/41 . . .	4 5	Examined & found correct:	
Balance Trust A/c. 21/7/41	91 18 4	W. CHETWYND, Hon. Auditor.	
" Ordinary A/c. 21/7/41	1 11 2	G.C. SHERWOOD,	
		Hon. Treasurer.	