

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

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Study and Collection of

COINS AND MEDALS

* * *

TRANSACTIONS OF SOCIETY
(AND INDEX)

VOLUME I

1931 - 1936

Compiled by

ALLAN SUTHERLAND, F.R.N.S.

Preface by

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

OBJECTS OF SOCIETY.

The objects of the Society are to encourage the study of the science of numismatics in all its branches by the holding of periodical meetings for the reading and discussion of papers, and for the exhibition of numismatic specimens; by cultivating fraternal relations among collectors and students in New Zealand abroad; by assisting members in the study of coins, heraldry, archaeology, decorations, medals, tokens, paper-money, seals and related subjects; by fostering the interest of youth in the subject, and generally by disseminating numismatic knowledge and developing public interest in the fascinating and instructive pursuit of numismatics, and as a Dominion organisation, representing numismatic interests generally.

P R E F A C E

by

SIR JAMES ELLIOTT, M.D.
(President).

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As President of The New Zealand Numismatic Society I have been asked to give a short message to members by way of a preface to Volume I of the Transactions of the Society. As a foundation member I have watched the continued success of the Society with interest, and I am convinced that that success indicates that the Society is serving a useful purpose in promoting the study of numismatics in New Zealand.

As a cultural pursuit which may be followed with equal, or indeed with increasing keenness from youth to age, it is difficult to imagine any other study which offers more diversified avenues for exploration than the science of numismatics. As a major branch of archaeology, the study of ancient coins unfolds the history of the past, giving the historian and the student metallic archives and fascinating keys to history from which to reconstruct the life and development of past ages. Actual specimens vitalise the study and help to give a more intimate connection with the past - glorious or inglorious as the case may be. The field of numismatics offers for study almost any period and any country, and I am pleased to be able to note that, apart from the special interest that is naturally taken in the coins and tokens of our own country, the papers read before the Society have dealt with all manner of subjects bearing on the study of numismatics from the historical and archaeological side, to modern and more topical matters such as unusual forms of coins, designs of coins, modern commemorative issues, bank-notes, medals, heraldry, symbols, and ancient and modern art as reflected in coinage designs.

Numismatics may be defined generally as the study of the coins of all nations, and its chief value is the light which such study throws upon history. A secondary but important aspect is the artistic manner in which the history has been recorded on these miniature stages. It helps to elucidate the mythology of the ancients, fixes the chronology of various languages and forms of writing, and reveals the origin and expansion of divers systems of weighing and working of precious metals. Historically coins are authentic and permanent means of commemorating the names of ancient and now obscure peoples and cities and of giving the chronological succession of kings and potentates. They throw a sidelight on religious observances, and record the varying phases of art - its rise and fall - in times ancient and modern.

In the five years under review the introduction of the first distinctive coinage for New Zealand was a major event, and the Society, in consultation with the Government, took its full share in securing appropriate coins bearing representative New Zealand designs. The issue of its Waitangi-Bledisloe Medal, too, was pleasing evidence of the vitality and progress of the Society. The papers read have been of a generally high standard, materially contributing to the continued success of the Society and to the advancement of knowledge of the subjects dealt with. The first volume of the Society's Transactions furnishes definite and gratifying evidence of the interest taken in the study of numismatics, and the progress of the Society, and it will be the Society's endeavour to ensure that succeeding half-decades may show similar enthusiasm with, it is hoped, similar results.

JAMES ELLIOTT.

HISTORY OF THE N.Z. NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

by

ALLAN SUTHERLAND, F.R.N.S.,
(Hon. Secretary).

The New Zealand Numismatic Society was founded at the Turnbull Library, Wellington - New Zealand's treasure-house of rare and historical books - on the 20th July, 1931, at an inaugural meeting called by Mr. Allan Sutherland, and presided over by the Rev. D. C. Bates, who became the first President, Mr. Sutherland becoming the first Hon. Secretary. The object of forming the Society was to bring together the fairly considerable number of people scattered throughout New Zealand who were interested in the fascinating pursuit of studying and collecting ancient and modern coins and medals, and kindred objects, and who up till then, had been pursuing their studies in a more or less desultory fashion, with only chance contacts with students and collectors of kindred interests. It was thought that the cohesive force of a Numismatic Society in New Zealand, holding regular meetings at which papers would be read and afterwards circulated, and specimens exhibited, would help to stimulate general and specialist interest in the subject, and would also help numismatists to secure a yet deeper enjoyment from their most fascinating pursuit.

The following is a list of foundation members:-

Col. The Rev. D. C. Bates, (Retired Dominion Meteorologist), Wellington.
Mrs. Bates, 1 Washington Avenue, Brooklyn, Wellington.
Sir John Hanham, Bt. (A.D.C. to His Excellency the Governor General) Wgton.
Dr. (afterwards Sir James) Elliott, F.R.A.C.S., 43 Kent Terrace, Wellington.
Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, F.R.S., N.Z., M.B.E., Librarian, Turnbull Library, Wellington.
Mr. Allan Sutherland, F.R.N.S., ("Hansard" Parliamentary Staff), Wgton.
Mr. E. Gilbertson, Hobson Street, Wellington.
Miss U. Tewsley (Numismatist, Dominion Museum), Wellington.
Mr. H. H. Asher (Wireless Operator), 14 Clifton Terrace, Wellington.
Mr. S. P. Ward, (Bank of New Zealand), Wellington.
Mr. H. R. Ford, Avon Street, Island Bay, Wellington.
Mr. Max Hugo, care Jno. Duthie & Co., Ltd., Wellington.
Mr. J. C. Entrican (Merchant), Alexander Avenue, Auckland.
Mr. Willi Fels, C.M.G., (Chairman of Directors H.B. and D.I.C., N.Z.)
Dunedin.
Mr. E. K. Cameron, (Public Accountant), Hawera.
Mr. C. Gilbertson, 229 Spey Street, Invercargill.
Mr. O. Harding, Springston Rural Delivery, Canterbury.

The Turnbull Library, Bowen Street, Wellington, was a fitting birthplace of the Society in that it was the home of the late Alexander Turnbull, who, with the late Augustus Hamilton, late Director of the Dominion Museum, took a keen interest in the study of the science of numismatics; and the collection of numismatic books on the shelves of the Turnbull Library, bequeathed to the nation, bears testimony to the interest taken in the science by that generous New Zealander. It was the existence of the collection of reports of overseas Numismatic Societies on the shelves of the Turnbull Library that first suggested the idea of forming a New Zealand Society. From the outset the Library has been regarded as the home of the Society which considers itself fortunate in having been able to prosecute its studies in an attractive atmosphere, and to add something to the advancement of cultural studies in New Zealand. The collection of numismatic books of the Society has, for convenient reference, been lodged on semi-permanent loan in the Turnbull Library, helping also to bring up to date the collection of kindred works already there.

It was fortunate that the N.Z. Numismatic Society was well established when, in 1933, New Zealand adopted her own distinctive coinage in place of the British Imperial coins which had been legally current for the 93 years New Zealand had been a British possession. Owing to variation of Empire exchanges, about 1930, Australian coins, which had been more or less accepted in New Zealand since their first introduction in Australia in 1910, were from about 1930 onwards, illegally imported to New Zealand in large quantities in order to

gain a profit on the exchange. Later, too, after further exchange variations, British Imperial coins, - the legal coinage of New Zealand - were smuggled out of the country in large quantities, and the resulting situation forced the Government to defeat these malpractices by the issue of its own coinage. In this change the N.Z. Numismatic Society co-operated with the Government to the fullest extent. In 1933 the Government set up a Coinage Committee to consider the designs, denomination, and manufacture of the new coins. This Committee, which was widely representative, dealt mainly with decimal coinage, and a proposal to establish a mint in New Zealand, leaving the question of designs to be determined by a special Committee. Mr. A. D. Park, Secretary to the Treasury, assisted by Mr. E. C. Ashwin, presided over the first-mentioned Coinage Committee, Mr. Allan Sutherland, representing the N.Z. Numismatic Society. The second Committee also set up by the Government - the Coinage and Bank Note Designs Committee - was presided over by the Rt. Hon. Mr. J. G. Coates, Acting Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, and representatives of the N.Z. Numismatic Society associated with him on that Committee were Professor J. Rankine Brown, (the then President) and Mr. Allan Sutherland (Hon. Secretary). Not only was a new coinage introduced in the year 1933, but also, on the establishment of the Reserve Bank of New Zealand, in the same year, a new standardised issue of bank-notes supplanted the bank-notes of the six trading banks which had issued their own notes from the commencement of the Colony nearly one hundred years before. The numismatic history of the Dominion would not be complete without mention of the fact that owing to frequent shortages of coins and currency generally, from 1840 to 1880, upwards of sixty New Zealand traders issued copper penny and half-penny tokens, whilst some traders issued currency notes, even down to threepence in value, and both types of currency were accepted until called in and superseded by the legal coinage of Queen Victoria. The private paper currency was issued from 1840 but was circulated for a shorter time than the copper tokens which were first issued about 1850 and called in about 1880.

The Society was fortunate in securing a numismatist-Governor-General, Lord Bledisloe, as its first Patron, and at one of its earliest meetings he was the chief speaker. Lord Bledisloe's outstanding success as Governor-General of New Zealand, coupled with his generous gift, in association with Lady Bledisloe, of the Waitangi Treaty site to the nation, prompted the Society, in 1935, to strike a medal commemorating the 95th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty, and to link Lord Bledisloe's name with that of the first Lieut. Governor, Hobson, in a symbolic design on the reverse, and to show Lord Bledisloe's portrait on the obverse. The issue of the medal was limited to 100 and was an outstanding success, the portraiture and design from hand-cut dies being uniformly praised.

This volume records not only the progress and activities of the Society in the general field of numismatics, but also contains a connected record of the introduction of our first New Zealand coins and uniform bank notes. The resume of papers read will form a permanent record of the transactions of the Society and the index will constitute a source of ready reference to the many branches of the study dealt with during the last five years.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND.

I N D E X

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

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This volume contains reports issued by the Society during the first five years of its existence, from 1931 to 1935 up to and including the 30th meeting. (5th Annual Meeting) 29th June, 1936. The report of each meeting follows in numerical sequence, the number being found in the heading, and it is to the meeting number that the index refers, thus 11/2 refers to Meeting 11, page 2 of that report. In addition to the numbered reports, five annual reports ("AR") are to be found after ("af") the report numbers referred to below.

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1AR	1st .. af. 6th mtg	27th June, 1932.
2AR	2nd .. af. 11th mtg	31st July, 1933.
3AR	3rd .. af. 16th mtg	23rd July, 1934.
4AR	4th .. af. 23rd mtg	22nd July, 1935.
5AR	5th .. af. 29th mtg	29th June, 1936.
Report of 24th meeting (27.3.35)		follows report of 27th meeting.
<u>Ex.Exhibited., Pf.Preface., H.C.M.Hon.Corresp.Mbr; Inverted Commas indicate subject paper read.</u>		

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Royal Numismatic Socy. Congtns 3; Gavin and Sutherland Fellows 15; Centenary 27.
- Rules of Society, 1/3-4.
Rule, P. Watts, V. Pres. 13/2; 17; 25; 30/2.
ex. 20/2; Coin designs 20/3.
Ryan, Baron, Kt. of H.R. Empire, Insignia 4/2.
- Samoa (N.Z. Coins) 20/3.
Secy. Hon. (Sutherland 1933-36).
Seaby, Catl. Br. Coins 16.
Seignorage, surcharging coins, 5AR.
Sherwood, G.C. Council 30/2.
Sheriff, S.J., Ex Greek Roman casts 30/5.
Shin Plasters, Wn 1845, 1/-; 5/2; 15; 16/2.
Smith, J.W.M. Cncl. 8/2; 13/2; 17; 25; 30/2; Aud. 25; "Irish Coins" 29.
Speight, Prof. R. Chch. V. Pres. 7.
Smuggling coin see "export".
Spanish Dollars Holey, Aust. 11/2.
Specimen sets N.Z. coins 15/2a; cost 16/2; recd. date crown altered, faulty packg 27. bank-notes old 15.
Subscription 1/2; composite 27; 29; 30.
Sutherland, Allan, calls inaug meetg. Fndn. Mbr. Pfee. 1/2; Hon. Secy. 7; 13/2; 17; 25; 30/2. "Coins Keys to History" 7/2; H.C.M. Aust. N.S. 10; "Adel: gold token"; 10; Advocates symbolic coin designs and dec. enge 11/2-2a Holey dlrs. 11/2; apptd. Govt. Cnge Comee, 1933 (designs, decimal and mfture coins N.Z.) Pf. 12. apptd Cnge and Bank Note designs Comee 12; Pres. Coin cabinet by Society 13; N.Z. Coinage 13/2; Elected F.R.N.S. 15; "N.Z. Coin Laws" 16; ex. 17/2, 20/2; Absent Abroad 24; 4AR; 25; "Modern World Coins, sidelights" 26; donation 5AR; "N.Z. Cross" 30/5. Tribute services 30/5. Crescent 28;
State Coin Collection 2; 5AR/2.
- Taffs, H.W., Sec. B.N.S., Pres 19 vls. rpt. 5AR/2, apprec. 30.
Tasmanian Convict Medal ex 14/2.
Tewsley, Miss U. Fndn. Mbr. Prf. Retires Numismatist Dom. Mus. 13/2.
Threepence, abolished Fiji 15/2; N.Z. 1935 set incomplete 27; obtained 29.
Tilley, H., ex Counterfeit note 17.
Timaru Band Medal (Rule) ex. 20/2.
Titles on coins Fr. 14/2.
Todd, L.C., Cncl. 7.
Tokens, Scot. Comm. 10; N.Z. Penny 15/2 Dn. Tramway 5/2.
Treasurer, see "Asher, Lowe, Ward, Cooper".
Turkish Coins (E. Gilbertson) 2/2; medals (Walpole) 28;
Turnbull Library, Socy Formed Prf. 1/1-2 Numis. works lodged 16; 5AR/3; Turnbull a numismatist Prf. Meetings Prf. 3AR.
- Value of medals 30/4.

Waitangi-Bledisloe Medal, N.Z. Numismatic Society, 1935.
Proposed (Bates) 8; disc. 9; 3AR; Sub-committee 17; issue
apprd. 18, 18a; designs consid. 19; 20/3; apprd. 21;
presented to Lord Bledisloe 22; distbn and cost 23,24;
specimens and dies pres. Dom.Mus. 23; circ. tombs.
24; issue reviewed 4AR; dies ex and disc. 25/4.
Waitangi Crown, N.Z. 15; 3AR; 5AR.
Walpole, F.R., Anzac Turkish Medals, 28.
Ward, S.P., Fdn.Mbr. Prf; Act. Treas. 4AR/2.
Auditor 30/2; Cncl 1/3; 7; 13/2; 17; 25.
Ward, J.B., French coins medals ex 14. Medals schools, ex.
17, Irish coins ex 29; Pres work decimal coinage; 23;
V. President 25; 30/2.
Weaver, C.J.V., Sydney, H.C.M. "Italian coins" 11; H.C.M.
15/2.
Wear of coins N.Z. 6; 11/2; McCay, Mint Melb. (work) 16.
Webb, P.H., (London) Presdt. R.N.S. 3; pres illus catl.
Roman Coins 10; 2 AR; Elected H.C.M. 15/2.
Whitehouse, G.E., cut dies medal 19; 22/1-2, 22, 23.
Williams, H.G. (Coin Exchange, Dunedin), Ex. Tenino Bank-notes
10; pres. coin album, replicas 16; ex Puffins, Lundy Island
16/2, Crown, Cromwell 20/2.

THIS VOLUME CONTAINS INDEX AND REPORTS UP TO AND
INCLUDING 30th MEETING, 29th JUNE 1936.

VOLUME II COMMENCES WITH REPORT OF 31st MEETING
27.6.1936.

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STUDY OF COINAGE.

Report of Inaugural Meeting of the NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

With the object of encouraging the study of numismatics in all its branches by the holding of periodic meetings, exhibitions of coins, the reading and circulation of papers, etc., the first New Zealand Numismatic Society has been formed. The Inaugural Meeting was held in the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on the 20th July, 1931. The Rev. D. C. Bates, Wellington, presided.

In outlining the proposal Mr. Allan Sutherland, Wellington, gave a resume of the events which led up to the calling of the Inaugural Meeting. He stated that there were three Numismatic Societies in Australia, and there appeared to be ample scope for a similar Society in New Zealand. At the present time many numismatists were collecting in an aimless fashion, not being able to increase their knowledge of numismatics, or to improve their collections, owing to lack of contact with other collectors and the absence of a medium by which the latest and best information on the subject could be made available to them. The proposal was supported by enthusiastic collectors in many parts of New Zealand.

Messages were read from the Australian Numismatic Society, and the Numismatic Society of Victoria wishing the New Zealand collectors every success in their endeavour to found a New Zealand Society. Messages were also read from collectors in other parts of the Dominion giving support to the project.

In supporting the proposal, Mr. E. Gilbertson, of Wellington, made a short but very interesting survey of the wide field which offered an almost unlimited scope to numismatists for research and study. He stated that the study of numismatics embraced four main periods, the Greek, the Roman-Byzantine, the Medieval-Modern, and the Oriental. After referring to the fact that the earliest records showed that the first silver coins were struck in the year 700 B.C., when King Phidon of Argos issued coins bearing the design of a tortoise and when, contemporaneously the Chinese also commenced to issue coins, he traced the history of numismatics down to the issue of the English sovereign which, he contended, was the finest coin in the World.

Sir John Hanham, Wellington, also supported the project and gave some interesting details as to the early English coinage, making special reference to the portraiture on the coinage of Henry the Seventh and Eighth which coins, he considered, were the finest in that series.

Mr. Bates, Wellington, said that there were many fine coin collections in the Dominion; in fact some New Zealand collectors possessed rare coins which were not to be found in the British Museum. The advent of the new Society was a distinct advance in the realm of numismatics in New Zealand. Mr. Bates referred to recent coinage issues in other parts of the World, and particularly to the Irish Free State coins. He dealt with the Bill now before the New Zealand House of Representatives having for its purpose the minting of coins of a distinctive New Zealand design, and stated that he cordially approved of the idea. He thought, however, that some alteration should be made in the current denominations in the direction of the decimal system on the basis of either 5s., 4s., or 2s., as a unit. The matter, however, required a good deal of expert consideration.

After deciding to form the Society, rules were adopted, and the following officers were elected:

President	:	:	:	The Rev. D.C. Bates, Wellington.
Vice-Presidents	:	:	:	Sir John Hanham Bart., Wellington. Messrs J. O. Entrican, Auckland, and E. K. Cameron, Hawera.
General Secretary	:	:	:	Mr. Allan Sutherland, Wellington.
Treasurer	:	:	:	Mr. H. H. Asher, Wellington.
Corresponding Secretary	:	:	:	Mr. Allan Sutherland, Wellington.
Council	:	:	:	Messrs E. Gilbertson, Johannes C. Anderson, Dr. J. S. Elliott, S. P. Ward, and H. R. Ford.

It was decided that the annual subscription be 5s., and that the meetings of the Society be held quarterly. The next meeting of the Society is to be held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, at 8-0.p.m., on Monday 31st August, when Mr. E. Gilbertson, Wellington, will deliver an address on Greek and Turkish coins.

Sir John Hanham (Vice President) intimated that he would donate to the Society, for a period, the leading British numismatic periodical- Spinks Numismatic Monthly- and he was accorded a hearty vote of thanks therefor.

The meeting directed that the Numismatists attached to the various Museum Staffs throughout the Dominion be invited to join the Society.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Johannes C. Anderson, Librarian, Turnbull Library, for his kindness in making available the Turnbull Library for the holding of the Inaugural Meeting.

At the conclusion of the business section of the meeting, the Rev. D. C. Bates, the newly-elected President, delivered a most interesting address on "Coinage through the Ages", and illustrated his address by exhibiting some rare and beautiful coins from his coin-cabinet. The thanks of the meeting was expressed to the President for his very instructive address.

Election of Officers

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Vice-Presidents : : : Sir John Hanham Bart., Wellington.
Messrs J. O. Entrican, Auckland,
and E. K. Cameron, Hawera.
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A general discussion on the affairs of the Society followed during which it was decided that no interest in numismatic matters developed and endeavours would be made to get numismatic society into start - all the more to give the

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as read,

D.C. Bates

7. Sep. 1931

27 June 1932

Copy of letter to ...

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

14, Clifton Terrace,
WELLINGTON, N.Z.,
31st July, 1931.

Dear Sir or Madam,

I have much pleasure in advising you that The New Zealand Numismatic Society was duly launched at an inaugural meeting, held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on Monday, 20th July, 1931. The meeting was a very successful one in every respect, and the enthusiasm displayed by those present augurs well for the success of the Society.

I forward herewith a brief report of the inaugural meeting, together with a copy of the Rules adopted at that meeting.

It is the desire of the Council that all members should endeavour to interest other collectors in the activities of the Society, and to suggest names of suitable collectors for possible election as members of the Society.

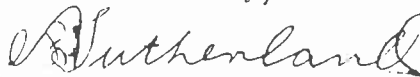
Sir John Hanham (Vice-President) has kindly donated to the Society, for a period, the monthly issues of Spinks's Numismatic Monthly, and this periodical will be circulated chain-fashion, amongst members as received. Members who already subscribe to this publication, and who do not desire to avail themselves of the Society's copy, are asked to advise me accordingly.

It is hoped, later on, to arrange with members resident in other centres to form branches of the Society wherever possible, and any suggestions in this connection will be welcomed by the Council.

It is proposed to issue to members an annual Bulletin containing matters of numismatic interest, and abstracts of papers read before the Society. The Council hopes that each member will contribute to this publication, either by way of addresses or papers to be read before the Society, or by submitting paragraphs on matters of numismatic interest.

At a later date a list of the names and addresses of members will be supplied to you.

Yours faithfully,



Hon. Secretary,
The New Zealand Numismatic Society.

P.S. The subscription of Five shillings for the current year is now due, and I have been asked by the Hon. Treasurer (Mr. H. H. Asher, 14, Clifton Terrace, Wellington) to request you to forward same to him at your earliest convenience.

NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

Second Meeting, 7th Sept. 1931.

The Second Meeting of the New Zealand Numismatic Society was held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on 7th September, 1931. The Rev. D. C. Bates presided. A meeting of the Council was held prior to the main address of the evening. Owing to illness the Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. Sutherland, was unable to be present, and Mr. H. H. Asher, Treasurer, undertook the duties of Secretary pro tem.

Members present: D. C. Bates, (President), Miss Jewell, Sir John Hansham, W. B. G. Gilchrist, J. P. Ward, H. H. Asher, Dr. Elliott, Dr. Rankine Brown, W. B. G. Gilchrist, Johannes O. Anderson, L. C. Todd, W. B. G. Gilchrist, H. H. Asher.

Section of Minutes of meeting...

That the formation of a Numismatic Society in New Zealand has excited the interest of coin collectors and students of coinage and others in all parts of New Zealand was evidenced by the shoal of enquiries and correspondence placed before the Council for its consideration.

Gratification was expressed at an intimation received from His Excellency the Governor-General, Lord Bledisloe, that he gladly consented to a request of the Council to address Members of the Society on the very interesting archaeological discoveries made on his estate in the Homeland. Members will be advised as to the date of the address which will probably be during the first week of December.

Ten new members were elected as follows, - Professor R. Speight, Christchurch; Dr. J. Rankine Brown, Wellington; Mr. J. P. Ward, Hokitika; Ven. Archdeacon G. H. Gavin, Waitara; Mr. S. R. McCallum, Wanganui; Mr. A. P. Patterson, Timaru; Messrs H. J. Gaby, L. C. Todd, K. Lowe, and W. B. Reilly, Wellington.

A budget of interesting monthly reports from the Australian Numismatic Society was tabled. Letters were read from the Australian Numismatic Society, and the Numismatic Society of Victoria conveying the congratulations of Commonwealth Societies on the occasion of the most successful inauguration of the N. Z. Numismatic Society, and wishing it a long and successful career.

A proposal to adopt "The New Zealand Magazine" as the official organ of the Society was approved, and details are now being discussed as to the possibility of obtaining a concession for members subscribing to this publication.

It was reported that a proposal had been made to form a branch of the Society in Auckland, and the Council directed that all assistance be rendered in that connection. Suggestions regarding the relationship of branches to the parent body, and the granting of all privileges possible to country members were discussed at some length, and on the motion of Dr. J. S. Elliott, it was decided to defer consideration until a subsequent meeting.

The Council directed that a specimen copy of the American "Numismatist" be obtained for inspection with a view to the society becoming a subscriber.

GREEK AND TURKISH COINS.

The speaker for the evening was Mr. E. Gilbertson, of Wellington, who delivered a most interesting paper on Greek and Turkish coins. The history and progress of Greek coinage to the highwater stage in coinage, as reflected in the artistic excellence of Greek coins and medallions of the period 415-336 B.C., and the subsequent decadence were interestingly dealt with, after which Turkish coins were reviewed.

Those present were privileged to inspect some exceptionally fine gold and silver coins of the countries and periods dealt with. These specimens were considered to be some of the finest of their kind in existence.

In moving a vote of thanks to the speaker for his address, Dr. Rankine Brown made some interesting observations in regard to the artistic merits of the early Greek coins, and the surprisingly large number of mints in operation in Greece at that period - in fact every town of importance had its own mint.

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

A number of medals of historical interest, and a large number of coins, and rubbings of coins, which had been submitted for inspection or for disposal, were examined, but few were dealt with. Owing to the lateness of the hour, it was decided to arrange for a special coin evening, when members would have more time to examine the specimens submitted.

Sir John Hanham (Vice President) has consented to read a paper before the Society on the subject of "Early English Coinage."

Confirmed

H. B. Bates

Chairman

5. Oct / 31.

NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

....

Special Coin Evening Oct 5th, 1931.

A Special Coin Evening was held by the New Zealand Numismatic Society at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, at 8-0.p.m. on October 5th 1931. The President, the Rev. D.C. Bates presided.

From 8-0.p.m. to 10-0.p.m. various collections of medals and coins, and rubbings of coins were submitted for inspection and possible disposal or offer. At the conclusion of this section of the meeting, a short meeting of the Council of the Society was held primarily for the purpose of moving formal motions as a condition precedent to the opening of a Post Office Savings Bank Account.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Matters arising out of the minutes were deferred for a subsequent meeting.

Mr. S.P. Ward, moved, and Mr. H.R. Ford, seconded, That a Post Office Savings Bank be opened in the Name of the New Zealand Numismatic Society, and that the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Allan Sutherland, and the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Harold Asher, be co-trustees of the account of the Society.

Motion agreed to.

The following new members were elected,

Mr. R. C. Burton, Wellington.
Mr. H.M. Luna, F.R.N.S., Waitara.
Mr. A.S.H. Hodge, Hawera.

Mr. Sutherland reported as to further advise he had received in regard to the proposed formation of a Numismatic Society in Auckland. No action necessary, but Secretary to keep Council acquainted with the position from time to time.

The Secretary read an extract from a letter he had received from Mr. H.M. Luna, a Fellow of the Royal Numismatic Society, (Waitara) conveying a message from the President of the Royal Numismatic Society (Mr. Percy H. Webb, M.B.E.) to the New Zealand Numismatic Society, as follows,-

(Extract of letter from Mr. Percy H. Webb, M.B.E. to Mr. Luna, F.R.N.S.)

"

"The news of the interest which New Zealand is taking in Numismatics is indeed cheering. If you get in touch with the Society, you may say that I am proposing to report its existence to the Royal Numismatic Society, the Fellows of which will, I am sure, be glad to hear of the extension of their study."

The Secretary was instructed to thank Mr. Luna for his communication, and to consult with Sir John Hanham, (Vice President) regarding proposals made at the previous meeting that he should communicate with a prominent member of the Royal Society with whom he was acquainted.

Confirmed.

Date. 1931

[Signature]
CHAIRMAN.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

REPORT OF FOURTH MEETING

(Address by His Excellency, the Governor-General, The Right Hon. Lord Bledisloe),
1st December, 1931.

ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, THE RT. HON. LORD BLEDISLOE.

On the 1st December, His Excellency the Governor-General, Lord Bledisloe, addressed members of the Society and their friends at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on the archaeological discoveries associated with his home at Lydney Park, Gloucestershire. Her Excellency, Lady Bledisloe, accompanied the Governor-General, and the Government House party included Mrs. Veal, A. C. Day, Esq., C.M.G., C.B.E., and Lieut. Ellworthy, A.D.C. Unfortunately, Sir John Hanham, Bt., our local Vice-President, was unable to be present. There was an attendance of about 50. In Welcoming Their Excellencies, the President, the Rev. D. C. Bates, paid a tribute to the keen interest taken by Lord Bledisloe in the many and varied activities of the community. That evening His Excellency appeared before the Society in the role of an archaeologist, whose beautiful home in the Homeland was the centre of some of the most important Roman discoveries of recent times. The science of numismatics was an important branch of the wider field of archaeology, which heretofore had not received very great attention in New Zealand.

His Excellency, Lord Bledisloe, said he was pleased to note the interest taken in the study of numismatics in New Zealand, and he congratulated the President and those associated with him in the formation of the first Numismatic Society in the Dominion. Although he did not pretend to be a numismatist, he was keenly interested in the subject and had collected coins from an early age. He had in his possession over 12,000 coins of Roman origin found at different times on a plateau in the deer park on his estate, which had been occupied by the Romans during the whole of the Roman occupation of Britain. Had it not been for the discovery of certain coins on the site it would have been impossible to ascertain clearly the nature of the occupants and the periods of occupancy of the various edifices, the foundations of which he would illustrate. His Excellency then proceeded to deliver a very interesting and informative address on the archaeological and numismatic discoveries at Lydney Park, illustrating his address by lantern slides. Views of different parts of Lydney Park, of the foundations of Roman edifices of different periods, of an old iron mine, stone walls, tessellated pavements, ornaments, and a unique collection of Lydney coins, were screened and interestingly described. At the conclusion of the address, His Excellency kindly arranged for each member present to be supplied with a copy of a report of his Presidential Address on somewhat similar lines delivered to the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society shortly before leaving the Homeland, and, in addition, he very thoughtfully made available sufficient copies to be forwarded to members of the Society not resident in Wellington and who were unable to attend the meeting.

On the motion of Professor J. Rankine Brown, and seconded by Dr. J. S. Elliott, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to His Excellency for his most interesting and informative address.

REPORT OF FIFTH MEETING,
29th February, 1932.

Address by Sir John Hanham, Bt., (Vice-President).

"ENGLISH COINAGE WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE HAMMERED SERIES" was the subject of a very interesting address delivered by Capt. Sir John Hanham, Bt., at the fifth meeting of The New Zealand Numismatic Society, held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on the 29th February, 1932. There was a good attendance of members. The President, the Rev. D. C. Bates, occupied the Chair. In order to illustrate his address, Sir John Hanham obtained from his collection in England some very fine early English coins, and these specimens attracted a good deal of attention.

RESUME OF ADDRESS. After making some interesting observations regarding his early experiences as a student and collector of coinages, Sir John proceeded in a general way to deal with the English coinage from the earliest times to the present day. The historical background was also dealt with in an interesting manner. Commencing with the stater, which was the standard coin in use by the early British tribes, prior to the Roman Conquest, Sir John said that it was generally supposed that Britain was inhabited by purely barbaric tribes before the Roman Conquest, but an examination of the coins of that period alone should be sufficient evidence to indicate that that was not the case. The lecturer did not deal with the Roman coins struck in Britain during the time that country was part of the Roman Empire.

Authorities consider that coins were first struck in Britain between the years 200 - 150 B.C. They originated in the Gaulish Colonies of Kent. The earlier designs were influenced by the Greek rather than the Roman models. After the Romans left Britain in 450 A.D. the numismatic history, like the national history, was confused, and when historians again saw light a Scandinavian coinage was in general use. The designs were then largely influenced by the Roman models, but later Christian symbols were introduced. The coins of the Norse invaders, of the Kings of the Heptarchy, and of the Archbishops of York and Canterbury, were then dealt with. Interesting reference was made to the various hoards of coins that had been unearthed from time to time, and specimens from the Guerdale find were exhibited at the meeting.

The speaker then traced the history of the coinage of the English Kings and Queens down through the centuries, and gave interesting details of the various changes in designs, denominations, and metals, etc., and indicated how the designs of the coins reflected the great historical changes of the day.

The reign of Henry VII. ushered in the dawn of modern coinage. The later coins of that monarch were accurately struck, and the portraiture was true. Henry VIII., however, debased the coinage worse than it had ever been debased before - or since - although some of the silver issues after the Great War were nearly as bad. The Crown, or 5/- piece, of Edward VI. was one of the noblest of the silver series. The coinage of Philip and Mary, and of Elizabeth, and the siege pieces of Charles I. were then referred to. The trials of the Pyx, and the discontinuance during Elizabeth's reign of the use of the mill and screw, and its introduction again during the time of Charles II., also received passing mention.

The Commonwealth coins struck by order of the Rump Parliament were interesting in that the legends appeared for the first and only time entirely in English. The coins bearing Cromwell's head were very scarce.

The chief interest of English coins, contended Sir John, ceased from the time of Charles I., as the originality in design disappeared thenceforward, and the types tended to become conventionalised. The hammered series were called in by William III. in 1694.

About the beginning of the nineteenth century Spanish dollars stamped with the head of George III. were used to supplement the shortage of silver. This was also the heyday of copper tokens.

Sir John concluded by giving some interesting details regarding the later designs. He thought that the Gothic Crown of Victoria, with the beautiful bust of the young Queen and the graceful lettering, was probably the most artistic of our modern coins. It was interesting to note that the design, "St. George and the Dragon," used on sovereigns to this day was first copied from an engraving by Pistrucci, on a gem.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the speaker for his most interesting address. It is hoped to arrange for a fairly full report of the address to be published in the "New Zealand Magazine."

FAREWELL TO SIR JOHN HANHAM. In view of the fact that Sir John Hanham was on the eve of departure to the Homeland (after relinquishing the position of Aide-de-Camp to His Excellency the Governor-General), the opportunity was taken by Wellington members to farewell him and to present him with an inlaid brass plaque as a token of their appreciation of the keen interest he had taken in the affairs of the Society since its inauguration.

In making the presentation, the Dominion President, the Rev. D. C. Bates, said that at all times Sir John Hanham had rendered willing assistance in the affairs of the Society, and he would be greatly missed. All members joined in wishing him the best of good fortune on his return to the Homeland. Mr. E. Gilbertson and Dr. J. S. Elliott also voiced the regret of members on the departure of one of the Society's most prominent foundation members.

In responding Sir John said that it had given him great pleasure to have been associated in the foundation of the Society. The Society had become well established and was bound to prosper. He very greatly appreciated the genuine expressions of goodwill on his departure and the handsome present given to him. At all times he would maintain an interest in the future activities of the Society.

SPECIAL EXHIBITS. Special exhibits during the evening included a paper 1/- note issued in Wellington, N.Z., in 1845 (exhibited by Dr. J. S. Elliott), an octagonal aluminium penny token issued by the Municipality of Dunedin in the early days (exhibited by Mr. Allan Sutherland), and a set of the latest British Imperial coins, and the modern Irish issues (exhibited by Mr. Henry Abraham).

A. Sutherland

Hon. Secretary,
New Zealand Numismatic Society,
14, Clifton Terrace,
WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND,
March 30th, 1932.

P.S. ANNUAL MEETING: PRELIMINARY NOTICE. The Annual Meeting of the Society will be held some time in June next. Notices of motion and written nominations for the various offices of the Society will be received by me any time up to 1st May, 1932.

COIN EVENING. MONDAY, 4th APRIL, 1932. A special Coin Evening will be held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, at 8.15 p.m. on Monday, 4th April, 1932. Various collections of coins will be submitted for disposal at this meeting. (Note: This meeting is for members and intending members only).

MEETING OF COUNCIL. A meeting of the Council of the Society will be held on the same evening (Monday, 4th April, 1932), commencing at 7.30 p.m.

English Coinage

by
Sir John Hanham Bt.

Ladies and Gentlemen,-

I propose this evening to deal in a general way with the English coinage from the earliest times to the present day. The subject is a large one and any mention of the Scottish, Irish, Welsh or Channel Island issues will be avoided. These are all of interest, but for one thing I know very little about them and for another there are probably few collectors here who have any special interest in them. During the Roman occupation coins were struck in this country but as Britain was then a part of the Roman Empire I do not consider that they are, strictly speaking, British coins, and shall leave them to be dealt with when you have a paper read on Roman coinage. I shall concentrate on silver coins of which my collection mostly consists.

I should like to start by saying that my collection is a small one. I started at school picking up copper and nickel coins of any country and without any knowledge, I got hold of a few Roman copper and brass coins and at one time was much more interested in them. But when I left school, I found it impossible to get hold of any authoritative catalogues or books and on looking through my father's coins (picked up haphazard all over the world) found that British coins predominated and I concentrated on them. My coins are of no very great value, and it is essentially a poor man's collection. At odd times I have attended coin sales and in moment of affluence bought some of the rarer coins. Farthings and three pennies, however, for some time formed the basis of my collection. For years I took in the Numismatic Circular and bought coins at intervals from Spink and Son, but I found that Baldwins were cheaper and more attentive.

I soon decided that I preferred to go in for really fine condition and few coins, rather than poor condition and quantity. This is a matter of taste and depth of pocket. I sent home for a few coins from my collection and will have them found. I would be glad if they are held by the edges.

One tends to think of Britain before the Roman conquest as a country inhabited by purely barbaric tribes. But their coinage alone would tell us that this was not so. The Stater, their standard coin is a copy of the Stater of Philip of Macedon. This coin was known throughout the Mediterranean and seems to have been accepted readily much as the Maria Theresa dollar was in N. Africa in recent times. Copies of the Stater of inferior workmanship were made at Marseilles, and probably the Stater of Marseilles was the model for the even ruder Stater of the British tribes. Sir John Evans, whose book 'Ancient British Coins' is still the best authority, considers, from evidence which I do not propose to go into, that coins were first struck in Britain between 200-150 B.C.

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They originated in the Gaulish colonies in Kent and gradually spread throughout the Island. Julius Caesar states that the British used gold and bronze coins, they also used silver. That they were copies of Greek rather than Roman coins is shown by the fact that they are dished and not flat as were all Roman coins. The design on the obverse is the head of a god, and the reverse shows a charioteer driving a two-horsed chariot. I will pass round Sir John Evans's book and a study of his plates will show the gradual degeneration of type. On my example, which by the way cost 15/-, small signs of the head are shown but the horse has not entirely disappeared. The price at which good examples can be obtained proves that these coins are not as rare as one might be led to suppose. I have also silver copies in my collection. The earliest coins were uninscribed but later inscriptions e.g. CAMV appear. Cymbeline's town appeared CUNO (the Roman abbreviated form of CUNOBELINUS) also TASCIO for Tacivanus Cymbeline's father with VER for VERGANIUM on the reverse. The inscribed coins are rarer than the uninscribed. So-called ring money - usually in the shape of bracelets - deserves mention, but can hardly be considered as coins. Numerous finds have been made, largely in Ireland.

When the native coinage became superseded by the Roman issues, Hadrian placed Britannia with her trident on the coinage. This was reintroduced by Charles II on his copper coins, and remains on our coins to this day. Carausius and Allectus deserve some mention. I picked up a coin of the former for about 1/- in Winchester in fair preservation. He was Count of the Saxon Shore, or in other words he was in charge of the fleet that was centred on England's East Coast to deal with Norse pirates. He revolted from the Western Empire, and having the fleet with him, was in a very strong position, and was not interfered with. He was murdered by Allectus, one of his officers, who reigned for a short time before a punitive expedition from the Continent disposed of him in the usual way.

After the Romans left Britain in A.D. 450, numismatic history, like the national history, is thoroughly confused. No doubt the Roman coinage continued in use, and no doubt local imitations were made. But when we see light again, a purely Scandinavian coinage was in general use. The designs were influenced largely by the Roman models, as one would expect, but later Christian symbols were introduced.

and
Scattæ or styccas were almost in universal use, the former of silver and the latter usually of alloys including tin, copper, and gold. The wolf and twins, and the Roman standard are often rudely copied as can be seen from my examples. The crescent with lines descending from it are held to be an attempt to depict the wolf and twins and the standard with TOT, a copy of the reverse of Constantine's coins with the VOT xx. Dragons with weird tails and monstrous birds adorn others, and in rare cases runic lettering is shown. The cross appears sometimes with a bird, and the head of Christ bearded, and on scattæ, at any rate, two figures as on the Byzantine coins representing Christ and the Virgin. These coins were probably struck in Britain by the Norse invaders, though probably some were brought in with them. Styccas were used in the North and were struck by various Bishops.

We now come to what is, in my view, the most interesting of British coins, namely the penny. The 'd' in our term £ s d recalls the fact that the penny was the denarius, the 's' ^{solidus} and the £ ^{librum}. According to Hawkins, the penny was first coined by Ethelbert, King of Kent in 725-760. When first issued it weighed 24 grains. It continued in general use until the end of the Commonwealth when it weighed about $7\frac{1}{2}$ grains, and after a short period of eclipse as semi-currency, semi-maundy money reappeared but in copper or bronze, and the latter survive to the present day. The head of the sovereign has almost invariably appeared on the obverse, and the various designs on the reverse have nearly always included the cross. This ~~of course~~ applies to silver coinage, especially.

The different Kings of ^{THE} Heptarchy struck their own coins and the Bishops of York and Canterbury also enjoyed the privilege. I shall not go into the coinage of ^{the} Heptarchy in detail. The designs were mostly crude, as the example I will show will prove. The coinage of Offa who made a pilgrimage to Rome is an exception, and the work on his coins is good. It is thought that he may have brought back Italian engravers with him. His wife Cynethryth also struck coins, and is the only Saxon Queen to do so. ~~These names are very helpful in fixing the sequence of types.~~

On the reverse of these early coins the name of the moneyer appeared, but not that of the Mint. The moneyer was a fairly important personage, and it was necessary to be able to check his work. This is probably the chief reason for the appearance of the name on the reverse. The head of Offa appeared on the obverse, and there were many types of dies. Although fairly numerous the variety of dies makes his coins expensive, and I have no example.

I should like to enter into details of the various hoards of coins that have been found. Many have been unearthed by the plough, others in building foundations for houses, and there is much romance connected with buried treasure. Coins have been discovered in single examples, and in hundreds in other cases such as in the Emerdale and Tamworth finds. In the case of the Emerdale find, the coins were discovered in a leaden box by workmen digging on the banks of the river Ribble in 1840. About 7,000 coins were discovered, of which over 900 were Alfred's, 2,700 of Cnut and Siefred, two extremely obscure Danish invaders. French, Arabic, and Continental coins, with a few of those of the archbishops of Canterbury were present with the bullion. This is probably the most famous of the finds of Saxon coins. I have four coins from this find, two of which I will show you tonight.

It is by a comparison of the different types of coins found in different hoards that the sequence of these types have been worked out. The Royal Collection of Sweden ~~contains~~ contains a fine series of Saxon coins. The coins of Aethelred the Unrede are extremely numerous, thus giving striking support to the historian's evidence of the heavy taxes paid to the Danes by that unfortunate King.

In 872 Hlafdan, a Dane, occupied London and struck a very interesting piece with a monogram of London on the reverse. This monogram was also used by Alfred the Great (of burnt cakes fame) and a token was struck at Wembley on the lines of this coin.

I will just mention that there was a considerable memorial coinage bearing the name of St. Edmund, the King who was martyred by the Danes. He was tied to a tree, and the Danes threw mutton bones at him until they killed him.

With regard to the regular series, the names of mints began to appear as well as those of the moneyers. In the reign of Aethelstan the grandson of Alfred the mints were firmly established. In fact a surprisingly large number of towns had a mint: there were four in my own comparatively unimportant and sparsely populated county of Dorset. Types of coins were frequently changed, partly as a check on forgery, and partly for revenue, as moneyers had to pay when new dies were issued. The coins, however, maintained their fineness and rudeness. On the coins of Cnut (who told the waves to stand still) the triangular helmet appears, and the hand of power with A and W on those of Edward the Confessor. The Kings are invariably bearded and the portraiture rude.

The coins of the Conqueror and his son William Rufus are very similar. He retains the Saxon P (We^M) for W and the same form of legend, e.g. WILLELM REX and on the reverse GODPINE ON PIN around some form of a cross. The coins of Henry I are rare, rude, and varied. Stephen, who gets a good deal of abuse for the anarchy of his reign, did not, as some historians assert, debase the coinage. His coins are slightly lighter in some cases, but of fine silver, though badly struck. There are some most interesting coins struck by the Barons during this period but they are all very rare. I have seen one or two of them. One of Robert of Gloucester shows a large man in conical helmet and coat of mail, seated on a small horse. Another attributed to Stephen and Matilda (his wife, not the Empress) standing hand in hand beneath what may be a lance or a tree while Eustace, Stephen's son is credited with a coin which bears on the obverse a formidable figure in helmet coat of mail and sword like a child's wooded sword.

Henry II reformed the coinage and brought in Philip of Aymery of Tours who attempted something in the nature of a portrait of the King. Richard and John struck coins but they used their father's design and titles and it is extremely difficult to separate these series.

From this date onwards the English Kings struck coins in those parts of France which they had acquired, but though interesting and often beautiful, they have no place in a paper of this scope.

Henry III introduced the long cross type in which the limbs of the cross extend from edge to edge and usually had a small ball or button on the end which did something to check the practice of clipping.

Raising money was always a difficult business, and Henry III devised a new method. He announced that he was going on a Crusade and in 1252 one-tenth of the ecclesiastical revenues were set aside for this purpose. The design of a crescent and star appeared on coins from this source. Henry, however, found a better use for the money, and remained at home. It is only fair to add that in 1269 his son Edward I did go to the Holy Land. Henry III issued a gold penny, but it was not a success, and was withdrawn, and therefore specimens are extremely rare.

The coin of Edward I show the King full face with locks of hair on the right side and Edwardus Rex sometimes FRANCIE (Ireland), on the reverse the cross, pellets in angles and Civitas Cantuar or ~~Canter~~ ^{Canter}. This type remained in use throughout the reigns until the time of Henry VII. The title DEI GRATIA appears on these coins. Groats were struck for the first time in Edward I's reign and came into use in Edward III's reign as did 36 grains and half groats. I ought perhaps to have said that farthings and half-pence had been used from early times but were cut in halves and quarters of pennies. The arrangement of his types is facilitated by his claims to the French throne abandoned in 1360 and resumed in 1369. Henry IV reduced the weight of the penny from 18-15 grains and Edward IV ~~to 12~~. Some of Richard III's rare coins bear his crest the bear. In 1351 the noble (value 6/8) was struck shewing the King half figure carrying sword and shield on a ship on waves supposed to commemorate a victory. Edward IV put a rose on the ship and this coin was called the rose noble. The angel was also coined by him shewing St. Michael defeating Lucifer. The angel was the piece given to those touched for the King's Evil and is often found holed. Scriptural mottoes appear on the groats POSUI DEUM ADIVTOREM MEUM and continue to the Commonwealth. Owing to the similarity of dies, the coins of the Edwards and Henrys present many difficulties, Hawkins book on silver coinage is quite out of date. Anyone who wishes to get a good grasp of this period should consult Walters work. But I must confess that I got completely confused when I tried to work out my coins, and I gave up in despair. Given sufficient time and examples, however, it would be a most interesting study. At the period mentioned the mints had been reduced to about half a dozen, of which York, London, Canterbury, and Durban HAM are the most important.

DAWN OF MODERN COINAGE.

SEVENTH

The reign of Henry ~~VIII~~ the Eighth ushers in the dawn of modern coinage, though I may be taken to task in this contention and told that the introduction of the mill and screw in Elizabeth's reign should be the time chosen. The later coins of Henry the Eighth are very fine: the portraiture is true, and the striking is accurately done. I consider that his later groats are as beautiful as any English coins. The shilling was first used in ~~this~~ HENRY VIII's reign as was also the sovereign shewing the King seated on his throne. In one series of pennies of which I have a copy the King is shewn in full robes seated on his throne as in the sovereign. T.C. for Thomas Cromwell is found on a Canterbury penny. On the York groats of Henry VIII appear T.W. (Holsey's initials) and the cardinal's hat beneath the shield which occupied the reverse. This was apparently a new departure for this coin. Among the other matters for which he was impeached was "of his pompous and presumptuous mind he hath enterprised to join and imprint the Cardinal's Hat under your arms in your coin of groats made at your city of York, which like death hath not yet been seen to have been done by any subject within your realm up to this time". It was all right to put the initials in but the hat below the shield was the no. limit! Henry debased the coinage worse than it has been debased before or since, though some of the silver issued during or just after the war was about as bad. The nose was the first place to wear thin and the silver wash in the later testoons or shillings is usually missing there. (8 oz. alloy to 4 oz. silver.) The portraiture is faithful, one could imagine, as Henry looks particularly gross in his later coins.

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THE NAVAL VICTORY
OF SLOYS

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Cromwell

During the reign of Edward VI the coinage was finer, the crown or 5/- piece one of the noblest of the silver series was introduced. The King was shown in armour sword in hand, mounted on a charger. Mottoes were popular: Rosa sine spina (alluding to the Tudor rose) *Tuor Domini Fons Vitae*. The halfcrown, sixpence and three penny bit were also introduced in this reign. Coins are first dated in this reign.

In Mary's reign the head of her husband Philip of Spain appeared on the shillings, alluded to in the contemporary description of a couple as "still amorous fond and billing like Philip and Mary on a shilling." These coins are scarce and usually in poor condition. I have two groats which make one feel sorry for Mary. In the first she looks a young pretty girl, in the second a tired, disillusioned old woman.

In Elizabeth's reign the coinage reached the purity of 11 ozs. 2 1/2 dwt. silver to 18 dwt. alloy and this was kept up until modern times. In this reign the three-halfpence, and three farthings were coined for the first and only time. The sixpennies were 11 dated as well as having the mint marks and this enables the other denominations to be dated correctly. The sixpence and alternate values were marked with a rose to distinguish them from other values of nearly identical size. In this reign the mint name appears for the last time except during the civil wars of Charles' time and William III's ^{recovery} ~~recovery~~. Perhaps this is the time to make a few remarks on the trial of the Pyx. These trials were held from early Norman times. The moneyers had samples of their coins taken melted down and assayed. If their coins were of correct standard, they were given a discharge, if not, they were subject to various penalties. In early days the loss of a hand. After the trial new dies were put into use bearing a new mint mark.

The mill and screw was used for a time in Elizabeth's reign, but dropped and not reintroduced until Charles II time. I have a 3d. with milled edge and the neater but more conventional design that seems to go with the introduction of machinery.

James I introduced new mottoes "quac deus coniunxit nono ^{separat} ~~separat~~" "Tuatur Unita Deo" referring to the union of the kingdoms. The unite so named from its motto "Faciam eos in gentem unam" shows this again. These coins have the Prince of Wales' feathers for a mint mark. Silver was scarce in those days and the Welsh mines at Aberystwith produced a great deal of that used.

The reign of Charles I produced some of the most interesting coins of the series. £3 pieces were struck at Oxford and Shrewsbury, pound pieces and ten shilling pieces in silver and a quantity of siege pieces were struck from plate given up by loyal families and Colleges to pay the armies and local garrisons. It is said that the silver mark may be seen on some of these coins. Most of the Oxford Colleges possess no plate of a date earlier than the civil wars for this reason. The Oxford crown of Rawlins shews a view of the city under the horse. Farthings in copper were struck in the reigns of Charles I and James I, thin pieces struck by contract. It speaks well for Charles that in spite of all his troubles he never debased the coinage. Thomas Simon of whom more later, made dies for Charles and for the Commonwealth. Nicholas Briot a Frenchman was responsible for some very neat work at the Tower mint. On the Oxford crown Charles' declaration is seen in abbreviated form "RELIG: P-ROT: LEG: ANG: LIBE-R: PAR:" to preserve the Protestant religion, the known laws

of the land, and the ^{just} first privileges and freedom of Parliament". The siege pieces of Newark are the least scarce, Weymouth also had siege pieces and Pontefract had an octagonal piece with a view of the castle.

The Commonwealth did not strike coins until after the murder of Charles I. Then they struck coins of the usual denominations simple and effective, on the obverse the shield of St. George with "Commonwealth of England" and on the reverse the Shield of St. George joined to another bearing the Irish harp, and the legend "God with us". Royalists said: "God's on one side and the Parliament on the other". This money was called breaches money. It was struck by order of the Rump Parliament. This is the only time that the legends have been entirely in English. The coins bearing Cromwell's head are scarce and probably were not put into circulation.

Charles II struck guinea and two guinea pieces. Thos. Simon was removed from his office and struck a trial piece, the famous Petition crown asking to be reinstated. On the edge is the petition and the work is very fine. This coin has sold for as much as £300. Blendens brought over from France his mills, rollers, presses, etc. and milled coins have been struck ever since. Lettering was put on the edges of the larger coins, Deum et Titulum and usually the year of the reign, and later a graining on all but the 3d and copper. The bronze half penny and farthing were introduced and remained in use. One of the queen's mistresses was the model for Britannia on the reverse and is drawn showing a good deal of leg. In Queen Anne's time the leg was decently draped. Linked 'Carolus' 'Carlo' were placed on the Maundy coins. Coins for less value than 6d were for many years only coined as Maundy money. In Victoria's reign, however, the 3d and the great reappeared. The two letter G's on modern half crowns must have been copied from the model referred to above. From this date each succeeding sovereign faces a different way on his coins to his predecessors.

I consider that the chief interest of English coins ceases from Charles the First. The originality of design is gone, and types tend to become conventionalised.

BULLION CAPTURED FROM SPANISH GALLEONS.

The word 'Vigo' is often found on the coins of Anne, This word indicates that the coins were made from bullion captured from the Spanish galleons in 1702. Likewise the word 'Lima' appears on some coins of George the Second and these coins were made from bullion brought back home by Anson from his voyage around the World.

In 1694 William the Third called in all the hammer-d coinage, and it ceased to be legal tender. By a tax on dwelling houses £1,200,000 was raised and a new coinage issued. To do this mints were set up in Bristol 'B', York 'Y' and Chester 'C' to coin the new issue of 1696. The plumes in the design denote silver from Wales, Roses from the West of England, the Elephant and castle from the South African company, 'F.D.' Fide Defensor, first appears on the coins of George the First, though this title had been conferred by the Pope on Henry the Eighth.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century and the end of the eighteenth, Spanish dollars stamped with the head of George the Third were used to supplement the shortage

of silver. This is the hey day of the English silver and copper tokens, though copper coins were also used in the seventeenth century to deal with the shortage of small change. The later tokens are of very little value unless in mint condition.

In 1846 the problem of a fresh issue of coins was again tackled, and an extensive issue made. Thomas Wyon provided the dies, except for the sovereign, the die for which was copied from an engraving of St George and the Dragon made by Pistrucchi on a gem. The Gothic Crown of Victoria, with the beautiful head and shoulders of the young Queen and graceful lettering, is one of the best, if not the best of our modern coins. On The florin (coined in silver in this reign for the first time) of 1840 the letters 'D.G.' Dei Gratia were omitted, and this coin is known as the 'graceless or Godless florin'. It was in this year that there was a great potato famine in Ireland and for the want of a better cause, the famine was put down to this omission. The gold coinage was last struck in 1917. ~~The new Imperial issue in silver and bronze appeared in 1927.~~

In conclusion I must apologise for the sketchy nature of this paper and its many omissions. I have had a very large field to cover, but I hope some of my remarks have been of interest and that they will inspire members to read further papers dealing with different aspects of this subject in detail.

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THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

REPORT OF SIXTH MEETING, 4th APRIL, 1932.

COUNCIL MEETING AND COIN EVENING.

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A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL of the New Zealand Numismatic Society was held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on 4th April, 1932. The Rev. D. C. Bates, President, occupied the Chair.

Reports of the Australian Numismatic Society, and the Numismatic Society of Victoria, were tabled, and correspondence and literature were received.

It was decided to arrange for a six months' trial subscription to the 'Numismatist' (Baltimore).

Six new members were elected as follows: Major R. W. Russell, A.D.C., Mrs. T. B. Strong, Messrs. E. G. Pilcher, J. W. M. Smith, Wellington, Mr. Henry Abraham, Khandallah, and Mr. P. Watts Rule, Timaru.

Reference was made to the despatch to the Royal Mint of WORN SILVER AND COPPER COINS on hand at different banks, and an interesting discussion arose regarding the liability of either the State or the banks to redeem worn or mutilated coins of the realm in private hands. It was contended that since coins were in most cases little more than legal tokens used for exchange purposes, they should not be refused by the issuing authorities any more than bank notes or cheques should be refused if in bad condition. It was claimed that the issuing authority had obtained credit or services for such coins and that the last holders should not be deprived of their face value merely because they had become worn through processes of time or damaged in any other legitimate manner.

After routine business had been dealt with the Coin section of the evening was commenced, and members spent an interesting evening studying and acquiring specimens for their cabinets.

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

NOTES FOR MEMBERS:

Members are reminded that their MEMBERSHIP FEE (five shillings) for the ensuing year is now due and is payable to Mr. F. K. Lowe, Hon. Treasurer, Legislative Council Office, Parliament House, Wellington.

'THE NUMISMATIST'. Copies of this publication have been received and have been put into circulation. If after inspection members do not wish to receive future issues, they should advise me accordingly.

THE NEXT MEETING of the Society will be held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on Monday, 29th August, when Professor J. Rankine Brown (Vice-President) will deliver an illustrated address on

"THE BEGINNINGS OF COINAGE."

Members may invite intending members and friends.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT, 1931-32.

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The Council of the New Zealand Numismatic Society has the honour to submit its first Annual Report and Balance Sheet covering the period from its inauguration until May 31st, 1932.

The inaugural meeting was held on 20th July, 1931, since when 4 Council meetings, 4 Ordinary meetings, and 2 Coin Evenings have been held. Pleasing features of the meetings have been the good attendances of local members, and the keen interest taken by all present in this instructive and fascinating pursuit. On special evenings visitors have been present by invitation.

During the year the following very interesting and informative papers were read before members of the Society:-

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| "Coinage Through the Ages." | - | The Rev. D.C. Bates (President). |
| "Greek and Turkish Coins." | - | Mr. E. Gilbertson (Member of Council). |
| "Archaeological and Numismatical discoveries at Lydney Park, Gloucestershire, England." | - | His Excellency the Governor-General, The Rt. Hon. Lord Bledisloe. |
| "English Coins with special reference to the Hammered Series." | - | Capt. Sir John Hanham, Bt., (Vice-President), Wellington. |

All addresses were appropriately illustrated by rare and interesting specimens, or by lantern slides, and indicated much care and research in preparation. Brief reports of all meetings have been circulated chiefly for the information of members outside Wellington. The Society is indebted to His Excellency the Governor-General, Lord Bledisloe, for placing at our disposal printed copies of his address for distribution to members in other centres.

Apart from the evenings devoted to special subjects, topics of a diversified nature in the numismatic field have been dealt with at the various Council meetings and Coin Evenings, and the large amount of business offering has always resulted in meetings being concluded at a fairly late hour. It is not convenient, however, to hold more frequent meetings under present conditions.

The Council desires to record its warm appreciation of the assistance rendered by Mr. Johannes Andersen, Librarian of the Turnbull Library, in making available accommodation for the pursuit of our numismatic studies, and wishes to thank Mr. W.R.B. Oliver (Director, Dominion Museum) and Miss Tewsley (Numismatist) for their assistance to the Society in various directions. The Council always wishes to thank Mr. E. K. Cameron (Vice-President), Hawera, for his donation of £1.1.0 towards the funds of the Society, and Sir John Hanham, Bt., for his donation of two years' subscription to Spink's Numismatic Circular.

The Council is pleased to note the practical interest taken by His Excellency, the Governor-General, Lord Bledisloe, in numismatic matters and proposes to invite him to become the first Patron of the Society.

During the year Sir John Hanham, Bt., (Vice-President) returned to the Homeland, and the Society has thereby lost one of its most prominent members. It is understood, however, that Sir John will continue to take an interest in our activities. The Society welcomes to its ranks Major R. W. Russell, A.D.C., a new member of His Excellency's staff, who has just arrived from England.

"The New Zealand Magazine" has been adopted as the official organ of the Society, and numismatic notes have been published in each issue since October, 1931. Commencing with the next issue the Council hopes to be able to supply copies of this magazine gratis to all members.

A proposal regarding the appointment of corresponding members in other parts of the world will be submitted to the Annual Meeting.

Outstanding matters of numismatic interest in New Zealand during the year were:

- (1) The continued steady inflow of Australian silver and bronze coins to avoid an adverse Australian exchange, and the ready acceptance of these coins by the general public concurrently with the Imperial issue.
- (2) The outflow of Imperial silver currency - the legal currency - to save exchange between New Zealand and other parts of the Empire where similar currency is in use.
- (3) An agitation to adopt a New Zealand coinage to counteract these tendencies, and to enable New Zealand to secure the seigniorage, and the subsequent arrangement with the Royal Mint to share the profits of future issues with the Dominion. (Note: It is understood that the proposal to establish a New Zealand coinage is to be further considered when times improve, but it is assumed that this may be affected by the Empire currency schemes to be considered at Ottawa in the near future.)
- (4) The retirement from circulation of worn silver coins, and the issue of bronze and silver Imperial coins of new designs.
- (5) The circulation of well-made counterfeits of modern designs of Australian and Imperial silver coins.
- (6) The brisk trade in hoarded gold coins for export for melting into bar gold consequent upon the high price of gold.

Notable medals struck in New Zealand during the year were the Sidey (Daylight-Saving) Medal to be awarded for research in radiation, the Lord Bledisloe Oratorical Medal to be awarded annually for oratory to students of the New Zealand University, and the William Ledingham Christie Medal, for applied anatomy.

Despite the prevailing economic stress, the Council is pleased to record a steady increase in membership in different parts of the country. The year closed with a membership of 41. The Balance Sheet shows a credit balance of £5.

The foundation of the New Zealand Numismatic Society has been the subject of congratulatory messages from numismatic circles in all parts of the Empire and America. The Council is pleased to note the keen interest taken by members, and the steady progress of the Society since its formation. It is evident that the Society is filling a long-felt want so far as coin collectors and students of coinages in this Dominion are concerned, and the Council considers that a useful career lies ahead of the Society in the realm of Numismatics in New Zealand.

For the Council of the New Zealand Numismatic Society,

Allan Sutherland

Hon. Secretary,
14, Clifton Terrace, Wellington, N.Z.

WELLINGTON, N.Z.,
17th June, 1932.

NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure
for year ending 31st May, 1932.

<u>RECEIPTS.</u>	£ s d	<u>EXPENDITURE.</u>	£ s d
Subscriptions and donations ..	8 16 0	Inaugural Expenses	14 10
Commission on disposal of coins	17 0	Postages and Stationery	3 6 5
		Petty Expenses	11 0
		Balance P.O.S.B.	5 0 0
		Cash in hand	9
	£9 13 0		£9 13 0

(sgd) S. P. WARD, Acting Hon. Treasurer, 14/6/32.

Examined and found correct:

(sgd) E. G. PILCHER,

Hon. Auditor, 16/6/32.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

REPORT OF SEVENTH MEETING - FIRST ANNUAL MEETING - 27th JUNE, 1932.

The first ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY was held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on 27th June. There was a good attendance of members. The President, the Rev. D. C. Bates, occupied the Chair.

The Annual Report and Balance Sheet was unanimously adopted, and a vote of thanks was passed to the retiring officers. Pleasure was expressed at the progress of the Society since its inauguration.

OFFICERS FOR THE ENSUING YEAR were elected as follows:- PRESIDENT, The Rev. D.C.Bates. VICE-PRESIDENTS, Mr. J.C.Entrican, Auckland, The Ven. Archdeacon G.H. Gavin, F.R.N.S., New Plymouth, Mr. E.K.Cameron, Hawera, Professor J. Rankine Brown, and Dr. J.S.Elliott, Wellington, Professor R. Speight, Christchurch, Colonel G. Cowie Nicols, Maheno, and Mr. C.Gilbertson, Invercargill. COUNCIL: Messrs. Johannes Andersen, S.P.Ward, H.R.Ford, E.Gilbertson, and L.C.Todd. HON. GENERAL AND CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, Mr. Allan Sutherland (Hansard Rooms, Parliament House, Wellington, N.Z.). HON. TREASURER: Mr. F.K.Lowe.

In thanking members for electing him to the position of President of the Society for the second time, the Rev. D.C.Bates intimated that he proposed to set a precedent by retiring at the end of the ensuing year as he considered that by a regular change of officers the Society would benefit by the enlargement of the sphere of interest brought about by such changes. He congratulated the Society on its very successful year, and remarked that the widespread interest that was being taken in numismatics in the Dominion was in a large measure due to the activities of the Society, although the advent of the gold buyers, and the consequent disclosure of many small hoards of very fine coins and medals had also stimulated interest in the subject. At the moment collectors were enjoying unique opportunities of acquiring interesting specimens from that source. He trusted that the membership roll would still further increase. It was intended to arrange for a continuance of lectures and coin evenings, which had been so much enjoyed during the past year, and he was pleased to announce that Professor J. Rankine Brown, Vice-President, had consented to deliver an illustrated address before members - probably in August - on "The Beginnings of Coinage."

NEW MEMBERS were elected as follows: Messrs. J.P.M.Bertram, H.Tilley, Wellington, and A.H.Elliott, London.

It was decided to invite the following gentlemen to become HONORARY CORRESPONDING MEMBERS of the Society: Sir John Hanham, Bart., London, Messrs. C.J.V.Weaver, Sydney, A.S.Kenyon, Melbourne, and J. Hunt Deacon, F.R.N.S., Adelaide; also to arrange, as opportunity permits, to invite Numismatic Societies, or Coin Clubs, in other English-speaking countries to submit one name for appointment as Hon. Corresponding member.

His Excellency the Governor-General, The Rt. Hon. Lord Bledisloe, is to be invited to become the first PATRON OF THE SOCIETY.

It was decided that each member of the Society be supplied gratis with future issues of THE NEW ZEALAND MAGAZINE, the official organ of the Society. (To a certain extent this will obviate the necessity for issuing circulars, and members are requested to examine the numismatic pages of this publication for Society reports and notices).

In order to mark the occasion of the first Annual Meeting, Mr. H.R.Ford, a member of the Council of the Society, donated £1.1.0 to the funds of the Society, for which he was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

SHORT ADDRESS ON PAPAL MEDALS: The President, the Rev. D.C.Bates, then proceeded to deliver a brief but very entertaining address on Papal medals, illustrating his remarks by some fine examples of Papal medals from his private collection. These commemorative medals, which ranged from the XVI century to the XIX century, were greatly admired for the fine portraiture, which was rendered more lifelike and interesting by the remarks of the speaker who associated with each Pontiff some incident or characteristic that bridged the periods separating their lives and times from our own. As a numismatist, stated the President, his interest lay primarily with specimens treasured for their historic interest, rather than for their merit in art, rarity, or intrinsic value. He regarded his specimens as links in the chain

which bound the ages together and added intense reality to the study of the lives and movements of the different races. These were days of especial interest to numismatists, because of the magnitude of economic and currency problems the world over, and therefore he would be glad if a lecturer could be secured to give a short address on the advantages and disadvantages of metallic and paper currencies on the lines of Adam Smith's great work, "Wealth of Nations." If, for instance, Book 2, Chapter 2, were taken as a basis and brought up to date by a competent authority, such an address would be of very great interest to members. He had pleasure in calling on Mr. Allan Sutherland, "the enthusiastic and industrious Hon. Secretary, - to whom the Society owed its existence" - to deliver a short paper on "Coins as Keys to History, and Modern Aspects of Numismatic Studies." Mr. Bates was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his interesting address.

COINS AS KEYS TO HISTORY. Mr. Allan Sutherland, Hon. Secretary, then read a short paper surveying the wide field available for numismatic study, and covering a variety of topics of general numismatic interest. Subjects referred to by Mr. Sutherland were: the origin of coins and banknotes; the evolution of coinages symbolising the progressive development of art, commerce, and religious beliefs of many peoples; the value of coins as keys to history; the probable origin of coin collecting and the development of the science of numismatics; the fascination of handling, studying, and musing over the probable histories of mute pieces of metal in our collections that come to us from departed ages; the mythical and real value of some coins; the survival of ancient coin terms; the exchange difficulties and the advent of the modern money-changer; the paradoxical situation created by the phenomenal rise in the price of gold and the slump in silver bullion prices; the momentous times through which the world was passing as reflected in coins and forms of currency of to-day; the Colonial inflation of silver coins one hundred years ago; modern instances where paper money preferred to silver money; quaint forms of metallic and note currencies, ancient and modern; the debasing of British silver coinage; the general decline in artistic merit and metal content of modern coinages; error coins and tokens; some notable numismatists, past and present, and the excellent classical designs of modern Italian coins and the probable reason therefor. Mr. Sutherland contended that the fascinating pursuit of studying and collecting coins and medals was not necessarily a rich man's pursuit, for many ancient and interesting coins could be acquired at small cost. He stated that interest in numismatics was possible through addresses, exhibitions, and the circulation of up-to-date numismatic literature without actually collecting specimens. Leisure hours could be pleasurably spent with coins and coin-friends and the time thus devoted was of distinct educational value inasmuch as numismatic study cultivated keenness of observation and appreciation for detail, and unfolded a clearer historical vista than was possible merely from an examination of the pages of historical works. In comparing the pursuits of philately and numismatics, Mr. Sutherland said that whilst the stamp field was probably a little wider in the immediate sense, it was a much more recent development, whereas coins and medals went deep into the roots of civilization, and the metallic specimens that came to us brought with them an historical background and an intrinsic value not possessed by philatelic specimens. Mr. Sutherland concluded by some interesting references to modern aspects of the study of the science of numismatics and was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his interesting and topical paper.

EXHIBITION OF MEDALS: A small exhibition of notable New Zealand medals - probably the first of its kind to be held in the Dominion - was held during the evening. The exhibits included the Lord Bledisloe Oratorical Medal, the Hutton and Hector Medals, awarded by the New Zealand Institute for research in science, the Sidey Medal, awarded for research in radiation, the Royal Humane Society's Silver Medal, Medical Science gold and bronze medals, and engineering and agricultural Society medals.

Some ancient coins in excellent conditions, dating back to Alexander the Great, were exhibited by Mr. H.R. Ford, and after specimens on hand were submitted for exchange, a most successful meeting concluded.

Allan Sutherland

Hon. Secretary,
N. Z. Numismatic Society,
14, Clifton Terrace, Wellington, N. Z.

REPORT of EIGHTH MEETING (29th August, 1932) and NINTH MEETING (20th September, 1932).

"THE BEGINNINGS OF COINAGE" was the subject of a very instructive illustrated address delivered by Professor J. Rankine Brown, (Vice-President) before members of the New Zealand Numismatic Society at its EIGHTH meeting held at Turnbull Library, Wellington, on 29th August, 1932. There was a good attendance of members and their friends, and the Society was honoured by the presence of His Excellency the Governor-General, the Rt. Hon. Lord Bledisloe, who attended for the first time as Patron of the Society and who received a warm welcome by the President, the Rev. D. C. Bates. During the course of his remarks the President said that since the last meeting Their Excellencies had made a wonderful gift to the nation of the site on which the Treaty of Waitangi had been signed - New Zealand's greatest historical spot - and he considered that it would be an appropriate act on the part of the Government if a medal were struck to commemorate that gift. As an expression of gratitude on the part of the people, it would be fitting if the obverse of the medal bore the likenesses of Their Excellencies, Lord and the Lady Bledisloe, whose names would always be associated with the cultural development of this Dominion. The speaker for the evening, Professor J. Rankine Brown, was then introduced by the President.

During the course of his address, Dr. Rankine Brown said that it was beyond question that the Greeks were the inventors of coinage, just as they were the inventors of many much more precious things in life - in philosophy, science, European art and literature. They were not the first to use metal as a medium of exchange, but by stamping their pieces of metal with a distinctive mark as a guarantee of weight and genuineness they invented coinage. In the pre-metallic stage articles were valued in terms of cattle, but it was doubtful whether oxen were actually used as a medium of exchange; they may have served as a rough standard of value to take the place of primitive barter. The method of marking early coins was by placing lumps of molten metal on a flat surface, something like an anvil, and, while hot, punching them with a tool on the face of which a design was engraved. Subsequently the mark or design was sunk into the surface of the anvil, or swage, and this not only served to hold the hot metal in position, but enabled a design in relief to be reproduced. Coins reached their complete development when a design was cut into the end of the punch as well as the anvil, thus permitting a relief to be obtained on both sides of the metal. It was generally agreed among those who preferred to be guided by evidence and intelligence rather than tradition that coinage originated among the Greek commercial communities of Asia Minor and not in Lydia. Croesus, King of Lydia, 560-546 B.C., was the first person to coin gold and silver coins in substitution for the old electrum coinage, which was the first bi-metallic coinage and which was shortlived - due to the conquest of Lydia by Persia. The Greek coinage was essentially a silver coinage. The coinage of gold came in with Phillip II and Alexander of Macedonia in the fourth century, whose gold coins circulated as freely in the ancient world as the British sovereign used to do on the European Continent. Copper was only coined as a money of necessity until the Roman Imperial period, when the coinage of silver practically came to an end.

All through the period of free Greece no head or emblem connected with a human being appeared on Greek coins. This practice began in the Hellenistic period after 300 B.C., when the reigning monarchs of the great Kingdoms which arose on the breaking up of Alexander's Empire gradually came to put their effigies on their coins, as well as a greater amount of lettering, but the putting of inscriptions on coins, so valuable historically, really belongs to the Roman Empire.

After a most interesting survey of the evolution of coinage, the speaker made passing reference to modern coins, and concluded by stating that it was astonishing to note the small changes that had taken place since the days of the inventors of coinage. Mechanically the modern coins were more perfect, but artistically they were much inferior to their Greek prototypes.

Dr. Rankine Brown then showed slides of various types of early coinages, which illustrated the striking beauty of the early designs and evoked the admiration of all present.

The Rt. Hon. Lord Bledisloe, in moving a vote of thanks, paid a striking tribute to the Professor for his illuminating address and the excellence of the slides shown. The slides clearly illustrated the fact that little advance had been made in coinage designs during the last 2,300 years. In fact, there was a beauty of design, an accuracy of delineation, and a vitality apparent in ancient coins that was not in evidence in the coin designs of later periods. Dr. J. S. Elliott (Vice-President) seconded the motion, which was carried by acclamation.

Special exhibits during the evening included a rare New Zealand Cross, the New Zealand Medal, an Order of Knighthood of the Papal State, electrotypes of early Greek and Roman coins, and ancient seals.

At a Council meeting held earlier in the evening, the following 12 new members were elected: Mr. J.G.Tennent, Tuai, Wairoa, Miss Wood, Miss M. Taylor, Wellington, Messrs. V.E.Barker, Whangarei, H.N.Johnson, New Plymouth, W.D.Ferguson, Wellington, N. Di Somma, Christchurch, Mrs. F.H.Claxton, Thames, Miss A. Drake, Hamilton, Messrs. H.G.Mayer, G.C.Sherwood and H. Walter Frank, Wellington. The resignation of Mr. E. Gilbertson as a Member of the Council was accepted with regret, and Mr. J.W.M.Smith was elected to fill the vacancy.

REPORT OF NINTH MEETING, COUNCIL MEETING AND COIN EVENING,
20th September, 1932.

On the 20th September, 1932, a Council Meeting of the Society was held at which numismatic reports were tabled, and inward and outward correspondence dealt with. Four new members were elected, as follows: Mr. E.W.Kane and Mr. Horace Fildes, Wellington, Professor J. Pargeter, Wangamui, and Mr. H.G.Williams, Dunedin.

It was decided to continue subscribing to the American "Numismatist" for circulation chain fashion to members.

A discussion took place regarding the proposal that the Government should be asked to agree to the striking of a Waitangi medal as suggested by the President, and a sub-committee was set up to submit information to next meeting in regard to cost of preparing dies, and suggestions as to the best means of representing the matter to the Government.

At the conclusion of the Council meeting members spent an interesting evening examining and exchanging specimens for their cabinets.

FUTURE MEETINGS: A short Coin Exchange Evening will be held at the Turnbull Library on Monday, 14th November, 1932, commencing at 8-0 p.m.

THE FINAL BIG MEETING for 1932 will be held at 8 p.m. on Monday, 5th December, at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, when a novel programme will be arranged. All members are invited to exhibit two of the most treasured specimens in their cabinet, and to give a five minutes' talk on the acquisition and the history surrounding the specimens exhibited. Members not resident in Wellington are invited to participate by submitting rubbings of two of their most treasured specimens (coins or medals), together with a short written description, to be read at the meeting, describing the acquisition and history of each specimen. Names will be deleted if desired. It is hoped that all members will participate in this meeting.

Allan Sutherland

Hon. Secretary,
N. Z. Numismatic Society.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

Report of the
TENTH MEETING, 5th DECEMBER, 1932.

THE TENTH MEETING of the New Zealand Numismatic Society was held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on the 5th December, 1932, when a varied programme was dealt with, and members present were treated to short papers or talks by fellow members on the most interesting or valued specimens in their cabinets. Mr. Johannes C. Andersen occupied the chair. There was a fair attendance of members. Apologies were received from the President, the Rev. D.C. Bates, on account of illness, and from Mr. H.R. Ford, owing to an accident.

Two new members were elected, Mr. J. Sutherland, Timaru, and Mr. N. B. Spencer, Auckland.

The Secretary reported that a handsomely bound, illustrated catalogue of the Webb and Walter Collections of Roman coins, had been presented to the Society by Percy Webb, Esq., O.B.E., London, President of the Royal Numismatic Society. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Webb for his most useful gift.

Mr. Allan Sutherland, Hon. Secretary, reported that he had been invited to become an Hon. Corresponding Member of the Australian Numismatic Society, and that he had pleasure in notifying his acceptance of the office.

Gratification was expressed at a letter received from Sir John Hanham, Wimborne, England, notifying his acceptance of the position of Hon. Corresponding Member of the N. Z. Numismatic Society in England, and enclosing advice of a further donation to the Society of two years' subscription to Spink's Numismatic Circular. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Sir John for his very generous action.

After other numismatic literature was tabled, the Council section of the evening concluded and the following short papers or talks were given:-

Mr. H. G. Williams, a short paper on three-ply wooden bank notes issued by the Chamber of Commerce in Tenino, U.S.A., for the purpose of thawing out frozen bank assets.

Mr. Allan Sutherland, Wellington, read a short paper on the gold £1 token issued by the Government Assay Office, Adelaide, South Australia, 1852.

Dr. J. S. Elliott, Vice President, delivered a short talk on the acquisition and history of an interesting Napoleonic medal, and also displayed a fine series of Church Communion tokens of Scotland, which he briefly described.

Mr. W. D. Ferguson exhibited a commemorative medal of the Trinity College, also agricultural medals.

After other numismatic specimens were inspected the meeting closed.

Allan Sutherland

Hon. Secretary,
N. Z. Numismatic Society.

SPINK'S "NUMISMATIC CIRCULAR," AND THE AMERICAN "NUMISMATIST."

A new list of members to be supplied with future issues of Spink's "Numismatic Circular" and the American "Numismatist" is now being prepared, and members are asked to advise whether they still desire to be included in the chain-circulation list for one or both of these publications. Non receipt of advice will be taken as a negative answer. In sending advice to the Secretary, members are asked to indicate the numismatic field in which they are particularly interested, and to make any suggestions they desire in regard to the circulation of numismatic literature.

THE ELEVENTH MEETING of the New Zealand Numismatic Society was held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on the 27th March, 1933, when a variety of topics of numismatic interest were discussed and some interesting coins and medals were exhibited to members. The President, the Rev. D.C. Bates, presided over a good attendance of members.

TWO BRITISH RECOINAGES.

The chief speaker for the evening was Dr. H.G. Heine, Lecturer in Economics, Victoria University College, who delivered an interesting address on "TWO BRITISH RECOINAGES," dealing in an interesting manner with the historical and economic aspects of the question. Dr. Heine said that there were two famous recoinages in British history, one in the time of Elizabeth and the other in the time of William III. Each recoinage was carried out with a view to meeting a difficult financial situation. Elizabeth found difficulty in making her fixed revenue meet her expenditure which was increasing in consequence of the rising price level. This she attributed to the debasements of the currency of Henry VIII. and Edward VI., and she thought that a recoinage would lead to a fall in the price level. In a proclamation announcing the reform of the coinage in 1560, she said: "..... all maner of prices of thynges in this Realme necessarye for the sustentacion of the people growe dayly excessive, to the manifeste hurte of the pensioners, souldyers, hyred servants and other meane people", and, "For reformation whereof ... Her Majestic hath determined to abolshe corrupte, base, and copper monyes, and to restore the owners thereof to fine monyes of as good sylver and golde as at anye time hath been in this Realme" The recoinage did not result in a fall in the price-level, as the real cause of the rise in prices was the heavy inflow of precious metals from America, and this continued on a large scale for yet another century.

The second great recoinage, that of William III., had a direct bearing on a heavy adverse exchange which was a serious evil at that time owing to the heavy funds that had to be transmitted to Holland to carry on an expensive war in the Netherlands. The epidemic of clipping silver coins and the export of silver bullion were also contributing factors. It was hoped that a recoinage would lead to an improvement in the exchanges, but the remedy proved more expensive than the malady. The speaker also referred to the development of coinage as a medium of exchange and the relationship between coins and prices. She concluded by saying that the two great recoinages in British history were adopted as the result of faulty political diagnoses and that while both were technical feats of great importance, they did not justify expectations financially.

Dr. Rankine Brown, who moved a vote of thanks to the lecturer, said that the address illustrated the fact that the coinage and currency difficulties of the past were not materially dissimilar from those facing many countries today. Even the ancient Greeks faced similar difficulties, showing that 'there was nothing new under the sun.' The Rev. D.C. Bates said that members felt privileged to listen to such an interesting and lucid address by one of New Zealand's distinguished scholars, and he hoped that Dr. Heine would similarly honour the Society in the future. The vote of thanks to Dr. Heine was carried by acclamation.

NEW ZEALAND MEDALS FOR AGRICULTURE.

By courtesy of His Excellency the Governor-General, Lord Bledisloe, Patron, two award medals for Maori agriculture, struck at the direction of His Excellency by Messrs. Mayer & Kean, of Wellington, were exhibited to members, and Mr. H.G. Mayer, who was present, gave a brief but informative description of the manufacture of the medals. He said that modern machinery had largely supplanted handwork in the making of medals, and that die-sinking by hand was becoming a lost art. The description of mechanical processes in preparing dies and manufacturing medals was followed with great interest by members, and Mr. Mayer was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his address.

MODERN ITALIAN COINS.

"MODERN ITALIAN COINS" was the subject of a very interesting paper submitted by Mr. C.M.J.V. Weaver, of Sydney (Hon. Corresponding Member) and read on his behalf by Mr. Allan Sutherland. Mr. Weaver contended that the readjustment of coinages by European nations as a result of post-war inflation, and subsequent financial collapse, had produced new currencies distinguished by a marked increase in artistic merit. Before the War, Italy had begun to redeem her coinage from its dull mediocrity. The credit of this move was due to her numismatic King, Victor Emanuel III., who personally designed many beautiful coins, and by his example and encouragement introduced to the world a company of artists whose brilliant genius had wrought upon Italian coinage, as well as on the new coinage of Albania and the Vatican State, works which would stand as a lasting monument to their art.

On the obverses the portraiture of King Emanuel III. was carried out in high relief in a vigorous and spirited style, and the reverses were remarkable for their singular beauty, depicting a vitality of design and a freedom of artistic inspiration unsurpassed in the numismatic world. Mr. Weaver then proceeded to deal with the coins in detail, indicating how some of the ancient coin designs had been revived in the new coins of Fascist Italy. The whole series revealed the influences of ancient classic art. Symbols increasingly apparent on Italian coins of the Fascist regime of Mussolini included the "Fasces" (a bundle of rods containing an axe, carried by the lictors as a symbol of authority before the Magistrates of ancient Rome). The Fascist salute was also depicted in the coin designs, all of which were of striking beauty and outstanding artistic merit. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Weaver for his very illuminating paper.

PROPOSED NEW ZEALAND COINAGE.

The President, The Rev. D.C. Bates, said it was fitting that reference should be made to the recent announcement that the Government had decided to issue a special New Zealand coinage in order to combat trafficking in silver coin owing to the high exchange rate. All numismatists would rejoice in the fact that at last New Zealand was to be placed on the numismatic map of the world. The Society had advocated a New Zealand coinage since its inception. He trusted that the designs would possess artistic merit and would be a credit to New Zealand.

A short but spirited discussion took place following a suggestion by one member that the Government had already decided on the designs of the new coins, all of which were to bear the King's head on the obverse and the coat-of-arms of the Dominion on the reverse, and that a rush order had been placed for such coins.

Mr. Allan Sutherland, Hon. Secretary, advocated artistic coinage designs varying with each denomination and symbolising New Zealand life and customs. The institution of an entirely new coinage offered a unique opportunity to investigate the merits of the decimal system of coinage in lieu of the archaic fractional system of coinage which was being discarded by all progressive parts of the Empire. A decimal system of coinage of distinctive New Zealand designs would be a double safeguard in keeping New Zealand coinage within her shores.

It was decided to make representations to the Government suggesting that competitive designs be called for New Zealand coinage designs, and that the questions of designs and denominations be referred to a competent committee for early report as to the artistic and numismatic aspects of the matter. (A full report of the discussion is contained in the "Evening Post," 28/3/33, and "The Dominion," Wellington, 29/3/33.)

HOLEY DOLLARS AND DUMPS.

Two rare holey dollars and one dump, New South Wales, 1813, were exhibited by Mr. Allan Sutherland, who gave a short resume of the reasons actuating Governor McQuarie in deciding to punch out the centres of the silver Spanish pieces-of-eight, then the principal currency medium of Australia, thus making two coins of a face value of 6/3 in place of one coin circulating at 5/-. This was effective in checking the outflow of silver coin from the country. A similar problem faced the New Zealand Government at the moment. Other specimens exhibited included a silver coronation medal, King Edward, and Queen Alexandra, 1902, and coins of the Ptolemy series.

At an Executive meeting held earlier in the evening, five new members were elected as follows: Messrs. W.P. Somerville, H.E. Ashby, T.W. James and H. Witherford, Wellington, and V.A. Rowe, Matiere.

Referring to a previous discussion relative to the redemption of underweight, worn and mutilated coins of the Realm, the Secretary reported from an authoritative source that whilst the tender of drilled and mutilated coins was illegal, such was not the case with coins worn by ordinary wear and tear, as there was no "least current" weight for English silver and bronze coin.

The Secretary also reported that further numismatic works had been donated to the Society by Sir John Hanham, Bt., and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the donor for his continued interest and generosity.

Allan Sutherland

Hon. Secretary,
N. Z. Numismatic Society.

14, Clifton Terrace,
WELLINGTON, New Zealand,
3rd May, 1933.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT 1932-33.

To Members of
The New Zealand Numismatic Society.

The Council of the New Zealand Numismatic Society has the honour to submit its second Annual Report and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st May, 1933.

During the year 4 Council meetings, 1 Coin-exchange evening and 4 Ordinary meetings were held, and, in addition, members of the Executive attended a demonstration evening at the works of the Precision Engineering Company, Wellington, where methods of die sinking, and medal and token striking were demonstrated by courtesy of the Managing Director, Mr. R. Burn. The Council is again pleased to record good attendances at meetings. The increasing interest taken by the public in the instructive pursuit of numismatics, probably stimulated by the anticipation of New Zealand's first distinctive coinage, is a source of gratification to numismatists, and it is hoped that this interest will in due course be reflected in an increase in the membership of the Society. During the year the Society was again honoured by the attendance of His Excellency the Governor-General, the Rt. Hon. Lord Bledisloe, who takes a keen interest in our activities both as a numismatist and Patron of the Society.

The following very instructive papers, indicating careful research and preparation, were read before members of the Society during the year:-

"Papal Medals."	The Rev. D.C.Bates (President), Wellington.
"Coins as Keys to History, and Some Modern Aspects of the study of the science of Numismatics."	Mr. Allan Sutherland, (Hon. General and Cor- responding Secretary), Wellington.
"The Beginnings of Coinage." (Illustrated by lantern slides)	Professor J. Rankine Brown, L.L.D., (Vice-President), Wellington.
"A Rare Napoleonic Medal," and "Church Communion Tokens of Scotland."	Dr. J.S.Elliott, (Vice-President), Wellington.
"Modern Wooden Bank 'Notes' of Tenino, U.S.A."	Mr. H. G. Williams, Dunedin.
"The Gold £1 Token of Adelaide."	Mr. Allan Sutherland, Wellington.
"Two British Recoinages." ..	Dr. H. G. Heine, Lecturer in Economics, Victoria University College, Wellington.
"Modern Italian Coins." ..	Mr. C.J.V.Weaver, Sydney, Australia, (Hon. Cor- responding Member, N.Z.N.S.

All addresses were appropriately illustrated by specimens, rubbings or photographs of the coins referred to. Digests of the papers read and reports of all meetings have been supplied to members and published in the press and in the official organ, 'The New Zealand Magazine,' which is providing a useful contact with members and with the public generally. Features of special numismatic interest during the year were:-

1. The marked cessation of the inflow of Australian silver coins following the increase in the exchange rate placing New Zealand and Australia practically on a par, thus making it no longer profitable to import Australian silver coin into New Zealand.
2. The remarkable increase in the outflow from and consequent decrease in circulation of Imperial silver coins in New Zealand, which went principally to Australia, for the purpose of obtaining a substantial premium paid there, - thus demonstrating the operation of Gresham's law in modified form.

3. The decision of the Government to issue a New Zealand coinage of distinctive designs, to circulate in New Zealand only, thereby overcoming the difficulties created by silver-coin smugglers, also the importation by the banks of large quantities of Australian florins to replenish the wasting coin reserve pending arrangements being made for the circulation of the New Zealand coinage.
4. The setting up of a Coinage Committee to report to the Government of the questions of the denominations, designs and manufacture of the new coinage.
5. The continued circulation of some counterfeit Imperial and Australian silver coins, said to be of Eastern origin.
6. The exhaustion of supplies of hoarded gold coins as evidenced by the closing of several 'mushroom' gold-buying shops established to purchase gold consequent upon the high price of that metal and the export duty of 12/6d. per oz. placed on gold.

Notable medals struck during the year included the Bledisloe Maori Agricultural Medals, (first award, silver oxidized, and second award, bronze) donated by the Rt. Hon. Lord Bledisloe for competition between Maori farmers in certain districts to encourage a higher standard in agriculture.

Of paramount interest to New Zealand numismatists is the decision of the Government to issue its first coinage of distinctive designs to take the place of coins of the Motherland which have circulated in New Zealand for over ninety years. The numismatic birth of the Dominion will be hailed with approval particularly by numismatists, who cordially approve of the decision both from a numismatic and an economic point of view. The Council is pleased to record the fact that its representations on the subject of the new coinage - in which it is necessarily taking a keen interest - have been sympathetically received by the Rt. Hon. J. G. Coates, Acting Prime Minister, and Minister of Finance, who has promised to give careful consideration to all suggestions put forward, and the setting up of an expert Coinage Committee on lines similar to those suggested by the Society indicates a desire on the part of the Government to co-operate freely and to take advantage of expert advice available before proceeding with what is admittedly a large and complex undertaking. The Government has undoubtedly followed the correct course in causing this investigation to be made and any criticism that might otherwise have been expected on the grounds of apparent hasty or uninformed action should be largely avoided by the knowledge that the Government has been guided by a representative advisory committee able to give expert consideration to the main factors involved in the change-over. The Council is pleased to record that Mr. Allan Sutherland, Hon. Secretary of the Society, has been appointed to the Coinage Committee, and it is confident that he will ably represent the views of numismatists who are unanimous in their desire to obtain for the Dominion a beautiful series of coins of which numismatists may be proud.

(NOTE: Since the close of the Society's year, the Coinage Committee has reported in effect:-

- (1) That owing to the prevailing economic conditions the time is not opportune to introduce a decimal system of coinage, but reference is made to a suggestion that the matter be revived in 1940, when commemorative coins may be issued to mark the Centenary of New Zealand, and when presumably the depression, and therefore the cost factor, will have assumed smaller dimensions.
- (2) That the coins be manufactured by the Royal Mint, London.
- (3) That the opinion of New Zealand numismatists and artists be obtained regarding the subjects for the designs proposed by the Committee of Artists attached to the Royal Mint, London.

The Council is pleased to record the fact that the Acting Prime Minister, and the Secretary to the Treasury, are freely co-operating with the Society in this connection.)

The Council again wishes to express its warm appreciation of the assistance rendered by Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, of the Turnbull Library, in assisting members in the pursuit of their numismatic studies. It also desires to thank Sir John Hanham, H.C.S., England, and P. H. Webb, Esq., M.B.E., President of the Royal Numismatic Society, for donations of numismatic works and literature.

Although the economic depression reached its greatest depth during the year under review, this factor did not check the growth of the Society, which commenced the year with a membership of 41 and closed with a membership of 74. The Balance Sheet shows a credit balance of £13.

The advent of the New Zealand coinage, which is likely to make its appearance before the year has closed, should give a definite impetus to the study of the interesting science of numismatics, and the Council trusts that with the active co-operation of members it will be able to record an even greater advance at the close of the year now being entered upon.

For the Council of the N. Z. Numismatic Society,

D. C. Bates

President.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE.

<u>RECEIPTS.</u>	£	s	d	<u>EXPENDITURE.</u>	£	s	d
Balance	5	0	9	Subscriptions to periodicals	3	18	4
Subscriptions and donations ..	17	5	0	Printing and Stationery ..	4	2	1
Commissions		18	7	Postages	1	15	0
Sundry Receipts		7	8	Sundry Expenses		11	6
Interest		6	6	Cash in hand and in Bank ..	13	11	7
	<u>£23</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>6</u>		<u>£23</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>6</u>

Audited and found correct:

E. G. PILCHER,

Hon. Auditor.

S. P. Ward,

Acting Hon. Treasurer,

5/7/33.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of the Society will be held at the Turnbull Library, Bowen Street, Wellington, on MONDAY, 31st JULY, 1933, at 8 p.m.

Business:

1. Adoption of Annual Report and Balance Sheet.
2. Election of Officers.
3. General.

Nominations for the various offices of the Society will be received by the undersigned up to and including 24th July, 1933.

Subscriptions (5/-) for the current year are now due and are payable to the Acting Hon. Treasurer, Mr. S. P. Ward, Bank of New Zealand, Wellington.

Allan Sutherland

Hon. Secretary,
New Zealand Numismatic Society.

REPORT OF THE 12th MEETING (Council Meeting), 3rd July, 1933,

and

REPORT OF THE 13th MEETING (Second Annual Meeting) 31st July, 1933.

A COUNCIL MEETING of the Society was held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on the 3rd July, 1933, mainly to consider the recommendations of the Coinage Committee set up by the Government to report on the designs, denominations and manufacture of the proposed New Zealand coinage. Mr. Allan Sutherland, a member of the Coinage Committee, submitted a report in detail dealing with the recommendations of the Committee, and he was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his illuminating report and for the services he had rendered as a member of that Committee.

A very interesting discussion took place regarding the designs for the coins, and certain suggestions and recommendations were made for submission to the Government. Mr. Sutherland undertook to place the views of the Council before the Government, and in view of the urgency of the matter he asked that a member of the Council be appointed to act with him, if necessary, in any subsequent discussions regarding designs between the Society and the Government, and Professor J. Rankine Brown was appointed to act in this capacity.

The draft annual report was approved, and the following new members were elected:— Colonel G. Barclay, Auckland, Mr. E. T. Smith, Dargaville, Dr. E. G. Heine, Messrs. J. U. Smith, and G. Cockcroft, Wellington, Mr. F. Meek, Dunedin, and Mr. Noel De May, Levin.

SECOND ANNUAL MEETING.

The Second Annual Meeting of the Society was held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on the 31st July, 1933. The Rev. D. C. Bates, retiring President, occupied the Chair. In moving the adoption of the Annual Report, Mr. Bates expressed pleasure at the growth of the Society, and the increased interest taken in the instructive pursuit of numismatics in New Zealand. The membership of the Society had doubled during the year, and he hoped that an even greater increase would be recorded at the end of the next year. The circulation of New Zealand's first distinctive coinage would undoubtedly give an impetus to the study of numismatics in New Zealand. The Annual Report and Balance Sheet were adopted unanimously.

PRESENTATION TO MR. ALLAN SUTHERLAND. Mr. Bates said that he desired to take the opportunity, as his last official duty as President, of placing on record the appreciation of members of the Society of the services rendered by Mr. Allan Sutherland, who had occupied the position of Hon. General and Corresponding Secretary of the Society for the last two years. Not only was the founding of the Society largely due to Mr. Sutherland's efforts, but through his zeal and general interest in the study of numismatics he had helped materially in building up the Society and placing it in the sound position it held to-day. He had ably represented the Society as a member of the Coinage Committee recently set up by the Government to report on the new coinage proposed for the Dominion. It was the desire of members to acknowledge their indebtedness in some tangible form, and on behalf of the Society generally he asked Mr. Sutherland to accept a steel coin-cabinet as a token of appreciation from his fellow numismatists for the good work he had done on behalf of the Society, and in furthering the study of numismatics in New Zealand.

In responding, Mr. Sutherland thanked Mr. Bates and his fellow members most sincerely for the graceful compliment paid to him. The work entailed in the office of Secretary to the Society was really a labour of love so far as he was concerned, for the study of numismatics had a real fascination for him. If his efforts had resulted in the advancement of the Society he felt amply rewarded. He would regard the handsome coin-cabinet presented to him not only as a treasure-house of his modest coin-collection, but also as a treasure-house of pleasant memories in association with fellow numismatists in various parts of New Zealand.

NEW PRESIDENT.

On the motion of the retiring President, The Rev. D. C. Bates, Professor J. Rankine Brown was unanimously elected President for the new year. In returning

Thanks for his election, the new President paid a tribute to the work of the Rev. D. C. Bates, who had ably presided over the affairs of the Society since its foundation. Mr. Allan Sutherland also paid a tribute to the services rendered by Mr. Bates in assisting to establish the Society and in developing the study of numismatics in New Zealand. A motion recording a high sense of the appreciation of the services rendered by the Rev. D. C. Bates was passed by acclamation. Mr. Bates suitably responded.

OFFICERS FOR THE NEW YEAR WERE ELECTED AS FOLLOWS: Patron: His Excellency, the Rt. Hon. Lord Bledisloe. President: Professor J. Rankine Brown, Wellington. Past President and Vice-President: The Rev. D. C. Bates, Wellington. Other Vice-Presidents: Messrs. J. C. Entrican, Auckland, E. K. Cameron, Hawera, Archdeacon G. H. Gavin, F.R.M.S., New Plymouth, Dr. J. S. Elliott, Wellington, Mr. O. Harding, Springston, Colonel G. Cowie Nicols, Maheno, Messrs. Willi Fels, Dunedin, P. Watts Rule, Tamaru, and C. Gilbertson, Invercargill. **COUNCIL:** Messrs. Johannes C. Andersen, H. R. Ford, S. P. Ward, J. W. M. Smith, and E. G. Mayer. Hon. Auditor: Mr. E. G. Pilcher. Hon. Treasurer: Mr. K. Lowe (Legislative Council, Parliament House, Wellington), and Hon. General and Corresponding Secretary, Mr. Allan Sutherland (14, Clifton Terrace, Wellington, C.1).

THE NEW ZEALAND COINAGE. A brief statement was made by Mr. Sutherland regarding the proposed New Zealand coinage. Referring to the proposed decimal system of coinage, he stated that whilst he had concurred in the finding of the Committee that the present was not an opportune time to introduce the decimal system - owing to the economic depression - he was firmly convinced that the decimal system was superior to the fractional system, and that it would be the future system of coinage for New Zealand. The Government was freely availing itself of the offer of co-operation made by the Society within the limits of the time available and there was every reason to hope that a beautiful series of designs would be selected for New Zealand's first distinctive coinage.

Mr. H. R. Ford, a member of the Council, intimated that he would again donate one guinea towards the funds of the Society, and he was accorded a hearty vote of thanks therefor.

NEW MEMBERS were elected as follows: Messrs. A. E. and A. H. F. Baldwin, Numismatists, London, W. Cross, Tauranga, and J. Jessup and E. Gardiner, Wellington.

Reference was made to the fact that Miss N. Tewsley had relinquished her position as Numismatist to the Dominion Museum, and was intending to leave for Australia shortly. Mr. Sutherland said that both the Numismatic Society and the Museum authorities would be the poorer by the departure of Miss Tewsley, who had done much to assist the Society and foster an interest in numismatics generally. Through her efforts some interesting displays of sections of the State Coin Collection had been arranged at the Dominion Museum. Mr. Johannes Andersen and Dr. Rankine Brown also paid tributes to the work of Miss Tewsley, Dr. Rankine Brown referring to the interesting series of talks on numismatics given by Miss Tewsley from 2YA. Miss Tewsley suitably responded.

ERROR COINS OF NAPOLEON: Mr. Sutherland read short extracts from a letter he had received from an Australian numismatist, dealing with the so-called "error" coins of Napoleon bearing the inscription "Napoleon Empereur" on the obverse and "Republique Francaise" on the reverse. The writer dealt in an interesting manner with the reasons actuating Napoleon in adopting these apparently conflicting inscriptions. Dr. Rankine Brown contributed to the discussion, expressing his doubts as to the correctness of the views expressed by the writer of the letter on the ground that though his statement as to the meaning of "Emperor" and "Empire" may have been true in a sense when the Roman Empire was established, the words had long since changed their meaning. He undertook to look into the matter and make a communication to the Society at its next meeting.

EXHIBITS during the evening included a bronze replica of a medal by Andrieu, commemorating the fall of the Bastille on the 14th July, 1789, also Webster's English Numismatic medal in silver, both submitted by Mr. E. G. Williams, Dunedin. Other exhibits included early American Treasury notes Connecticut, 40/-, 1780, and Pennsylvania, 10/-, 1773. Mr. E. G. Pilcher exhibited an interesting series of N.Z. Exhibition medals, finely executed, and also a gold medal showing sailing vessels in Wellington Harbour, and issued to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Colony.

14, Clifton Terrace,
WELLINGTON, C.1.
20th September, 1933.

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

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

Report of the

FOURTEENTH MEETING -- 16th OCTOBER, 1933.

The FOURTEENTH MEETING of The New Zealand Numismatic Society was held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on the 16th October last when the President, Professor J. Rankine Brown, read a paper on "THE EARLY COINS OF NAPOLEON BONAPARTE" with special reference to the apparently contradictory inscriptions of "NAPOLEON EMPEREUR" on the obverse and "REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE" on the reverse of the early coins issued by that ruler. The lecturer also traced, in a most interesting manner, the evolution of the terms, "Empire" and "Republic" and the titles "Caesar", "Consul", and "Emperor" and other like inscriptions appearing on coins and medals through the ages, and showed how these words had, in their modern usage, assumed meanings very different from the Latin words from which they were derived.

In discussing the reasons which may have led Napoleon to select the title of "Emperor" when he had himself elected the sole ruler of the French Republic, the lecturer pointed out that whilst there was a decided objection by the French people to the old title of "King" - owing to its unpleasant associations - Napoleon himself had no objection to the Royal title, since at the time he assumed the Imperial title he exchanged the title or office of "Life President of the Italian Republic" for that of "King of Italy".

The lecturer expressed the opinion that the main reason for the choice of the title was that it linked the new regime or dynasty with the Holy Roman Empire as established by Charlemagne in the year 800. There was in Napoleon's day only one Emperor, and it is most significant that when Napoleon assumed the Imperial title the old Holy Roman Empire came to an end - by the forced resignation of Francis II. Many things were done to strengthen this association. A medal was struck in 1805 on the obverse of which the head of Napoleon appears alongside that of Charlemagne. At the coronation of Napoleon the sword, and other insignia of Charlemagne, were brought from Aix-la-Chapelle to Paris in order to grace the ceremony. The old Roman Emperor had endeavoured to be crowned by the Pope, and at the crowning of Napoleon the Pope was actually brought from Rome to perform the ceremony. Notwithstanding the presence of the Pope, however, Napoleon crowned himself.

It was Napoleon's ambition to establish a hegemony over Europe; a mere King could not be overlord over Kings, whereas the Roman Emperor had been overlord over many kings.

The 'riddle' of the appearance of the word "Republic" on the early coins of the Empire admits of a simple explanation. As soon as Napoleon became Emperor in 1804, he began to get rid of all vestiges of the Republic as quickly as possible. The feast of the establishment of the Republic, and of the capture of the Bastille, were celebrated for the last time, during his regime, in 1804. The words, "Republique Francaise" disappeared from the stamp on newspapers after the end of 1805, and the State seal had been changed before that. For a longer period, in drawing up decrees, etc., Napoleon used the words, "Emperor by the Constitutions of the Republic". On 29th April, 1806, in the formula for the promulgation of laws, the words used are, "Napoleon, by the Grace of God, and the Constitutions", and no longer "of the Republic".

The removal of the word "Republic" from the coins required a legal enactment, and it was only after the interview at Erfurt, when Alexander, Czar of Russia, and Napoleon, arranged for the submission of the peoples of Europe to the two of them, that he felt himself powerful enough to abolish the last remaining vestige of the Republic, by the decree of 22nd October, 1808, which stated, inter alia:-

"The coins which shall be minted after the first of January, 1809, shall have as legend on the reverse the words "EMPIRE FRANCAISE" instead of the words "REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE".

Even before 1808, however, the Republican practice of dating by the year of the Republic (such as L'an 1, L'an 2, etc.) had been dropped, and the usual dating by the Christian era had been resumed.

Dr. Rankine Brown concluded by quoting Aulard - the leading French authority on the French Revolution - who declared that -

"No one paid any attention to the decree; the word "Republic", formerly regarded by the people as a talisman of victory, was forgotten and had been replaced in the minds of the French people by the name of Napoleon, a second talisman of victory".

Referring to the evolution of titles, the Rev. D. C. Bates, who presided, said that from first to last Napoleon had apparently cherished the idea of a despotic rule, and that he had chosen for his first title that of "Premier Consul" associated with Roman rule, and finally he conferred on his son, whilst still an infant, the title of "King of Rome".

On the motion of Dr. J. S. Elliott, Vice-President, seconded by Mr. H. G. Mayer, Professor Rankine Brown was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his interesting and instructive address.

A fine series of medals and coins of the French revolutionary and Napoleonic periods was submitted for exhibition by Mr. J. B. Ward, of Hokitika, in order to illustrate the address. Other appropriate specimens were submitted by the Rev. D. C. Bates and Mr. Allan Sutherland.

Other exhibits during the evening included a finely executed official bronze medal commemorating the Chicago Century of Progress World's Fair, and a medal commemorating the flight of General Balbo's air armada from Italy to America and back (both specimens exhibited by Mr. K. Lowe), a bronze medal commemorating the cessation of the transportation of convicts to Tasmania in 1853 was loaned for exhibition by Mr. H. Elliott. Mrs. Bragger loaned a medal commemorating the restoration of the Amiens Cathedral in 1928, and Mr. J. B. Ward, of Hokitika, also submitted a Milton medal and a York Cathedral medal. Mr. Hassell Martin exhibited three specimens of Siamese silver ticals or bullet money. Miss E. H. C. Bowen exhibited a gold double-crown of James I, and Mr. H. R. Ford exhibited two thalers of the Dukes of Saxony, 1592 and 1623, one thaler of Frederick Ernehr, Duke of Brunswick and Luneburgh, 1624, and a five-mark piece of Xavier, King of Prussia and Poland, and Duke of Saxony, 1764, all in excellent condition.

At a Council Meeting held earlier in the evening five new members were elected as follows:- Mr. T. H. Dickson, New Plymouth, Miss E. H. C. Bowen, Wellington, Mr. Hassell Martin, Wellington, Mr. Geoff. Parker, Timaru, and Mr. R. C. Thornton, Studholme Junction.

Matters briefly considered by the Council included a proposal to establish a Junior Branch of the Society through the secondary schools and colleges, the proposed issue of a Waitangi medal, and matters relating to the New Zealand coinage. It was decided to give consideration to the Coinage Bill when introduced. His Excellency, the Governor-General, Lord Bledisloe, Patron, is to be invited to again address the Society before he leaves for the Homeland.

Allan Sutherland

Hon. Secretary,
New Zealand Numismatic Society,

14, Clifton Terrace,
WELLINGTON, N.Z.,
9th January, 1934.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

Report of the

FIFTEENTH MEETING - 15th JANUARY, 1934.

THE FIFTEENTH MEETING of the New Zealand Numismatic Society was held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on the 15th January. The President, Professor J. Rankine Brown, occupied the chair. Apologies for absence were received from Dr. J. S. Elliott, Messrs. H. G. Mayer, S. P. Ward, and G. Cockcroft.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The major portion of the evening was devoted to a consideration of an accumulation of interesting numismatic reports and correspondence, and matters relating to the introduction of new coins and bank-notes for the Dominion.

Prior to the commencement of the business of the evening the President, Professor J. Rankine Brown, congratulated Mr. Allan Sutherland on his election as a Fellow of the Royal Numismatic Society, and paid a tribute to the good work done by him in the numismatic field in New Zealand. Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, F.R.S., and Mr. K. Lowe added their congratulations and expressed appreciation of Mr. Sutherland's work on behalf of the Society, and in connection with the new coinage. Mr. Sutherland suitably responded.

NEW COINS AND BANK-NOTES: Attention was drawn to the fact that on 1st August not only a new series of coins, but also a new series of standardised Reserve Bank notes would be in circulation in the Dominion, and that the coins of the Motherland, which had circulated in New Zealand for the past 94 years, would soon disappear. Brief reference was made to bank-note designs and denominations, in regard to which the Government had consulted the Society. Pleasure was expressed at the fact that the Reserve Bank of New Zealand Act empowered the Government to authorize the issue of bank-note denominations below ten shillings, it being considered that this provision would be a convenience in the event of a change in the standard of value consequent upon the introduction of a decimal system of coinage which was being increasingly advocated. It was pointed out that legislative authority already existed for the issue of five-shilling notes but that the new provision was more elastic from a decimal coinage viewpoint.

Mr. Allan Sutherland, F.R.N.S., reported that the bank-notes of the six trading banks would shortly be called in, and as he considered it desirable that specimen sets of these notes should be put aside for numismatic and historic record, he had had discussions with the Secretary to the Associated Banks in that connection. He had asked that specimen sets be put aside for the State Collection in the Dominion Museum, for the Numismatic Society, and for the Turnbull Library. Mr. Sutherland was asked to continue his endeavours in that connection.

Members referred to the fact that in the past no effort had been made to retain specimens of private and other Colonial currency notes circulating in New Zealand, with the result that only fragmentary specimens were available for numismatic record. It was proposed to arrange for the exhibition at next meeting of some specimens of these 'shin-plasters' issued in the Colony, and members are invited to submit specimens or particulars of specimens in their possession.

CROWN PIECES: Members expressed gratification at the decision of the Government to issue crown pieces for numismatists, in keeping with the Imperial practice. The crown is to bear a Waitangi design. Members considered that the representations made on behalf of the Society had materially assisted in inducing the Government to include this desirable denomination in the coinage schedule.

SPECIMEN SETS OF NEW ZEALAND COINS dealt with in separate circular.

A copy of the Proclamation issued by the Governor-General, The Rt. Hon. Lord Bledisloe, bringing into operation the Coinage Act of New Zealand, 1933, as from the 1st December, 1933, was tabled.

It was reported that the first cycle in the change-over from Imperial and Australian coinage to New Zealand coins would shortly be completed. In addition to the continued ban on the private export of Imperial coins, a ban had been placed on the postal export of new coins of New Zealand, until the complete change over had been effected. The Treasury, however, would grant permits to export in certain cases.

NEW MILITARY DECORATIONS: Brief particulars of the new standardised issue of military awards for New Zealand were tabled as follows:-

The Efficiency Decoration,
The Efficiency Medal,
The Long Service and Good Conduct Medal,
The Meritorious Service Medal, and
The Medal of the Order of the British Empire.

The Hon. Secretary was asked to endeavour to obtain, for numismatic record, complete particulars of the medals, decorations, and badges formerly issued by the Military Headquarters, together with complete particulars of the current issues.

Further discussions took place regarding the proposed formation of a Junior Branch of the Society. It was claimed that the formation, under the aegis of the Society of Coin Clubs in High Schools and Colleges, on the lines of overseas practice, would be an invaluable aid to the study of history, and members were invited to bring the proposal before Principals and Masters of colleges, and, if possible, to donate some duplicates to attract the interest of scholars to the instructive pursuit of numismatics.

Mr. P. H. Webb, M.B.E., London, is to be invited to become an Hon. Corresponding Member of the Society. New members were elected as follows:- Mr. G. Horton Smith and Mr. C. M. ~~Forrell~~^{Torrell}, Wellington.

Reports issued by the Australian Numismatic Society, together with numismatic publications and price-lists were tabled. Letters were received from Hon. Corresponding Members as follows:- Sir John Manham, Bt., London, Mr. C.J.V. Weaver, Sydney, Mr. A.S. Kenyon, Melbourne, and Mr. J. Hunt Deacon, F.R.N.S., Adelaide. A printed report of an address by Mr. Percy H. Webb, M.B.E., President of the Royal Numismatic Society, was also tabled.

Exhibits during the evening included a specimen of the rare New Zealand penny, 1879, in extremely fine condition, exhibited by Mr. Allan Sutherland, who also submitted the Brinton Medal donated by the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Philadelphia. Other exhibits included early Roman ornaments, a Roman lamp and oil phial, exhibited by the Rev. D.C. Bates, who also showed a Roman surgical needle, both in copper, and both illustrating a primitive hardening process the secret of which had been lost for many centuries.

An attractive display of current Imperial silver coins was presented by Mr. H.R. Ford in order to demonstrate the effect of the debasement of Imperial coins during the post-war period. By a full range of coins in mint condition issued during this period he showed not only the changes in design but also the effect of the different alloys and finishing processes adopted by the Royal Mint from 1920 - when the debasement began - down to the end of 1932 when a more satisfactory alloy had been adopted. This exhibit, which strikingly illustrated the results of a departure from the higher silver content, attracted much interest.

NEW FIJI COINS: An interesting discussion took place regarding the designs and denominations of the new coins struck for the near-by Crown Colony of Fiji to meet exchange difficulties similar to those experienced in New Zealand. (See full report 'Evening Post' 28-3-34). The banning of the threepenny-piece and the half-crown in Fiji was contrasted with the experience in New Zealand where the threepenny piece was more popular than in any other part of the Empire. No less than two-fifths of the total number of new coins to be struck for New Zealand would be threepenny-pieces.

Other new features in the Fiji series - the holed pennies and half-pennies of cupro-nickel, and apparently reduced in size - attracted attention in view of the fact that a decision has yet to be made regarding the size, metal, and design of the New Zealand penny and half-penny to be issued to complete the New Zealand coinage series.

The meeting closed with the exchange of specimens.

Confirmed
22/4/1934
J. Rankine Brown

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

Report of the
SIXTEENTH MEETING, 23rd APRIL, 1934.

The SIXTEENTH MEETING of The New Zealand Numismatic Society was held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on MONDAY, 23rd APRIL, 1934. Apologies for absence were received from The Rev. D. C. Bates, and Dr. J. S. Elliott owing to absence from Wellington. There was a good attendance of members.

Mr. H. G. Williams, Dunedin, presented to the Society a coin album of metal-coloured replicas of the modern coins of the world, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Williams for his handsome gift.

Sir John Hanham, Bart., London, presented to the Society an illustrated catalogue of the Morrison collection of early English and Scottish coins, with prices realised at auction. The Secretary undertook to convey the thanks of members to Sir John for his continued helpful interest.

The following publications were tabled by Mr. Sutherland for inspection by members:-

"The Report of the Deputy Master and Comptroller of the Royal Mint, 1932."

"The Silver Coinage of Australia. Rate of Wear." by Mr. Hugh D. McCay, Deputy Master, Royal Mint, Melbourne.

Reports of Australian Numismatic Society.

"Numismatic Electrotypes" and "Catalogue of Coins of Great Britain and Ireland, 1934 Edition," issued by B. A. Seaby, Ltd., London.

Various catalogues and trade lists.

It was decided, with the consent of Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, to place the numismatic publications belonging to the Society with the numismatic works in the Turnbull Collection, Turnbull Library. Members may inspect these works under the usual conditions.

Satisfaction was expressed at the fact that the subjects adopted for the temporary issue of Reserve Bank notes - Armorial Bearings of Dominion, Maori bust, Kiwi, and Mitre Peak - were substantially in line with those proposed by the Society.

"NEW ZEALAND COIN LAWS" was the subject of a short address given by Mr. Allan Sutherland, F.R.N.S., who dealt very briefly with the evolution of coinage laws, and showed that the essence of these laws was the preservation of the almost sacred right of ruling princes to be the sole issuers of metallic money to be circulated in their realms. The use of emblems of divinity, and effigies of monarchs, was considered to set a seal of genuineness on ancient coins, and any attempt by false coiners to copy such designs was considered to be blasphemy or treason, and was treated as such. Even the statute law of to-day provided a maximum penalty of imprisonment for life for counterfeiters of coins or bank-notes, and consequently such laws were respected. Mr. Sutherland traced the application of English laws to New Zealand during her short span of history and reviewed coinage laws in the light of the ingenuity displayed by law draftsmen to enmesh counterfeiters, and the cleverness shown by those who attempted to contravene such laws. The speaker concluded with a brief reference to the New Zealand medal law which was believed to be unique in that since 1918 no military or naval medal could legally change hands other than by way of testamentary disposition or by prior consent of the Minister of Defence.

On the motion of Professor J. Rankine Brown, seconded by Mr. H. G. Mayer, Mr. Sutherland was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his address.

New members were elected as follows:- Mr. Leslie Lefeaux, Wellington, and Mr. C. Beck, Nelson.

As this was the first meeting of the Society following the circulation of the complete series of NEW ZEALAND COINS, the opportunity was taken to discuss the designs, and other matters relating to the introduction of the new coinage. The consensus of opinion was that a well-balanced series of designs had been chosen, effectively perpetuating distinctive characteristics of the country. Although there was a little criticism as to the treatment of some of the designs, it was agreed that in the main they were worthy of high praise. It was considered that in general the satisfactory result obtained had been made possible by a close and sympathetic co-operation between the Government and representatives of the Societies interested. The bold relief was considered to contribute largely to the success of the designs. (A full report of the discussion appears in the "Dominion" of 30th April, 1934).

The COST OF THE SPECIMEN SETS (including the crown piece to be struck for specimen sets only) was considered to be unduly high. Mr. Sutherland, who had made representations to the Treasury in that connection, gave a full explanation showing that the Mint, which had fixed a high price, was not prepared to make a reduction, and the addition of exchange, which the Treasury had to meet, unfortunately added to the already high Mint cost. It was agreed that the Society and the Treasury had done their best, and that nothing further could be done. It was hoped that the postal export ban temporarily placed on New Zealand coins would soon be removed.

The ceremonies associated with PAPAL JUBILEE YEAR and the opening and closing of the Holy Door at the Vatican, was referred to by Mr. Sutherland who exhibited some interesting papal coins and bull seals ex Mr. Willi Fels' collection, Dunedin, including a coin of Benedict XIV., 1750, which was struck to commemorate the Jubilee Year, and which bore a design representing the Holy Door. The other specimens exhibited bore designs representative of an early form of fasces, the Republic of Rome, the seat vacant, and papal insignia, etc. It was explained that after a lapse of 60 years Papal metallic coins were being issued in the Vatican State where they circulated concurrently with Italian coins.

Other exhibits included some early examples of New Zealand paper currency issued by private concerns. One note issued by a whaling company bore the signature of Mr. Enderby after whom Enderby Island was named. (Exhibited by courtesy of Mr. W. R. Oliver, Dominion Museum).

Mr. S. P. Ward exhibited a set of the new Fiji coins which attracted much interest in view of the fact that the designer (Mr. Percy Metcalfe) had unsuccessfully competed for the New Zealand coin designs.

A fine series of silver and copper coins of Morocco were exhibited by Mr. H. R. Ford, as follows:-

- A mitkal of El Hassan III., 1890, and $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ mitkal of Ab-del-Aziz IV., 1896.
- 1 Dirhem of Ab-del-Aziz IV., 1894.
- 1 Bankeel, 4 and 2 floos, of El Hassan III., 1887, also
- 1 Lira of Charles Felix, King of Sardinia, 1827.
- 15, 25, 15 and 10 Kopeks of Nicolas II., Czar of Russia, and
- One denarius of Augusta Annia Galeria Faustina, 104-191 A.D., wife of Antonius Pius, Emperor of Rome.

Two fine examples of the puffin and half-puffin, 1929, bearing the effigy and name of Martin Coles Harman (the "King of Lundy Island") on the obverse, and a puffin bird with the inscription, "Lundy, One puffin" on the reverse, were exhibited by Mr. H. G. Williams, Dunedin. As a one-time owner of Lundy Island in the Bristol Channel, Mr. Harman had apparently assumed sovereign rights which were abruptly terminated when the British Government recalled the issue.

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

14, Clifton Terrace,
WELLINGTON, C.I.,
2nd May, 1934.

Members on the chain-circulation list for the "Numismatist" (American) and Spink's "Circular" (English) are requested to keep these publications moving. New members desirous of sighting future copies of these publications should advise the Secretary accordingly.

The Council of the New Zealand Numismatic Society has the honour to submit its third Annual Report and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st May, 1934.

At regular intervals during the year meetings were held at which papers bearing on various phases of the science of numismatics were read, each paper being suitably illustrated by specimens from the cabinets of members. A very satisfactory feature of the meetings was the variety of exhibits shown by members.

In accordance with the policy of the Council in endeavouring to widen interest in numismatics, a full report of each meeting has been supplied to members with the object of sustaining and increasing interest, particularly in the case of members not resident in Wellington. In furtherance of this policy monthly numismatic periodicals are made available to members on request. Sir John Hanham, London, has donated various works on English coins with the object of making them available to members resident outside of Wellington who are not able to gain access to numismatic works in their own libraries. Such members are invited to avail themselves of this extra privilege. The Council at all times welcomes suggestions for alteration in the method of enlarging its sphere of influence and usefulness in advancing the study of numismatics in New Zealand.

NEW ZEALAND COINAGE: Of paramount interest during the year has been the circulation of New Zealand's first distinctive coinage. The designs have been well received, and the task of calling in the British Imperial and Australian coins now current is proceeding smoothly. The remaining silver denomination - the crown piece - is being awaited with interest, and numismatists, for whom the initial striking is mainly intended are expecting an outstanding design on this coin.

It is presumed that in due course the Government will carry out the recommendation of the Coinage Committee, and call for competitive designs for the remaining two coin denominations, the penny and the halfpenny. No problems confront the authorities at present so far as the bronze imperial coins are concerned, but for reasons of uniformity it is hoped that the issue of New Zealand bronze coins will not be too long delayed.

In view of the fact that coins pass through the hands of every person in the community it is essential that coin designs should be prepared by the very best artists or coinage designers available, whether within the Empire or elsewhere, and no expense should be spared, within reason, to ensure that this result is achieved.

That the placing of New Zealand on the numismatic map of the World has attracted some attention to this country is evidenced by many enquiries for specimens of the new issue received from all parts of the World. When the export ban on New Zealand coins is lifted (as it should be as soon as the change over has taken place) the flow abroad of our coins bearing characteristic designs will result in establishing durable and lucrative advertising media in remote parts of the World where New Zealand has hitherto been little known.

MEDALS: Although many notable medals of outstanding beauty and workmanship struck overseas were exhibited during the year, no medals struck in New Zealand were exhibited at any of the meetings.

During the last few decades public interest in medallic art, and in medals generally, has waned considerably in New Zealand, notwithstanding a development of interest in such matters in other parts of the world. At the beginning of this century medal awards in New Zealand were much more general than at present, and medalets were issued very frequently to commemorate many events not similarly recognised at the present time. Fortunately some medals of outstanding interest have survived, being awarded annually for scientific research and other purposes.

Thanks to our active Patron, the Rt. Hon. Lord Bledisloe, such medal awards have been increased during his regime, and this has tended to stimulate interest to some extent in medallic art in New Zealand.

It is understood that various medals are being struck in Australia in connection with the forthcoming Melbourne Centenary, and it is expected that in due course similar commemorative medals will be struck to mark the centenary of New Zealand and the centenary of various cities.

It is considered by some members that the Society should exercise one of its functions and award a medal periodically for distinguished services to New Zealand, and in this connection it is interesting to quote an adaptation of a passage from a paper recently read by Mr. F. Varley before the Yorkshire Numismatic Society:-

"Whether struck in honour of the living or the dead, a commemorative medal is about the highest compliment that can be paid to any human being. It has the quality of being equally durable with statuary, with the additional advantage of multiplication, and an area of distribution as wide as the globe itself. As an indestructible register of personal achievement it brings distinction to any man, but to men in certain worthy callings it may be regarded as especially desirable since, unlike the painter, poet, or sculptor, they leave nothing of their work behind them but a memory which fades out in the generation which succeeds them. As Lawrence Barrett once put it 'They are sculptors who carve their images in snow'. And for this unavoidable defect in the callings of such men, the commemorative medal can, to some extent, make amends."

It is understood that the cost of cutting dies and striking an oxidised silver medal locally, would be about £20, but this cost would be reduced if members were prepared to purchase bronze replicas at 5s.0d to 7/6d each. This question will be considered at the coming annual meeting, and meantime the Council is desirous of testing the opinion of members as to the desirability of proceeding with the proposal. The Council would also like to know whether any members are prepared, as an alternative, to make donations towards a medal award under other conditions than those referred to.

The Council again wishes to record its warm appreciation of the assistance given by Mr. Johannes Andersen in making the Turnbull Library available for the pursuit of numismatic studies. The Council also wishes to thank Dr. W.R.B. Oliver, Director, Dominion Museum, for his assistance in connection with exhibits.

In the course of the year the Hon. Secretary visited various parts of the Dominion and established contact with many members.

The year commenced with a membership of 74 and closed with a membership of 91. The Balance Sheet shows a credit balance of £19.15.5.

That New Zealanders are becoming more numismatically minded is evidenced by the increased public interest taken in coins and medals, stimulated, no doubt, by the circulation of our own new coinage during the year. The Society has been called upon, early in its history, to share in practical decisions relating to coinage and bank-note matters, and its officers have given their time unstintingly in an endeavour to assist the Government in this connection and in securing coinage and bank-note designs worthy of the Dominion.

The steady growth of the Society and the keen interest displayed by members indicate that the Society is performing a useful service in co-ordinating and advancing the interests of numismatists in all parts of the Dominion, and your Council hopes that during the incoming year the activities of the Society will result in an even greater interest being taken in the fascinating and instructive pursuit of numismatics.

For the Council of the N.Z. Numismatic Society,

J. RANKINE BROWN,

President.

REPORT OF THE 17th MEETING (Third Annual Meeting) 23rd JULY, 1934.

REPORT OF THE 18th MEETING (Council Meeting) 13th AUGUST, 1934.

The ANNUAL MEETING of The New Zealand Numismatic Society was held at the Turnbull Library on 23rd July. The President, Professor J. Rankine Brown, occupied the Chair. There was a good attendance of members, including a number of visitors. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. T. B. Strong and Mr. L. Lefeaux.

In moving the adoption of the ANNUAL REPORT and BALANCE SHEET, the President reviewed the year's work and expressed satisfaction at the continued growth of the Society and the increased interest being taken in the study of the science of numismatics in New Zealand. In seconding the motion, Mr. Johannes C. Andersen said that the year had been a memorable one in numismatics, and that the Society was performing a useful function in co-ordinating and advancing the interests of numismatists resident in all parts of the Dominion. The motion was carried unanimously.

The suggestion that the Society should strike a MEDAL on the lines proposed in the Annual Report was referred to the Council with power to act, and a sub-committee consisting of Professor J. Rankine Brown, Dr. J. S. Elliott, Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, Mr. H. G. Mayer and Mr. Allan Sutherland, was set up to report to the Council as to the desirability of adopting the suggestion. (See separate circular).

ELECTION OF OFFICERS. Officers for the new year were elected as follows:-

<u>PATRON:</u>	His Excellency, the Rt. Hon. Lord Bledisloe.
<u>PRESIDENT:</u>	Professor J. Rankine Brown, Wellington.
<u>VICE-PRESIDENTS:</u>	The Rev. D. C. Bates, Auckland; Dr. J. S. Elliott, Wellington; Mr. J. C. Entrican, Auckland; Mr. E. K. Cameron, Hawera; Archdeacon G. E. Gavin, F.R.N.S., New Plymouth; Mr. O. Harding, Springston, Colonel G. Cowie Nicols, Maheno; Mr. Willi Fels, Dunedin; Mr. P. Watts Rule, Timaru, and Mr. C. Gilbertson, Invercargill.
<u>COUNCIL:</u>	Messrs. Johannes C. Andersen, H. R. Ford, S. P. Ward, J. W. M. Smith, and H. G. Mayer.
<u>HON. AUDITOR:</u>	Mr. E. G. Pilcher.
<u>HON. TREASURER:</u>	Mr. K. Lowe.
<u>HON. SECRETARY:</u>	Mr. Allan Sutherland, F.R.N.S.

Reference was made to the forthcoming VISIT TO NEW ZEALAND OF H.R.H. PRINCE HENRY and to the action of previous Governments in issuing medals to commemorate such visits.

A series of medals issued to school children and others by previous Governments were exhibited by Mr. J. B. Ward, Hokitika. Members deplored the fact that the designs were ineffective, the workmanship was poor, and the metals used were unsatisfactory, and expressed the hope that in arranging for the issue of future medals the Government would avail itself of the close co-operation of the New Zealand Numismatic Society.

NEW MEMBERS were elected as follows:- Captain J. Algie, Auckland; Messrs. H. G. Hughan, Carterton; C. M. Bothamley, H. R. Ayers, K. W. Ward, M. J. Hope, J. Pamplin, Wellington; and the Rev. Bernard Teague, Cromwell.

Mr. H. R. Ford, a member of the Council, intimated that he would again donate one guinea towards the funds of the Society, and he was accorded a hearty vote of thanks therefor.

EXHIBITS. Much interest was taken in a counterfeit National Bank £1 note exhibited by Mr. H. Tilley. The counterfeit was a clever imitation, the only marked difference at first glance being the deeper shade of mauve. Many variations were disclosed on close examination, but numismatists agreed that the note would deceive most people when hurriedly handled. Many of these notes were circulated on the eve of the issue of the new standardised Reserve Bank notes.

Mr. H. R. Ford exhibited: a large brass of Claudius I., Roman Emperor 41-54 A.D., born 10 B.C., poisoned by Agrippina (his niece and fourth wife); a denarius of Galba, Roman Emperor, 68-69 A.D., born 5 B.C., murdered at the Lacus Curtius in the Roman Forum; a denarius of Trajan, Roman Emperor, 98-117 A.D., the first Roman Emperor not of Italian birth; five Krans of Muzaffar-ed-Din, Persia, fifth of the Kajar dynasty, 1903; and gold U.S.A. coins as follows - five-dollars, 1897; 2½ dollars (intaglio-relievo) 1911, (to facilitate stacking at the banks), and one dollar (3rd type) 1874.

Other exhibits included a series of bronze commemorative medals, a full range of early Chinese money of quaint shapes, and a Roman ass of iron, exhibited by the Dominion Museum.

A silver tetradrahm, bearing the head of Alexander the Great, was shown by Mr. Allan Sutherland, who also showed a proof set of Southern Rhodesian coins recently designed by Mr. Kruger Gray, and a series of bronze and silver coins of Spain, Portugal, Holland, India and England, illustrating the mixed coinage legally current in Australia in the early days.

COINS AS A SIDELIGHT ON HISTORY. During the second portion of the evening, Dr. J. S. Elliott, Vice-President, delivered a most interesting paper on "Coins as a Sidelight on History."

Dr. Elliott said that a definition of numismatics was the study of the coins of all nations, and its chief value was the light which the study of coins threw upon history. The secondary importance of numismatics was artistic, and its meanest claim was mere acquisitiveness. It helped to elucidate the mythology of the ancients, fixed the chronology of various languages and forms of writing, and showed the origin and expansion of divers systems of weighing and working the precious metals. Historically, coins were authentic and permanent means of commemorating the names of ancient and obscure peoples and cities, and gave the chronological succession of kings and rulers. Coins threw a sidelight on religious observances and recorded the phases of art, its rise and fall, in ancient and modern times.

The Greek coins were the grammar of Greek art. The sculpture, marble and bronze, of the greatest age in Greece now extant and preserved, would barely fill a gallery, but the coins of the period were thousands in number, and remained unaltered to reflect the glory of the past.

The noble coins bearing the head of Alexander the Great showed his image as fresh as when it was first minted and gave a warm human interest to the cold pages of history. Recorded history was in many cases authenticated by the study of coins.

"As for the proud history of Rome," continued Dr. Elliott, "Addison calls the Roman coinage a 'State gazette on which all the truly great events of the Empire were periodically published'." The coins of Augustus commemorated the conquest of Egypt, the coins of Vespasian revealed the subjugation of Judea, and the coins of Trajan recorded the giving of a King to the Parthians by the Roman Emperor.

In the greatest age of Grecian splendour the arts, as revealed on coins, and on other great relics, attained their zenith and declined under the later Roman influence until, after the end of the Roman Empire, art revived in a new, but less splendid Gothic form from the fifth to the fifteenth century. The artists who designed the Roman coins were, for the most part, Greeks, and their genius, if not decadent, was not enkindled to please alien masters. These artists were not creative, but they were painstaking and exact in the portraiture of the Emperors, and, therefore, were sound historians. And so, on these coins are preserved, in an immortality of their own, the lineaments of the Imperial Caesars in a way that no Suetonius could convey - the cold and inscrutable face of Augustus, the coarseness of Vitellius, the plain soldier type of Trajan, and the intellectual and brooding features of Antoninus and Marcus Aurelius.

After tracing the issue of coinages down to modern times, and reviewing British and Colonial coinages, including the recent New Zealand issue, Dr. Elliott concluded as follows: "Whether there should be one coinage of uniform pattern and value for the whole British Empire is too contentious a subject to be herein discussed. However, when Macaulay's New Zealander, in the midst of a vast solitude, stands on a broken arch of London Bridge to skotch the ruins of St. Paul's - if

that tragic event ever occurs - the great variety of British coinage discovered by the new Imperialists - or should we say new internationalists - in a future age will be historical evidence of the extent and the might of the great British Empire, of which its peoples were once so proud in their narrow national way!" (See fuller report in "Evening Post," 25th July, 1934).

On the motion of Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, seconded by Mr. Allan Sutherland, and supported by Professor J. Rankine Brown, Dr. Elliott was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his very interesting and informative paper.

At the conclusion of the business section of the evening, members and friends were the guests of the President, Professor J. Rankine Brown and Mrs. Rankine Brown, assisted by Mrs. Johannes Andersen, at a dainty supper, and an enjoyable social hour concluded the proceedings.

A COUNCIL MEETING of the Society was held at the Turnbull Library on 13th August, mainly to receive the report of the sub-committee set up to report on the proposal that the Society should strike a medal on the lines suggested in the Annual Report. It was decided to proceed with the proposal in order to foster interest in medallic art in New Zealand. (See separate circular).

New members were elected as follows: Messrs. T. Ashton, D. J. Finnigan, and J. Berry, Wellington.

Reports of the Australian Numismatic Society were tabled; also many letters and inquiries regarding the new coins of New Zealand, and coin price-lists submitted from all parts of the world.

Other matters briefly dealt with by the Council were: the proposed issue of pence and half-pence to complete the New Zealand coinage series; the present position with respect to the Waitangi crown-piece (which is to bear the date "1934" to commemorate the Waitangi celebrations); the hoarding of Imperial silver coin; the proposed formation of junior coin clubs; and the designs of the new standardised temporary Reserve Bank notes.

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

14, Clifton Terrace,
Wellington, New Zealand.
20th August, 1934.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

Reports of the

NINETEENTH MEETING - 26th SEPTEMBER, 1934.
TWENTIETH MEETING - 3rd DECEMBER, 1934.
TWENTYFIRST MEETING - 20th DECEMBER, 1934.

NINETEENTH MEETING: A special meeting of the Council of the Society was held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on 26th September, to consider DESIGNS PROPOSED FOR THE SOCIETY'S MEDAL. Photographs of His Excellency the Governor-General, Lord Bledisloe, Patron of the Society, were examined and a suitable profile portrait was adopted for the obverse of the medal.

All members of Council present. Professor J. Rankine Brown, President, occupied the Chair.

Several draft reverse designs were considered, including carved panel with sprays of native flowers on either side with inscription in Maori; an attractive shield draped with Maori cloak, surmounted by kiwi with crossed Taiahas in background the subjects for the quarterings being appropriate to the country and to the study of numismatics. Further designs were: a Maori youth clad in kilt-like piupiu shading his eyes looking at arrival of sailing vessel (arrival of first white man); fern tree and cabbage tree with canoe; sailing vessel with Maori canoe alongside; Maori carved window and carved doorways with sprays of red and yellow kowhai, and other native flowers in side fields. Decision deferred pending submission of further designs. Messrs. Mayer & Kean, Wellington, to be entrusted with cutting dies and striking medal.

Mrs. J.S.Elliott, Wellington, and Mr. W.F.Wilson, Honolulu, were elected members of the Society.

TWENTIETH MEETING: "THE COINAGE OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE" was the subject of a paper presented by The Rev. Archdeacon G.H.Gavin, F.R.N.S., New Plymouth, at a meeting of the Society held at the Turnbull Library, on 3rd December. A number of rare and interesting Roman coins, some of which circulated upwards of 2,000 years ago, were selected from the Archdeacon's valuable collection to illustrate the paper, and these coins were screened by Mr. A.J.Bland, by means of an epidiascope.

In the absence of the author, the paper was read by the President, Professor J. Rankine Brown, whose knowledge of the subject enabled him to make interesting supplementary remarks, and, in addition, he exhibited several slides belonging to the Classical Department of the Victoria University College in order to illustrate some of the points in the paper.

At the outset, the Archdeacon pointed out that when one took up the study of the science of numismatics one soon realised the need for specialising, or limiting the range of one's interests, on account of the great size of the field. Insofar as the ancient coins were concerned, no doubt the noble Greek series could be granted premier place in the study of numismatics - because of the beauty of design and superior execution - but the Roman Imperial coins, in which he specialised, were none the less interesting, for any lack of beauty in design was more than counterbalanced by historic and diversified designs which truly reflected history. The Latin legends were less difficult for the beginner. In reviewing the more notable coins, the Archdeacon made passing mention of the history of many of the issuers and the times in which they lived.

One of the first coins shown was a denarius of Julius Caesar, made perpetual Dictator 44 B.C. and assassinated in the same year, "dictators not being so popular then as now." A denarius of Brutus followed; coins of Mark Antony and Cleopatra, the inscriptions being explained, and the issuers receiving passing notice. The coins ranged from the period of the civil war immediately preceding the establishment of the Roman Empire, down to the division into the Empires of the West and East in 395, after the death of Theodosius I.

Among the most interesting coins dealt with was a silver denarius of Tiberius Caesar, the "penny" of the Gospels. A specimen of this coin was placed in the hand of Christ, resulting in the famous dialogue: "'Whose image and superscription hath it?' They say unto Him, 'Caesar's.' He saith unto them, 'Render therefore unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's and unto God the things that are God's.'" Coins of Pontius Pilate, 30 A.D., Festus and Felix, the Roman Procurators of Judea mentioned in the New Testament, were also shown.

A large sestertius bearing an obverse portrait of Nero in high relief and the closed temple of Janus on reverse (struck in A.D. 63 after the conclusion of the Parthian War) attracted attention on account of the excellent portraiture.

One of the best examples of Roman coinage exhibited was a first brass of Emperor Vespasian, struck in 71 A.D., the year after Jerusalem was destroyed by the Romans. The reverse design depicts a mourning Jewess seated under a palm-tree, with Vespasian standing armed holding a parazonium and with one foot on a helmet. Legend, 'Judea Capta.'

Another notable coin was an orichalan sestertius of Trajan bearing a reverse inscription commemorating a system of State support for poor children organised by him. The obverse was an example of the admirable portraiture on Roman Imperial coins of the best period.

ORIGIN OF BRITANNIA ON BRITISH PENNY: Of special interest was a dupondius of Antoninus Pius (138-161 A.D.) which had on the reverse a seated female figure with the inscription 'BRITANNIA' and from which the device on the reverse of the English penny is supposed to have been derived. The Professor explained that this reverse design had already appeared on the coins of the preceding Emperor Hadrian, who had visited Britain in 119 A.D., and in whose reign the great fortification between the Tyne and the Solway - Hadrian's Wall - was constructed, and he showed a slide of a coin of Lysimachus, King of Thrace, (one of the successors of Alexander the Great) showing the seated Athene on the reverse, which design, the Professor claimed, bore a much closer resemblance to the design on the British penny. It was possible, therefore, that this coin, struck by the King of Thrace in 281 B.C., and bearing the head of Alexander the Great, as a God, on the obverse and Athene seated on the reverse, was the origin of the design of Britannia on Hadrian's coins, and which survives to this day. That design, however, had a greater resemblance to the attitude of the Ares Ludovisi, a work probably of the Hellenistic Age, the original or at least copies of which certainly existed in Rome in Hadrian's day.

CAPTIVE IN CHAINS OF GOLD: Another coin of interest and rarity was one of Zenobia, Queen of Palmyra, who endeavoured to make herself a sort of Empress of the East, and was, as a result, overcome by the great Emperor Aurelian in 273, and made to walk in chains of gold in his triumph.

A coin of Magnia Urbica, the Consort of Carinus, was shown, it being explained that she was known to history only by her coins, which were rare.

Archdeacon Gavin's paper concluded with references to coins of various Roman rulers of Britain, and to a series of coins of Constantine the Great, some of which were struck in London. The use of the Chi Rho, the Christian symbol, on the coins of Magnentius, 350 A.D., was also shown. The inferior execution of the later coins showed the degradation which befell the art of coinage when the Roman Empire was tottering to its close.

On the motion of Mr. H.R.Ford, seconded by Mr. Allan Sutherland, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Archdeacon Gavin for his most interesting paper and the attractive range of exhibits submitted by way of illustration. Mr. Eland was thanked for his efficient work at the epidiascope, and a tribute was paid to Dr. Rankine Brown for his instructive supplementary remarks in regard to the historic background of the pieces screened and for the interesting and illuminating manner in which he had helped to turn back the pages of the past.

A large and ATTRACTIVE SERIES OF EXHIBITS were submitted from various parts of the Dominion as follows:-

Mr. P. Watts Rule, Timaru, exhibited the Victoria-Melbourne Centenary Bronze medal by Raynor Hoff. Obverse ram's skull and ear of wheat: reverse high-tension electrical transmission tower and lines. Obverse design much criticised by Australian pastoralists as suggesting drought and famine, instead of progress and plenty. Mr. Watts Rule also exhibited a silver award medal for the N.Z. Band Association, Timaru, depicting Caroline Bay. Designed by and presented to exhibitor.

Mr. H.N.Johnson, New Plymouth, exhibited a rare Dervish dollar coined by the Khalifa in Omdurman during the Dervish occupation of the Sudan, after the death of Gordon. This "spear-dollar" was coined at a time when silver was scarce, and is mostly of copper. When issued, the townspeople of Omdurman objected to such debased coinage, but after some of the objectors had been beheaded the agitation ceased. The Khalifa had the word, "Makbul," engraved on the coin, indicating that "it must be accepted" at its nominal value of 4s. The specimen was presented by Sir Reginald Wingate, late Governor-General of the Sudan.

Mr. H.G.Williams, Dunedin, exhibited a silver crown of Cromwell, bearing the legends "The Commonwealth of England" and "God With Us 1656" in English. Also, a large series of silver and bronze coins of various countries.

Mr. A.J.McPherson, Timaru, exhibited an antique framed silver plaque of Archbishop Sancroft, consecrated 1677, deposed 1690 for refusing to take the oath of allegiance to King William and Queen Mary. Also, an attractive series of historic British and Papal medals.

Mr. Allan Sutherland, F.R.N.S., Wellington, exhibited the Melbourne-Victoria Centenary florin, 1934, by Kruger Gray, bearing standardised legends in English for first time. Reverse design, a youth mounted on charger holding aloft a flaming torch. An attractive series of Albanian coins in high relief by the noted designers A.Motti and G.Romagnoli, and a large silver five-franc piece of Switzerland bearing on the obverse a bust of William Tell by A.Burkhard were also shown; also penny, half and quarter penny of South Africa, 1927, showing standardised legends in English & Dutch.

Mr. H.R.Ford, Wellington, exhibited a series of rare Roman and Greek coins in excellent condition.

Earlier in the evening a COUNCIL MEETING was held at which the following matters were dealt with: A proclamation (1934) DEMONETISING BRITISH SILVER COINS IN NEW ZEALAND as from the 1st February, 1935, was tabled; also 1932 proclamation governing importation and exportation of coinage into and from Samoa. It was announced that the Government did not propose to proceed with the minting of bronze coins for New Zealand meantime. THE NEW ZEALAND CROWN was discussed, it being announced that delay in connection with the design had held up the issue. Specimen sets would be available as soon as the crown was struck. A printed report of address on "The Beginnings of Coinage" by Percy E. Webb, M.B.E., President of the Royal Numismatic Society, and reports of the Australian Numismatic Society were tabled. Also, general enquiries re coins, together with replies, and a number of coin price-lists,

It being reported that Colonel The Rev. D.C. Bates had changed his place of residence from Wellington to Auckland, members expressed regret at his departure, and, after expressing appreciation of his good services on behalf of the Society, the following motion was passed unanimously:-

"That this Society deeply regrets Mr. Bates's permanent departure from Wellington, and desires to place on its records its appreciation of his very great services in connection with the foundation of the Society, and as its first President for two years."

It was also reported that Mr. Bates hoped to assist in the formation of an Auckland Branch of the N.Z. Numismatic Society.

NEW MEMBERS were elected as follows: Messrs. A.D. Park, W.W.H. Hoffman, V.J. Leck, M. Hornblow, Wellington; Mr. W. Peers, Christchurch, and Mr. A.J. McPherson, Timaru.

Further consideration was given to the design of the Society's medal, further designs considered being: wreath fern leaves; pioneer and Maori with scroll of Waitangi Treaty in centre; a Maori watching arrival first sailing vessel; Captain Cook's "Endeavour"; a carved window with kowhai flowers in outside field; Maori carved pare or doorway with red and yellow kowhai and historic inscription in centre doorway. Decided to ask two artist designers, Mr. J. Berry and Mr. L. Mitchell, Wellington, to submit amended treatment of last-mentioned subject, and to ask Mr. P. Watts Rule, Vice-President, Timaru, to advise Council on designs submitted.

TWENTYFIRST MEETING: A special meeting of the Council of the Society was held on the 20th December at 1.30 p.m. to make a final decision in regard to the REVERSE DESIGN FOR THE SOCIETY'S MEDAL. It was decided to adopt a design prepared by Mr. J. Berry, Wellington, with modifications suggested by the Council (Maori pare or carved doorway, with sprays of golden kowhai flowers in side fields, and historic inscription in centre). Mr. H. G. Mayer exhibited wax impressions from the obverse die already cut, and the portraiture of the Patron was considered to be a marked success.

It was announced that a silver specimen of the medal would be presented to His Excellency, Lord Bledisloe, at a farewell meeting held in his honour, probably on the 6th February, 1935, the 95th anniversary of the actual signing of the Treaty of Waitangi, but the actual date is yet to be fixed. Members will be further advised as to the date of the meeting.

Members desirous of securing bronze specimens of this medal for themselves or their friends should notify the Secretary as early as possible.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,
Hon. Secretary.

14, Clifton Terrace,
WELLINGTON, C.1.,
24th December, 1934.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

Reports of the

TWENTYSECOND MEETING -- 6th FEBRUARY, 1935.

TWENTYTHIRD MEETING -- 4th MARCH, 1935.

FAREWELL TO THE RT. HON. LORD BLEDISLOE, PATRON, AND LADY BLEDISLOE,
AND PRESENTATION OF SOCIETY'S WAITANGI-BLEDISLOE COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL.

A meeting of the New Zealand Numismatic Society was held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on the 6th February, 1935, when members assembled to bid farewell to the Rt. Hon. Lord Bledisloe (first Patron of the Society) and Lady Bledisloe, who are on the eve of departure to the Homeland on the expiry of His Excellency's term of office as Governor-General. The meeting was held on New Zealand Day, the 95th anniversary of the actual signing of the Treaty of Waitangi, and the speeches delivered had an historic significance in keeping with the occasion.

In opening, the President, Professor J. Rankine Brown, who occupied the chair, expressed pleasure at the large attendance and after welcoming Mr. J. C. Entrican, Vice-President, Auckland, and Mr. J. B. Ward, Hokitika, who had journeyed to Wellington to be present, asked Mr. Allan Sutherland to read a list of apologies and messages from members resident in other parts of the Dominion. Messages and apologies were read from the Rev. D. C. Bates, past President, Auckland, Mr. Willi Fels, Vice-President, Dunedin, Mr. Watts Rule, Vice-President, Timaru, and from Mr. H. G. Williams, Dunedin. Apologies were received from Col. G. Barclay and Mr. W. F. Meek, Dunedin, Mr. John Robertson, Invercargill, Mr. T. H. Dickson, New Plymouth, Mr. W. D. Ferguson, and Mr. M. Hugo, Wellington. Messages of congratulation on the issue of the Society's first medal were read from Sir Robert Johnson, Deputy Master of the Royal Mint, London, and Mr. Percy H. Webb, M.B.E., President of the Royal Numismatic Society, London.

ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT: Professor J. Rankine Brown said that it was with profound regret that the New Zealand Numismatic Society was taking farewell of its first Patron, who had endeared himself not only to the people of New Zealand as a whole, but also to all members of the Society with whom he came into contact. His Excellency had not been content to occupy a passive role of patron, but had attended meetings of the Society and had addressed members on various phases of the study of numismatics and archaeology, mainly associated with the archaeological discoveries at his home at Lydney Park, Gloucestershire, England.

Lord Bledisloe had occupied his high office of Governor-General with marked distinction, and had always placed his great ability at the service of New Zealand. In this he had received the ready assistance of Her Excellency, Lady Bledisloe. Long after they had left these shores they would be remembered for their unsparing service to the community. By their generous and patriotic presentation to the people of the site on which the Treaty of Waitangi had been signed, exactly 95 years ago that day, they had awakened a national consciousness that marked a step forward in the history of the country. Following this presentation by Their Excellencies, the New Zealand Numismatic Society decided, on the suggestion of the then President, the Rev. D. C. Bates, to strike a medal not only to commemorate the nationalisation of Waitangi, but also to encourage medallic art in New Zealand. As a farewell tribute to the first Patron of the Society, the portrait of the Rt. Hon. Lord Bledisloe was placed on the obverse of the medal, this being the first occasion on which the portrait of a Governor-General had appeared on a medal issued in New Zealand.

On the reverse of the medal was placed an emblematic design depicting a Maori carved doorway, with sprays of yellow kowhai - the proposed national flower - in the side fields, and two manuka blossoms at base. In the centre doorway appeared the words, "1840 Hobson Waitangi Bledisloe 1934," in five lines, and, around "New Zealand Numismatic Society 1935." His Excellency had consented to receive a silver medal as a specimen of New Zealand medallic art, and the meeting had been arranged on an appropriate date - the 95th anniversary of the actual signing of the Treaty. The speaker paid a tribute to the designer and the die-sinker, and to Mr. H. G. Mayer, whose firm, Messrs. Mayer & Kean, had struck the medal, and who had been of material assistance to the Council throughout. The medal would be a lasting recognition of His Excellency's association with New Zealand. The Society appreciated the honour of having Lord Bledisloe as its first Patron.

Dr. J. S. Elliott, Vice-President, joined in expressing appreciation of the distinguished services rendered to New Zealand by Their Excellencies, Lord and Lady Bledisloe. It was not likely within their own time that another numismatic Governor-General would occupy the position of Patron of the Society. The medal bearing the portrait of Lord Bledisloe would be a permanent commemoration of his services to the country and to the Society, and would fittingly mark his connection with Waitangi, where the Treaty had been signed 95 years ago that very day. Dr. Elliott also paid a tribute to Lady Bledisloe, who had been of valuable assistance to Lord Bledisloe during his term of office. He also expressed pleasure at the presence of Lady Godley, whose husband was well known in the Dominion. To Their Excellencies, Lord and Lady Bledisloe, he would say, on behalf of the Society, "Ave Atque Vale" - Hail and Farewell.

Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, F.R.S.N.Z., referred to the Treaty of Waitangi and paid a tribute to the New Zealand Numismatic Society in commemorating that event by striking a medal linking the names of the first Lieutenant-Governor, Hobson, with that of the present Governor-General, Lord Bledisloe, both of whom had been so closely associated in different ways with that historic spot. It was interesting to survey the history of the 95 years since the Treaty was signed. Undoubtedly it had always been difficult to observe the Treaty implicitly. In the days of the N.Z. Land Company some people regarded the Treaty as "a device to amuse naked savages" until such time as the Pakeha in-comers were strong enough to wrest from the Maori that which the Treaty solemnly guaranteed to them. On the whole the Treaty had been honoured to the best of the power of the dominant race, although thoughtful Pakehas regretted that it had not been possible to observe it more fully. Despite the fact that legislation already existed to acquire historic spots as memorials of the past, Waitangi had been forgotten until His Excellency, Lord Bledisloe, as a private act, had acquired the site and presented it to the nation. This spontaneous act had captured the imagination of Maori and Pakeha alike, and at the Festival in 1934, held at Waitangi, the Treaty was, as it were, signed anew. The medal would go down to posterity as the first medallion recognition of a great event, and of two Governors associated with it. As regards the successor to Lord Bledisloe, New Zealanders would say, as the Maoris said when a successor to Captain Hobson was under consideration, "Let them send a good man like the one who has just gone."

Professor Rankine Brown then handed to His Excellency a silver specimen of the medal in a leather case bearing an outside inscription in gold.

RESPONDING, HIS EXCELLENCY, LORD BLEDISLOE, said: "I thank you for your beautiful and epoch-making gift, which shall have an honoured place in the cabinet of my family treasures in my home in England. It is a masterpiece of numismatic design and craftsmanship. Coins and medals are said to be the most imperishable of all antiquities. Their striking or minting has always in the world's history marked stages in national progress, and artistic achievement. The striking of this Society's first medal may therefore be regarded as a notable landmark in the history of this Dominion. Both obverse and reverse reflect the highest credit upon Mr. H. G. Mayer, and his die-sinker, Mr. G. E. Whitthouse, as well as Mr. J. Berry and his emblematic designing. Particularly opportune and appropriate is the incorporation in it of Maori carving and native flora and the word "Waitangi."

"One burning need of New Zealand, which I sincerely hope the nationalisation of Waitangi may stimulate, is a sense of nationhood - an expansive development of that larger patriotism which puts country before city, township or province, and tends to foster national pride, perpetuate national history and promote national ideals - a sentiment which burnt brightly during the Great War, but which has been apt to flicker both before and since.

"You were good enough, in making this presentation to me, to appraise generously my Vice-regal activities since I have sojourned amongst you. I have endeavoured, with the valuable assistance of my wife, to fulfill the task allotted to me to the best of my ability but have fallen far short of my ambitions in that respect. In associating my name on your medal with that of Hobson, I would like you to realise that while feeling highly gratified by the association, I lay no claim to rank with New Zealand's first Governor, and still less with that great far-sighted pro-consul and racial pacificator, Sir George Grey. In instituting comparisons it must ever be remembered that the earlier Governors of the Colony, and notably Captain Hobson, found themselves in a hostile atmosphere, ill supported with material equipment or authority from the Motherland and, in the case of Hobson, handicapped by jealousies of his staff and conflict between the diverse pioneering agencies of British civilisation and colonisation. Hobson and Grey

achieved their success subjectively by their own strength of character, their integrity, and their pertinacity of purpose. The modern Governor-General achieves his success objectively: he has the soft cushion of popular sympathy, loyalty and unanimity of goodwill to rest against. The tasks of Hobson and Grey were executive and constructive, as well as administrative - the task of responsible government - that of their modern successors is mainly social and ceremonial, and almost wholly irresponsible. It is, moreover, rendered all the more smooth and easy by the all-pervading loyalty and affection bestowed upon the Sovereign whom they represent, and who reflects so accurately the highest ideals of our modern democracy." Lord Bledisloe then paid a tribute to the Maori race which he described as the finest coloured people in the world. In conclusion, His Excellency said that it had given him much pleasure to occupy the position of Patron, and, in response to a Dunedin request, he would willingly agree to continue his membership of the Society after he returned to England. Her Excellency joined with him in expressing sincere appreciation of the good wishes extended to them, and for the silver specimen of the Society's first commemorative medal. Before departing, Their Excellencies took personal leave of each member present.

PAPER ON MEDALS. At the commencement of the evening Professor J. Rankine Brown, President, read a short paper on the history of medals.

THE TWENTYTHIRD (COUNCIL) MEETING of the New Zealand Numismatic Society was held on Monday, 4th March, 1935, primarily to finalise matters in connection with the issue of the Society's Waitangi-Bledisloe Bronze Commemorative Medal. The Hon. Secretary, Mr. Allan Sutherland, reported that 70 advance orders had been received. It was decided that the issue be limited to 100 specimens exclusive of five presentation specimens, and that the price of the medals be 12s.6d. post-free to members and 15s. to non-members. After 100 medals are struck the dies are to be marked and, together with two specimens of the medal, are to be presented to the State collection, Dominion Museum. Donations from members in New Zealand and abroad, and a grant of £10 from the Society's funds, enabled the medals to be supplied below cost price. A tribute was paid to the valuable assistance given throughout by Mr. H. G. Mayer, and to the high standard of workmanship shown in the production of the medal. (See fuller reports "Evening Post" 6-7-8/2/35, and "Dominion" 7-8/2/35.)

It was reported that the NEW ZEALAND CROWN PIECES were now being struck and that specimen sets would soon be en route to New Zealand. A comprehensive work on DECIMAL COINAGE by Bowring was presented to the Society by Mr. J.B.Ward, Hokitika, who was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his useful gift. Various numismatic publications were tabled, including reports of the Australian Numismatic Society, and the last report of Sir Robert Johnson, Deputy-Master of the Royal Mint, London, containing illustrations and interesting references to the New Zealand coinage. Further correspondence was read relative to a joint request that cancelled specimens of TRADING BANK NOTES should be made available for private and State collections. Matter still under consideration by Associated Banks. A FIVE-SHILLING NOTE issued by the Government of Fiji and now current there, was exhibited, the size being longer and narrower than the standardised notes of New Zealand. Interest was taken in the denomination in view of an earlier suggestion that five-shilling notes should be adopted in New Zealand. An interesting letter was received from Sir John Hanham, Bt. of Wimborne, England, giving an account of his recent visit to Greenland, and mentioning matters of numismatic interest in Greenland and England. The thanks of the Society were accorded to Sir John for his continued generosity in presenting to the Society further subscriptions to Spink's Numismatic Circular. A communication was received from the Royal Society of New Zealand, inviting an opinion in the matter of alterations proposed in the Hector Hutton and Sidey Memorial Medals awarded under its jurisdiction. A sub-committee consisting of Mr. Johannes Andersen, Mr. H. G. Mayer, Mr. H.R.Ford and Mr. Allan Sutherland, was set up to report on the proposals submitted. Six new members were elected as follows: Messrs. S.J.Sheriff, Upper Hutt; A.S.Allan, Shannon; H.D.London, Christchurch; R.C.Cooper and A.J.Bland, Wellington; and A.R.Wilson, Hamilton.

It was reported that the KING'S JUBILEE MEDAL would be sold through the General Post-office. The English advertised price is £1.1.0 for silver medal (2½" diameter) and 2s.9d. for small size. A further JUBILEE PENDANT MEDAL is being struck for presentation to State dignitaries and others attending the King's Jubilee. (See "Evening Post" 7th March, 1935).

14 Clifton Terrace,
W E L L I N G T O N, C.1.,
New Zealand,
9th February, 1935.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,
Hon. Secretary.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

MINUTES OF 24TH MEETING (COUNCIL MEETING) HELD 27TH MARCH, 1935.

Present Professor J. Rankine Brown, Johannes C. Andersen, J. W. M. Smith, F. K. Lowe, H. G. Mayer, Allan Sutherland and Mr. R. C. Cooper.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The President, Professor J. Rankine Brown intimated that Mr. Sutherland had advised him that he was planning a trip to England and would be absent from the Dominion for about 5 months from the 2nd April - to approximately 6th September. The question of appointing an Acting Secretary arose, and Mr. R. C. Cooper had been nominated as a suitable member to undertake the work. Mr. Cooper intimated that he was prepared to undertake the work, and it was moved by Mr. Johannes C. Andersen and Mr. H. G. Mayer That Mr. R. C. Cooper be appointed Acting Secretary during the absence from New Zealand of Mr. Allan Sutherland.

Carried.

Mr. Sutherland reported verbally on the position of the striking of the Society's Waitangi-Bledisloe medal, and stated that the issue had been oversubscribed before overseas orders had come in. He had reduced all orders to two, pending approval of the Committee, and he had received payment for about 65 medals and was passing on the order to strike as the advance orders were taken up. It was intended that if advance orders were not taken up within a reasonable time, orders in excess of two and late orders would receive consideration. Report adopted.

Reported that His Excellency's Order had been reduced by three, and that payment had been made on the basis of 10s 6d instead of 12s 6d for 12 medals. Underpayment £1-4-0, refund on three medals £1-11-6, refund 7s 6d. Decided that Mr. Sutherland to ring Sir Cecil Day and make adjustment in the light of discussion with Sir Cecil.

Messrs Johannes Andersen, Mayer and Sutherland brought up the report of the sub-committee appointed to report on the proposed alterations to the Sidey, Hutton, and Hector medals. Report discussed and Mr. Johannes C. Andersen to prepare report for the Royal Society embodying the substance of a report by Mr. Mayer.

Mr. F. K. Lowe intimated that he would shortly leave Wellington for a period and desired to be relieved of the duties of Treasurer. Moved by Mr. Andersen, and seconded by Mr. Smith that Mr. S. P. Ward be appointed Treasurer of the Society. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Smith and Andersen That the Trustees of the Savings Bank Account be altered from Messrs A. Sutherland and F. K. Lowe to Messrs S. P. Ward, Acting Treasurer and R. C. Cooper, Acting Secretary. Carried.

The President brought up the question of the date of the Annual Report. It was decided that the meeting would be held in ~~January~~ June, and that probably a short paper would be read and an exhibition of coins arranged, and that the second portion of the meeting would be taken up with a social evening with supper as formerly.

As Mr. Sutherland would be absent from the Annual Meeting, he took the opportunity to pay a tribute to the distinguished services rendered to the Society by the President, Professor J. Rankine Brown during his term of office of two years..

On behalf of the Committee the President, Professor J. Rankine Brown wished Mr. Sutherland a bon-voyage, and a pleasant holiday abroad. Mr. Sutherland suitably responded.

Confirmed.

July 9. 1935

J. Rankine Brown
CHAIRMAN.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

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MINUTES OF TWENTYTHIRD MEETING (Council Meeting) HELD MARCH 4TH 1935.

A meeting of the Council of the N.Z. Numismatic Society was held at 8-0.p.m. on Monday March 4th, 1935. Present Professor J. Rankine Brown (President) in the chair, Messrs Johannes C. Andersen, Mayer, Ford, Lowe, Ward, and Sutherland.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

New members were elected as follows Messrs S.J. Sheriff, Upper Hutt, A.S. Allan, Shannon. H. D. London, Christchurch, R.C. Copper, and A.J. Bland, Wellington, and A.R. Wilson, Hamilton.

Various numismatic publications and reports were tabled including the last report of the Deputy Master of the Royal Mint, London, containing illustrations and interesting references to the first distinctive coinage of New Zealand. Also reports of the Australian Numismatic Society. Various coin price lists were also tabled.

NEW ZEALAND CROWN PIECE .- It was reported that the New Zealand Crown piece was being struck, and that specimen sets containing the Crown piece would soon be en route to New Zealand.

TRADING BANK NOTES :Correspondence was read relative to a proposal that specimens of the trading bank notes called in should be made available to members and to the State Collections. Matter still under consideration by the Associated Banks.

DECIMAL COINAGE .- A comprehensive work on decimal coinage was presented to the Society by Mr. J.B. Ward, Hokitika, and the Secretary was instructed to convey the sincere thanks of the Society for his useful and interesting gift.

An interesting letter was received from Sir John Hanham, Wimborne, England, giving some account of his recent trip to Greenland, and various items of interest in the numismatic world in England. It was decided to present Sir John with a specimen of the Society's first medal. The thanks of the Society was passed to Sir John for his generosity in again presenting subscriptions to the leading English numismatic periodical. Spinks Circular.

It was reported that the King's Jubilee medal would be sold through the Post Office, and that particulars would be advertised in due course. The English price advertised is £1-1-0 silver medal 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ ins diameter in leather case, and 2s 9d small size. $\frac{1}{4}$ It was also reported that 80,000 pendant decoration medals would be struck for presentation to State dignitaries civil service diplomatic corps, and others attending the King's Jubilee on May 6th, 1935.

A communication was received from the Royal Society of New Zealand, Wellington, asking for the opinion of the Society in the matter of a proposed alteration to the Hector, Hutton, and Sidey Sumner Memorial Medals (lettering only) consequent upon the change of the title from that of N.Z. Institute to that of Royal Society of New Zealand. After a general discussion it was decided to appoint a sub-committee consisting of Mr. H.G. Mayer, Mr. H.R. Ford, Mr. Johannes C. Andersen and Mr. Allan Sutherland to investigate the matter and report direct to the Royal Society, attending personally if necessary.

WAITANGI BLEDISLOE COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL : Mr. Sutherland reported that the cost of the dies and the cost of supplying one silver specimen to Lord Bledisloe was £20 and that the cost of each medal would be 10s. The postage would be 6d. The Society had voted £10 towards the

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT - 1934-5.

The Council of the N. Z. Numismatic Society has the honour to submit the Annual Report for the year ended 31st May, 1935, which is the fourth annual report submitted. During the year several meetings were held at which interesting papers bearing on the study of numismatics were read, each paper being illustrated by appropriate specimens and slides.

SILVER COINAGE: From a numismatic viewpoint the year was a notable one in that it witnessed the almost complete disappearance of British Imperial and Australian silver coin officially withdrawn, and the introduction of New Zealand coins of a distinctive design. The highest denomination, the 5/- piece, struck in proof condition to be issued to numismatists at a premium, should arrive in New Zealand shortly. British Imperial pence and half-pence continue to be used concurrently with the New Zealand issue.

The recent increase in the price of silver should enhance receipts from surplus bullion, after New Zealand requirements, at the lower silver content, are met. There is some evidence of the continued export of British silver to save exchange and it is considered likely that the permission, given to tourists and others leaving New Zealand to take with them £2 and £5 in Imperial silver will be withdrawn and that the demonetisation and silver-coin export prohibition laws will be strictly enforced in line with the practice adopted by other countries.

BANK NOTES: In the case of bank notes a complete change over has also been effected to a standardized note issue and very few bank-notes of the six trading banks are now encountered in circulation. As in the case of silver coins the change-over, which has been a work of some magnitude has been smoothly carried out and reflects credit on the Treasury and banking institutions concerned.

The designs of the standardized Reserve Bank notes have been well received although some suggestions for alterations in the scale of the kiwi and the Coat of Arms have been made, and the similarity of the colours of the £50 and 10/- notes has been the subject of representations by the Bank Officers' Guild.

It is perhaps not generally understood that the Reserve Bank notes now in circulation are regarded as temporary issues. As such they fulfil all practical purposes apart from any clashing of colours. No doubt final or standard designs will be adopted to mark the Centenary Year, 1940. Now that the note tax has been abolished and the sole control of the note issue rests with the Reserve Bank it is suggested in some quarters that five-shilling notes should be issued as a convenient denomination for trading purposes.

In addition the five shilling note seigniorage would be greater than the silver coin seigniorage. During the Great War period five shilling notes were actually printed by trading banks for issue in New Zealand but were not put into circulation.

N.Z. NUMISMATIC SOCIETY'S WAITANGI-BLEDISLOE MEDAL. During the year the Society issued its first medal, primarily to commemorate the 95th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi and to encourage medallic art in New Zealand. In order to mark the distinguished services to New Zealand of the former Governor General, Lord Bledisloe, whose name is closely linked with modern Waitangi, and who has been Patron of the Society since its inception, his portrait was placed on the obverse of the medal and his name linked with that of Governor Hobson in the reverse design.

At an historic meeting held on the evening of the 95th anniversary of the signing of the treaty, a silver specimen was presented to Their Excellencies as a farewell token.

The issue was financed by the Society with the aid of donations from members, and the Council desires to offer its sincere thanks to those members who made the issue possible by forwarding donations. The action of the Society in issuing the medal has been favourably commented upon by eminent numismatists abroad as an indication of the virility of the Society and a medallic landmark of an awakening nationality consciousness in a country that has had no real experience of antiquity.

NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

Report of the
TWENTY-FIFTH MEETING (FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING)
22nd July 1935.

The fourth ANNUAL MEETING of the New Zealand Numismatic Society was held on Monday evening, 22nd July, 1935, at the Turnbull Library, Wellington. The President, Professor J. Rankine Brown, occupied the Chair. There was a fair attendance of members. The Minutes of the third Annual Meeting were read and confirmed.

The President paid due tribute to the late Mr. E.G.Pilcher, who had taken an active interest in the affairs of the Society. A motion, recording deep sympathy with the widow of Mr. Pilcher, was passed, members standing in silence.

An apology was received from Mr. S.P.Ward, Acting Hon. Treasurer, who was unable to attend owing to pressure of business. The Acting Secretary reported the movements of Messrs. A. Sutherland, Secretary, and A. F. Lowe, Treasurer, still absent in England.

In moving the adoption of the Annual Report, the President reviewed the activities of the Society and expressed satisfaction that the membership had increased during the year. The Annual Report and Balance Sheet were adopted unanimously. It was announced that Mr. H.R.Ford, a member of the Council, had again donated One guinea to the funds of the Society, and he was accorded a hearty vote of thanks therefor.

TRADING BANK NOTES: A communication was received from the Associated Banks of New Zealand, Wellington, concerning the suggestion that notes issued in the past by the six trading banks, should be preserved for record purposes. The Secretary of the Banks advised that each of the Banks had agreed to present a set of notes of uniform issue to the Dominion Museum. A proposal to make cancelled specimen notes of various trading banks available to the Society and collectors generally was not favoured.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: It was decided to invite His Excellency, the Governor-General, Lord Galway, to become the second Patron of the Society. On the motion of Dr. J.S.Elliott, seconded by Mr. J.C.Andersen, Professor J. Rankine Brown was unanimously re-elected President for the new year. Dr. Elliott expressed the appreciation of members of the distinguished services rendered to the Society by Professor J. Rankine Brown. Officers were elected as follows:-

<u>President:</u>	Professor J. Rankine Brown.
<u>Vice-Presidents:</u>	The Rev. D.C.Bates and Mr. J.O.Entrican, Auckland; Archdeacon G.H.Gavin, New Plymouth; Mr. S.K.Cameron, Hawera; Dr. J.S.Elliott and Mr. J.C.Andersen, F.R.S.N.Z., M.B.E., Wellington; Mr. J.B.Ward, Hokitika; Mr. O.Harding, Canterbury; Mr. P. Watts Rule, Timaru; Mr. W.Fels and Col. G.Barclay, Dunedin.
<u>Council:</u>	Messrs. W.D.Ferguson, H.R.Ford, H.G.Mayer, J.W.M.Smith and S.P.Ward.
<u>Hon. Secretary:</u>	Mr. Allan Sutherland, F.R.N.S.
<u>Hon. Treasurer:</u>	Mr. A. F. Lowe.
<u>Hon. Auditor:</u>	Mr. J.W.M.Smith,

and Mr. R.C.Cooper, Education Department, Wellington, will act as Hon. Secretary, and Mr. S.P.Ward, Bank of New Zealand, Wellington, as Hon. Treasurer, until Messrs. Sutherland and Lowe return at the end of August.

NEW MEMBERS were elected as follows: Dr. W.R.B.Oliver and A.Quinnell, Esq., Wellington.

ROMAN COINAGE: During the second portion of the evening, Professor J. Rankine Brown delivered a very interesting address on Roman Coinage, of which the following is a precis:

Coinage developed much later in Rome and central Italy than in Greece and Asia Minor. The original coinage in Lydia and the coast towns in Asia Minor was issued toward the early part of the seventh century B.C. By the sixth and fifth centuries all the Greek towns of any importance, not only in Greece proper but in the colonies of the south of Italy and the eastern portion of Sicily, had fully developed currencies.

Compared with this, Roman coinage is a late development about 400 years after the first experiments of the Greeks and Lydians. Before the introduction of a proper coinage, Rome, in common with other cities of Italy, had passed through the stage when pieces of metal were used as handy instruments of payment. As gold and silver were, at this early period, rare commodities, the metal used for this purpose was bronze, which circulated in rough lumps and bore no stamp of official guarantee.

Later when Rome felt the need of a currency, she had in the Greek towns in Southern Italy models to guide her choice, close at hand. The first coinage, however, was issued in bronze and was quite different from the Greek, which for several centuries employed only silver.

The early coins of Rome and Italy generally are based on the pound, "libra" or "as" and its fractions, and are all of the same type. On the reverse they have the prow of a ship and, for obverses, the heads of various deities. The appearance of the prow of a ship has been considered to date the beginning of this coinage to 338 B.C., when Rome captured the port of Antium and turned her thoughts seaward. The lecturer pointed out that there are objections to this view, for it was not far short of a hundred years after 338 B.C. before Rome definitely took to the sea, when she was brought into conflict with Carthage. Several arguments seem to combine to assign a later date for the beginning of this coinage, and it appears to be safe to take 300 B.C. as the approximate period.

Rome was always a fighting nation, and during her early history her normal condition was a state of war. It is natural that this fact exercised considerable influence on her coinage.

When Rome had conquered the States in central Italy, she came into conflict with the Greek cities in the south, particularly with the great city of Tarentum. Pyrrhus was summoned by the Tarentines to their assistance and fought in Italy from 281-275 B.C. Rome had now to deal with Greek communities which had for long been familiar with silver as a medium of currency, and her own heavy bronze was not fitted for the purpose. As a result, Rome issued her first silver coinage, consisting of drachmas or two-drachma pieces, and occasional subdivisions. At this time Rome and Carthage, who had concluded a commercial treaty some thirty years before, were united in resistance to Pyrrhus, and this is supposed to be the reason for the predominance, on the reverses of these coins, of a horse's head and a horse and a lion. In all probability Carthage supplied the bullion for these silver coins, and the use of her devices on the reverse was a compliment to her.

After the Pyrrhic War, Roman coinage flowed for some time at least in two different channels. There was on the one hand the heavy bronze cast coin used in Rome itself in her dealings with her Italian neighbours; on the other hand there was silver and light copper intended for trade with the Greek towns of Southern Italy. Taking advantage of her experience with the war silver, Rome in 269 or 268 B.C. issued a silver coinage on a standard of her own, and the "denarius" - the "penny" of our translation of the New Testament, entered upon its long career. The lecturer described the new coins, and mentioned that the early years of the second Punic War saw the appearance of Diana in a biga, or two-horse chariot, on the reverse of Roman coins.

Presently a new type of biga, with Victory in place of Diana, appears, probably in celebration of the victory over Antiochus in 189. This type, together with that of the Dioscuri, prevails till about 150 B.C., after which a great diversity of types is found. This variety of designs on the reverse is quite different from the uniformity apparent on Greek coins, and the choice of types is very characteristic of the Romans. One interesting feature of these types arises from the liberty granted by the Senate to the three moneyers in charge of the mint. These officials belonged to the nobility, and not only did they put part of their own names on the reverse of Roman coins, but also used designs drawn from their family history or their own achievements.

The Imperial portraits on coins of the Empire are of the greatest historical value, there being nothing to equal them in Greek coinage. The actual portraiture was a slow growth, a reluctant concession, as it were, to the individual, for tradition was against having any portrait but that of a god on a coin. The time was ripe for a change, and the first man living at the time to have his portrait on the reverse of coins was Julius Caesar. Brutus and Cassius placed their heads on their coins and the way was open to the full Imperial coinage.

As a result of the repeated debasement of Roman coinage, the "as", which started by being a pound or "libra" in weight, was, long before the end of the Republic, reduced to the weight of half an ounce, and had become a coin of very small value. The inflation was in almost every case the result of the inability of the State to pay the expenses of wars. States have always been ready to overcome difficulties by debasement, but the lecturer considered that one method adopted by the Roman Senate is without modern parallel. This is the issuing of plated coins - a bronze core plated with silver and masquerading as a solid silver coin. This began quite early as a recognised method of making money by the State, and was carried to almost incredible lengths under the late Empire.

The existence of these plated denarii alongside of the genuine silver coins and intended to be of the same value, gave rise to a method of detecting or of guaranteeing the silver coins. The practice arose, and it was apparently in use toward the end of the Republic, of cutting the edges of the denarii to show that the metal was silver all through. This marking was done by the mint, and these serrate denarii were issued mainly when the popular party was in control of the currency. There was at Rome toward the end of the Republic two opposed parties - the senatorial or official party, and the revolutionary or popular party. As the official party tried to run the State it had to deal with periods of indebtedness due to the various wars in which Rome was engaged. These State debts could only be liquidated by inflating the currency, so that the senatorial party was, in a sense, compelled to debase the coinage.

The revolutionary party at Rome relied for support on the equestrian order, as it was called, or capitalists, and for this reason were compelled to be champions of sound money. When the party had control of the State finances, it issued good serrated silver to distinguish it from the vast amount of debased coinage which was in circulation. The victory of Julius Caesar, which led to the establishment of the Empire, was a victory for the Democratic party, and it is interesting to find that the early Emperors remained true to the policy of pure money. The temptations of an easy inflation soon made themselves felt, however, and the later Emperors were drawn to the same bad practices as the Senate of the Republic.

The coinage of the Roman Republic was based on silver, bronze having gradually become a token coinage. The difficulties involved by having a coinage in two metals were adjusted from time to time and do not appear to have been serious. The position changed when gold was coined for general circulation. It had been used as a "money of necessity" in connection with foreign wars but did not circulate at Rome until the time of Julius Caesar. During the Empire the "aureus" or gold "denarius" became the most important coin, and a bi-metallic system was used. There were continual readjustments between the two metals, all in the direction of lowering the value of silver.

The relationship established between the Emperor and the Senate in connection with the issue of coins is of interest. Augustus established himself as the sole ruler of the State in 31 B.C., and one of his first duties was to reduce the currency to order, and assert his rights in the matter of coinage. He was the paymaster of the army and for that reason alone he was forced to keep in his hands the issue of precious metals. In the provinces also there could be no question who was master of the Roman world, and the gold coinage was intended to be coinage of the Empire. The copper coinage circulated in Rome and Italy alone, and the arrangement finally reached was that the Senate issued the copper and brass money, whilst the Emperor controlled the minting of gold and silver. This solution was only realised gradually, however, for Augustus did not care to challenge the Senate by establishing his Royal Mint in Rome itself. In 15 B.C. he established the Imperial Mint at Lugdunum (Lyons), the most important town in the south of Gaul. This was a natural site for the mint for money was mainly required for military purposes, and the wars in prospect were with Germany.

Tiberius followed the practice of Augustus, but when the young Caligula succeeded his uncle he opened the Imperial mint at Rome.

Professor J. Rankine Brown concluded his address with references to the drastic coinage reforms of the Emperor Diocletian. Towards the end of the third century A.D., Diocletian standardised the coins and legalised the provincial mints that had grown up. Numismatists will naturally regret the standardisation introduced, for it meant the end of the variety of local coinages, and the spreading of a monotonous culture over the whole Empire; on the other hand, supplies of coin were now available without expense or difficulty of transport. Diocletian's monetary policy did not entirely abolish the abuses, but it did to some extent introduce fixity into the coinage and its value.

The speaker was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his interesting address.

EXHIBITS: The dies of the Waitangi-Bledisloe Commemorative Medal were shown and aroused considerable interest. Mr. H. G. Mayer (a member of the Council) explained the process of striking, and illustrated his remarks with a rough specimen of the medal. Three attractive medals were forwarded by Mr. J. B. Ward, of Hokitika, and Mr. W. Peers, of Christchurch, exhibited a fine series of medals awarded for work in philately.

At the close of the business section of the evening, members were the guests of the Society at a dainty supper, Mesdames Andersen, Elliot and Mayer acting as hostesses, and an informal social hour concluded the evening.

ROBERT COOPER,
Acting Hon. Secretary,
New Zealand Numismatic Society.

Education Department,
WELLINGTON,
29th July, 1935.

THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

REPORT OF THE TWENTYSIXTH MEETING - 4th NOVEMBER, 1935.

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"A NUMISMATIST ABROAD," with particular reference to sidelights on modern coinages encountered on a world trip, was the subject of a talk given by Mr. Allan Sutherland, F.R.N.S., at a meeting of the Society held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on 4th November, 1935. There was a good attendance of members. In opening, the President, Professor J. Rankine Brown, extended a cordial welcome to Mr. Sutherland on his return, and paid a tribute to the services rendered by Mr. R. C. Cooper, who had acted as Hon. Secretary during Mr. Sutherland's absence abroad.

RESUME OF ADDRESS: In a world of exchange disequilibrium, the traveller to-day encounters a greater variety of money paradoxes than ever before. Each new port entered, and each frontier crossed, brings him face to face with new standards of value to which he must readily adapt himself, but despite this maze of money standards it is surprising how some people soon adapt themselves, and a few minutes after arrival in a foreign country are to be found noisily bargaining in English and sign-language, and holding up coins which they consider adequately recompense traders for goods required.

When I left NEW ZEALAND in April, 1935, there was still some evidence of the smuggling of Imperial silver out of the country to save exchange. Apart from private hoards secreted about the persons of tourists, it is stated that English coins have been shipped in bulk from New Zealand to London as "frozen duck," and carried in the refrigerators - frozen assets - and that gold coins have been smuggled to Australia concealed in sand and oil in motor-cycle tanks, thus demonstrating the truth of the adage "No law stands between the merchant and his profits".

In SYDNEY the coins of New Zealand were accepted freely. On the liner to England the silver coins of New Zealand, Australia and England were accepted at face value, regardless of exchange, with amusing results, but with the operation of Gresham's law, Imperial coins soon disappeared.

CEYLON was described as a tropical paradise, somewhat spoiled by swarming touts, aggressive traders, and avaricious native money-changers. At ADEN the native boat vendors, trading with ship-passengers per medium of a basket on a string, were fully alive to the variety of Empire exchange-levels, and refused the "bad money" of Australasia, demanding "good English bobs." At CAIRO the English coinage - and the English language - was not generally "current." British influence seemed surprisingly absent: officialdom was not impressive, and travel was costly. The speaker described a visit to the Sphinx, to the Pyramids, and to the Museum of Antiquities, where he was privileged to see the jewels and golden relics of King Tutankhamen, who died at the age of 19, 3,000 years ago.

At NAPLES the coins handled bore most attractive designs, but many counterfeits circulated. It was amusing, if not embarrassing, to see guides and taxi men "ring" coins on the pavement as a test of genuineness before giving change. The beautiful Italian silver coins were now being called in and were being replaced by lire notes in the interests of war preparation. Roman coins constituted a metallic portrait gallery of the great rulers of Rome, and it would be a great loss if temporary adjustments resulted in a gap in this metallic portrait gallery, which is one of the most interesting fields of numismatic study. A visit to Pompeii was briefly described.

At MONTE CARLO, where all nationalities met at the Casino gambling tables, the coins of all countries were exchanged for gambling counters, but French and Italian coins seemed to predominate. Impressions were given of the attractive setting of the Casino, the types of habitues and the methods they adopted in the pursuit of elusive fortunes.

GIBRALTER, the key port of the Mediterranean, which washes the shores of so many countries, was, in a sense, a clearing house for nearly all the countries of the world, and here one could tender coins of most countries and receive change in the same currency. English and Spanish coins predominated. As at Aden, there was no Customs duty, and as sterling was at a premium in nearby Spain, goods were very cheap and attracted the attention of bargain-hunting tourists.

In ENGLAND it was a painful process to lose one-fifth in exchange for the coins we had formerly used in New Zealand. The farthing and the threepenny piece were seldom encountered. In London there was an ebb and flow of literally tons of pennies in the discharge of the major public services of the city. The need for carrying many pennies was troublesome to New Zealanders who had become used to the threepenny piece.

Mr. Sutherland briefly described his visit to the ROYAL MINT, where he met Sir Robert Johnson, Deputy Master, and Departmental Heads; also Mr. P. Metcalfe, the coin designer. He inspected a New Zealand crown trial piece, and during a special tour of the Mint was shown the master dies of the coins now used in New Zealand. Mr. Sutherland was also welcomed and entertained in London by Mr. Percy Webb, M.B.E., President of the Royal Numismatic Society, and later by Sir John Hanham, Bt., of Wimborne, a foundation member of the New Zealand Numismatic Society, both of whom sent messages of goodwill to the New Zealand Society. A visit to the British Museum was described by Mr. Sutherland, who gave his impressions of that great institution and of the numismatic and other treasures on exhibition there; the Rosetta Stone, the Elgin Marbles and the Codex Sinaiticus being specially mentioned.

In BELGIUM the similarity in size and colour of the nickel and silver coins of different denominations caused confusion to strangers, many of whom refused to accept the new 20-franc silver pieces, which resembled the 5-franc pieces, and which were often the basis for victimisation. The new coin designs commemorated the great Brussels Exposition, which he attended.

The currency arrangements of GERMANY were novel and attractive to tourists, who received almost a bonus mark for every mark bought outside Germany for use within that country. The limit of expenditure of these registered or tourist marks was 50 per day. The scheme aimed at building up outside reserves and attracting tourists to Germany. Rigid examinations were made at German frontier towns to prevent the export of German marks thus converted. Mr. Sutherland paid a warm tribute to the friendliness of the German people whom he encountered during a 16 days' rail and tramping tour through the Rhineland to Heidelberg in company with a combined English and German party.

In CANADA and in the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA the dollar-cent decimal system worked admirably. In the border towns coins and notes of either country were accepted concurrently free of exchange during his visit. The big silver dollar was encountered only on the Pacific Coast. The convenient dollar notes were in use over the whole Continent. The cents were frequently called "pennies." Luxury tax tokens of aluminium, for amounts below one cent, were used in many States.

In NEW YORK the growing use of automatic vending machines and the popularity of automat restaurants was marked, and resulted in the need for vast quantities of small coins.

Nearly all coinages encountered abroad were based on the decimal system, and this facilitated the handling of foreign coins. Foreigners in England often criticised the fractional system of coinage. It seemed inevitable that a more convenient and interrelated system of coinage and exchange between foreign countries would be evolved to meet the growing needs of the travelling community.

At TAHITI the coins of Australia, New Zealand and America were accepted concurrently with the local French coins, and the Chinese merchants were always able to give exact change in any of these currencies. NEW ZEALAND coins encountered on the 19 days' sea journey from San Francisco attracted favourable comment by reason of their distinctive designs, and many tourists retained specimens as souvenirs of their visit to the Dominion. (See reports, "Evening Post", 6th November, and "The Numismatist," February, 1936.)

On the motion of Dr. J. S. Elliott, seconded by Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, (Vice-President), Mr. Sutherland was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his address, and an informal social hour and supper concluded the evening.

Confirmed J. R. Baker Brown
17th March 1936

REPORT OF TWENTY-SEVENTH MEETING - 19th MARCH, 1936.

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THE TWENTY-SEVENTH MEETING of The New Zealand Numismatic Society was held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on the 19th March, 1936. Professor J. Rankine Brown, President, occupied the chair. The Minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed and accounts passed for payment. A cordial welcome was extended to Miss U. Tewsley and Mr. F. K. Lowe, both of whom have returned from an extended absence abroad.

NUMISMATIC LITERATURE AND REPORTS were tabled as follows: The Report of the Deputy Master of the Royal Mint, London: a series of reports of the Australian Numismatic Society, Sydney: Printed catalogues as follows: "War Medals and Decorations" from A. H. Baldwin & Sons, London: "Coins and Medals of the Tudors and Stuarts," and "Roman Coins," "Coins of Great Britain" from B. A. Seaby, Ltd., London: "Greek Coins" from Munzhandlung, Basle; "Roman Coins" and general lists from Paul Tinchant, Brussels, and J. Schulman, Amsterdam. (These reports and catalogues are available for inspection on application.)

DECIMAL COINAGE: Mr. Allan Sutherland reported briefly on correspondence received from Sir Isidore Salmon, Member of the British House of Commons, on the subject of inter-Empire action to secure decimal coinage.

NEW MEMBERS were elected as follows: Messrs. D.O. Atkinson, Takanini, B.C. Ashwin, R.J. Tandy, S. Paul, Brian Holmwood, Wellington, and H.F. West, Nelson.

MONTHLY MEETINGS: With the object of enabling members to get together more frequently, it was decided to hold meetings ON THE LAST MONDAY IN EACH MONTH. At each second meeting a paper will be read, and the other meetings will be of an informal nature at which displays will be arranged and short talks given. A light supper will be served, members present to contribute 6d each towards cost. These more frequent meetings will only be continued if attendance is well maintained.

The proposal to institute a LIFE MEMBERSHIP was well received, and was referred to a committee for report.

Matters relating to specimen sets of PROOF NEW ZEALAND COINS, 1935, were discussed. The alteration of the date of the Crown piece to the Jubilee Year - instead of the Waitangi celebration year, 1934, as originally intended - was held by some members to destroy the historic association of the coin, whilst others stated that they would have preferred proof specimens of New Zealand's first distinctive coinage (1933). It was explained that the alteration of the date was carried out without even consulting the Treasury or the Numismatic Society, but it was generally agreed that owing to the great delay in finalising the design and delaying issue, the association with the Jubilee Year was a fitting one in the circumstances - particularly in view of similar issues by Canada and Great Britain. The method of packing the single proof Crown pieces has been taken up with the Royal Mint. The Hon. Secretary reported that owing to the alteration in the date of the Crown piece, it was discovered that it was not possible to obtain a complete set of New Zealand coins in uncirculated condition, as the 1933 and 1934 sets lacked the Crown piece, and the 1935 set lacked the 3d piece (in uncirculated condition). As many collectors had ordered single Crown pieces after the official announcement that that coin would be dated 1934, with the idea of building up uncirculated sets, representations were made to the Treasury and Reserve Bank, who agreed to make available a sufficient supply of 3d. pieces, 1935, to enable numismatists to complete the series. The design of the Crown piece was not discussed.

A suggestion that the Government be asked to issue a CENTENARY MEDAL, and that the Society offer its co-operation, was deferred for consideration to next meeting.

The quaint ceremonial and historical significance of the MAUNDY CELEBRATIONS were discussed by Mr. John Robertson, of Invercargill, in a paper read on his behalf. The origin of the custom, and its evolution from a simple act of penance by priest or king to the splendour and ritual of medieval times, and down to the simplified English service of today, which takes place every Easter Thursday in Westminster Abbey, were described in detail.

Until the period of the New Testament history, the washing of a guest's feet by the master of the household - an act of hospitality or humility still practised in some Eastern communities - had no religious importance beyond that derived from association with personages of the Old Testament. History in chronicle and legend gives tangled and fragmentary glimpses of the custom as carried on by early English saints - "mystical anchorites who lived on rocky islets where they practised lonely austerities and baptised their barbarian neighbours." In the eighth century, Alcuin, the English prelate and scholar, deals with maundy in his Book of Offices. His position at the Court of Charlemagne reminds us that religion was in those days what money is now - a thing without frontiers - and reminds us, too, that in this period England excelled Northern Europe in learning, culture and militant Christianity.

About thirteen centuries ago, in addition to the ceremonial washing of the feet of the poor, it became the custom to provide gifts of food, clothes and money. The gifts were often presented in maunds, or baskets, and from this circumstance some American dictionaries derive the term "Maundy." The word, however, comes from the French word "mande" and the Latin "mandatum," (a command). The Thursday before Good Friday is known as "dies mandati" (mandate or Maundy Thursday) from the words of Jesus in his discourse to the disciples at the Last Supper "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another." The first English King to wash the feet of the poor on this day was Edward the Second in 1326. Cardinal Wolsey carried out the custom in a manner more ostentatious than his Royal master.

The paper was discussed by Professor J. Rankine Brown and Miss U. Tewesley, both of whom stressed the universality of the custom which was followed in many parts of the world. Mr. J. Robertson was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his interesting and instructive paper.

CENTENARY ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY: The value of the study of the science of numismatics in revealing fascinating metallic clues to past history, and to ages that had long since crumbled to dust, was dealt with by Mr. A. Quinnell in a paper dealing with the Centenary of the Royal Numismatic Society, 1936. After quoting passages from the Royal Charter, reciting reasons for giving the Society due status among scientific institutions, the speaker dealt with some phases of numismatics which had helped to mirror past history. He instanced the confused chronology of India, and pointed out how copper plates and coins, with their interesting inscriptions, had materially helped to throw some light on the dark history of that country. He reviewed various methods of dating adopted by different races down to the Christian era and mentioned the Mohammedan Conquest of India, when the coins of that country began to bear dates from the Hegira - A.D. 662 - the date of Mahomet's flight from Mecca to Medina.

Mr. Quinnell pointed out that eastern rulers who carved their way to power or to the throne, usually as a first act issued coinage bearing their superscriptions to establish themselves in their new domain. These Kings were today "Dust unto Dust, and under Dust to lie," whilst their coins remained as mute evidence of their fleeting sojourn on this earth. If these coins could only speak what a tale they could tell - a tale of the fall and sack of cities; of innumerable deaths by poison, assassination and in battle; of murder plotted to gain possession of concealed hoards; of torture of owners of wealth to make them reveal the places of concealment. And what a tale they could tell of the hands through which they passed - poet and peasant, king and slave, courtesan and courtier, soldiers, sailors, buccaneers, perhaps as pay or loot, treasured by misers, squandered by prodigal sons, used for buying slaves, as bribes to obtain or defeat justice, to disgrace a rival, and in innumerable ways and manners of the times. What sidelights on history these coins could throw. Today they remain silent in the collections of great institutions, or in the cabinets of students and collectors of coins and medals.

Collectors of coins and medals are really custodians of history, for time has amply proved metal to be more enduring than stone. The printed word, of course, is gradually going to dust, and it would be difficult to say how many existing books would be readable in 300 to 500 years. After that period, when the existing members of the Society were "Dust unto Dust and under ^{dust} to Lie", the coins and medals in their possession would live on, to enrich other collections and to bear mute testimony of our existence. Even then, as now, numismatics will remain a major branch in the study of archaeology. The British Empire must fall - as all other Empires and Kingdoms have fallen - and perhaps in 2,000 years in New Zealand the sole remembrance of the late King George V., of vivid memory, will be a New Zealand coin in a local collection, or jingling in the pocket of some person present; or maybe the sole medallion recognition of New Zealand of today may go down to posterity in the shape of the Society's WAITANGI-BLEDISLOE medal which may interest numismatists of the future in a New Zealand ruled by a yellow or black King, whose Empire is greater than any before it. Who knows? Mr. A. Quinnell was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his interesting paper.

Subject to his consent, Sir John Hanham, Bt., of Wimborne, England, was appointed to represent New Zealand at the World Congress of Numismatists to be held in London in June. **EXHIBITS:** Some novel exhibits were submitted, the first by the President, Dr. Rankine Brown, of a series of brown porcelain coins from Dresden, used after the Great War. The denominations ranged from 20 pf. to 20 marks, and the edges of the higher values were gilt. The coins were of a convenient size, light to handle, and bore attractive designs. The President also submitted a specimen of what was apparently STAMP MONEY - 25c. stamp of New Caledonia encased in a circular aluminium frame and back, with cellophane front - the back inscribed "Banque de L'indo, Chine, Noumea." A Chinese counterfeit bank-note, redeemable in Hell, was exhibited by Mr. H. Vivian. The note is one of countless thousands, all printed with the same number, "4343" and purporting to be for 50 dollars redeemable at the "Silver Bank of Hades." The Chinese burn these notes before their idols in the belief that the idols will accept them as genuine at their face value. The note is artistically designed in two colours, red and black.

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

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,
Hon. Secretary.

Reports of 24th, 28th and 29th Meetings, 27/3/1935, 27/4/1936, 25/5/1936.

In order to keep the numbers of reports complete, notification is given of the 24th Meeting of the Society, held at the Turnbull Library, Wellington, on the 27th March, 1935, mainly for the purpose of appointing temporary officers during the absence of the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer abroad. Other matters dealt with were (1) the distribution of the Waitangi-Bledisloe medal, and (2) technical details with regard to alterations to inscriptions on medals issued by the Royal Society of New Zealand.

THE TWENTYEIGHTH MEETING of the New Zealand Numismatic Society was held at the Turnbull Library on Monday, 27th April, 1936, when a display of numismatic books belonging to the Turnbull Library was specially arranged for members, and, in addition, the Librarian, Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, kindly arranged for the show-cases containing the Authors' Week exhibition of rare and historical books to be available for inspection by members.

Mr. Roger F. R. Walpole, of the Dominion Museum, gave a short talk on "ANZAC AND TURKISH GALLIPOLI MEDALS", appropriate to Anzac Day two days previously, and he illustrated his talk with specimens of British and Turkish medals of the Great War, exhibited by courtesy of Dr. Oliver, Director of the Dominion Museum. Mr. Walpole said that the popularly known Gallipoli Star (officially known as the 1914-15 Star) was issued to all ranks, N.Z.E.F. in action prior to December 31st, 1915, and the issue was not confined to Anzacs. As one who had seen the heights of Gallipoli that had been scaled on that memorable occasion, he considered that there was some merit in the claim that there should have been a special decoration for Anzacs and others who took part in the landing. The British-Gallipoli decoration was a bronze star, with crossed bayonets, whilst the Turkish decoration was a five-pointed Star of red enamel, edged with silver metal. In the centre was a large crescent and the cypher of the Sultan; alongside was the Turkish character "The Victorious" and the Arabic year 1333, testifying to the temporary ascendancy of the Crescent over the Cross.

Mr. Allan Sutherland, F.R.N.S., discussed the origin of the crescent as a Turkish emblem, and said that it symbolised Turkish power and the Mahomedan religion almost as a combined religious and political force. The value of war medals, so dearly bought on Gallipoli and elsewhere, was surprisingly small, and showed a wide disparity between the commercial and intrinsic value of these mementoes of blood-drenched Gallipoli. Mr. Walpole was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

At the supper adjournment, Professor J. Rankine Brown, President, referred to the pending departure to Europe and South America of Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, who would probably be in London for the World Numismatic Congress. He eulogised Mr. Andersen's services to New Zealand and to the Society and on behalf of members wished Mr. and Mrs. Andersen a pleasant trip and a safe return. Mr. Andersen suitably responded. (For fuller reports see "Evening Post" May 4th, 1936.)

Confirmed [Signature] 25 5 1936

THE TWENTYNINTH MEETING of the New Zealand Numismatic Society was held on the 25th May, 1936. Dr. J.S. Elliott, Vice-President, occupied the Chair. An apology was received from the President, Professor J. Rankine Brown.

NEW ZEALAND COINS: The Hon. Secretary advised that the Treasury records showed that only 1,005 New Zealand Crown pieces, 1935, had been struck; also that the 1935 threepenny-pieces had arrived and were obtainable at the Reserve Bank. This would enable members to complete their series of 1935 coins in uncirculated condition.

NEW ZEALAND BANK NOTE DESIGNS: A discussion took place regarding the announcement of the Minister of Finance that an engraving of the head of King Edward VIII. would be shown in the new design of the Reserve Bank Notes, when issued. The existing uniform design was discussed in detail, and some suggestions made, and the Hon. Secretary was directed to write to the Minister intimating that the Society was interested in any proposed change in design and would esteem it a favour if it were given an opportunity of expressing an opinion in connection with any new designs proposed.

COMPOSITE SUBSCRIPTION: It was decided to ask the Council to propose at the Annual Meeting on June 29th that, as from that date members be given the option of paying a composite subscription of £3.3.0 which would relieve them from further payment of the annual 5/- subscription.

THE NEW ZEALAND MAGAZINE: The publication of the Society's reports in "The New Zealand Magazine" has been discontinued until further notice.

Monthly Reports of the Australian Numismatic Society, including the Annual Report, 1935-36, were tabled.

"IRISH COINS" was the subject of a short paper by Mr. J.W.M. Smith, read on his behalf by Mr. R.O. Cooper. It was strange, but true, stated Mr. Smith, that until 1928 Ireland did not possess a genuine native coinage of her own. Earliest records showed that gold rings were used as a medium of exchange. Early coins used in Ireland reflected the Danish influence, and all through the centuries foreign coins from the Continent and England circulated there, indicating, to a large extent, the movement of trade and troops in that country. The first regular so-called Irish coinage began in the reign of Henry II. of England, and was struck by his son John, Lord of Ireland. Pence and half-pence were coined, bearing a crowned bust within a triangle, the triangle being a peculiarity of Irish coins for many years. Henry VI. coined groats and pennies and is supposed to have issued a copper half-farthing, called the Patrick piece because it bore some resemblance to the Patron Saint. Henry VIII. introduced new pieces to separate English and Irish currencies, and permitted a notable change in design - the adoption of the harp as the symbol of Ireland. Elizabeth reformed the English coinage, debased by her father, and flooded Ireland with the clipped and debased coins withdrawn from England. Not satisfied with that, she had caused to be struck in London further base coinage for use in Ireland. This action checked Irish trade. Charles I. issued emergency money, of odd shapes and sizes, including a gold pistole for value of about £1. The rebels also issued emergency money. St. Patrick expelling reptiles was depicted on a farthing issued during the reign of Charles II. At this time tokens for low values were issued by many sections of the community, official, ecclesiastical, and commercial, to meet an acute shortage of small coins. The title, "F.D.", made its first appearance on the Irish Crown and half-crown of Charles II., and was not adopted on English coins until the time of George I. James II. issued necessity money in all sorts of base metal, including pewter and gun-metal. In 1817 gold and silver coins of England became current in Ireland, and George IV. struck the last issue of Irish pennies and half-pennies, and there the Irish coinage rested until the Irish Free State issued its own coins bearing on the obverse a harp instead of the King's head, and reverse designs indicative of Irish products. Mr. Smith's paper was illustrated by a fine series of Irish coins and silver bank tokens submitted by Mr. J. B. Ward, Hokitika.

Mr. Allan Sutherland, in moving a vote of thanks, said that the coins exhibited were interesting keys to the turbulent history of Ireland, reflecting, to some extent, the struggles of an unwilling vassal state of England. The designs reflected the English influence, with the submergence of Irish symbols such as St. Patrick and the harp, and the use of the rose and other English symbols, until the final emergence of the harp as the supreme emblem of the Irish Free State.

Dr. J.S. Elliott said that Ireland was not so backward in culture as might appear from her coins. There was an advanced state of civilisation in Ireland when many of the early English were running about painted with woad in a semi-barbarous state. Anyone who had been to Trinity College and had seen the Celtic crosses, the harp and brooch of Tara, and the Book of Kells, must admit that these people were most intelligent, highly skilled in artistic metalwork and pictorial art even in Celtic times. Barter had survived from earliest times, side by side with modern methods of exchange. During his student days, Dr. Elliott said he had seen peasants engage in barter, and had actually heard a small child asking a grocer for a pennyworth of tea, saying that "mother would pay when the hen laid", all of which went to show that the egg was worth a penny, and that barter still served in peasant communities. The flooding of Ireland with debased English money was probably as a result of military operations there, particularly in the time of the Stuarts and Elizabeth. Dr. Elliott paid a tribute to Mr. Smith for his interesting review of Irish coins presented.

27/vii/1936 James Elliott [Signature]

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT -- 1935-36.

The Council of the N.Z. Numismatic Society has the honour to submit the Annual Report and Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the year ended 31st May, 1936. During the year several meetings were held at which interesting papers bearing on the study of numismatics were read, each paper being illustrated by appropriate specimens.

During the year under review the Rt. Hon. Mr. Coates relinquished office as Minister of Finance, in which capacity he arranged for the issue for the first time of uniform bank notes and a distinctive coinage for New Zealand. The Council has already expressed its appreciation of the sympathetic consideration at all times shown by the Rt. Hon. Mr. Coates to its representations on any matters relating to forms and designs of coins and bank-notes, and cognate subjects, and it feels confident that the same consideration will be shown to the Society by his successor, the Hon. Mr. W. Nash, Minister of Finance.

During the forthcoming year, the coronation of King Edward VIII will no doubt be marked by the striking of medals by the Royal Mint, and the question will arise as to whether the former practice of issuing coronation medals to the school children of this Dominion will be followed.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS: In connection with the plans for the forthcoming centenary celebrations, suggestions have been made that the Society offer its co-operation to the Government in the issue of an appropriate commemorative medal or coin to mark the occasion, and this matter will shortly engage the attention of the Council. Many numismatists favour the striking of a commemorative silver coin, to be issued at face value, and to be put into circulation so as to flow backwards and forwards in commerce, and give every citizen an opportunity of retaining specimens as souvenirs of the occasion.

The Australian Canberra florin, commemorating the opening of the Federal Capital, was issued at face value, and was an unqualified success. In the case of the Melbourne Centenary florin, however, a serious mistake was made in charging 50 per cent above face value (3s.) in an endeavour to make money in excess of the seigniorage, which in itself was considerable. The surcharge was highly unpopular, with the result that out of an issue of 70,000, no less than 68,000 specimens were left on the hands of the Commonwealth Government to be melted down. In the case of the Canberra florin, however, all the commemorative coins went into circulation, and large numbers were retained as souvenirs, even in New Zealand and abroad, so that the issue served two purposes, that of general currency, and of commemorating a great historic occasion. The commemorative coin, issued at face value, is the simplest method of marking such an occasion, as it circulates in the ordinary course of business, whereas a medal (or a surcharged coin) has to be marketed, thus losing the advantage of converting what is possessed by many for a short time, into permanent souvenirs. It is certainly not desirable that small denominations, such as the penny or half-penny, should be used for commemorative purposes, and bank-notes are not suitable.

In Great Britain and in Canada a considerable profit was made last year as a result of the issue of Jubilee coins of large denominations, at face value. Due to the acquisitive natures of the people, and a desire to possess mementoes of great events, these coins have already disappeared from circulation. Press reports indicate that 150,000 five-shilling pieces were issued in Great Britain, at a gross profit to the British Treasury of 3s.9d. per coin, or approximately £28,000. In Canada 400,000 Jubilee silver dollars were issued, and it is assumed that the profit to that Dominion would have been even greater on account of the larger number of pieces issued.

If the crown piece were decided upon as a commemorative coin for New Zealand, the number required would necessarily be small, unless the coins were issued at face value, and approval were given for their free circulation, but if a coin now freely used, such as the half-crown or the florin, were issued as a commemorative piece (or as part of a series of commemorative pieces) the issue would not necessarily be limited, and the profit to the State would be considerable. Similarly, if New Zealand had been able to issue her 1935 crown pieces for general circulation, (instead of at 50 per cent above face value) a considerable profit would have accrued.

The long delay in settling the N.Z. crown piece design, due mainly to remoteness from the Royal Mint, and its designers, is a reason for the advisability of the early consideration of designs, if a commemorative medal or coin, or both, are to be issued. Competitive designs should be invited in New Zealand and elsewhere sufficiently far ahead to enable the best designers to compete, and to enable the coin to be issued in good time for the Centennial celebrations.

DECIMAL COINAGE: It will be remembered that the question of adopting a decimal system of coinage for New Zealand was considered by the Coinage Committee set up by the Government in 1933, this Society being represented. In its report this Committee stated that in the circumstances then prevailing (economic depression and the rapid depletion of Imperial silver coins due to smuggling to gain the exchange margin, and the fact that new coins were urgently required before any change-over to decimal coinage could possibly be made) it had no other course than to recommend the retention of the existing denominations for the new coins, but it recorded a suggestion that the change might appropriately be considered in conjunction with any proposal to issue centenary coins for the Dominion. As the usual period of notice of change-over to a decimal coinage system is about two years, the Council will require, in view of the approach of the Centennial year, to give some thought to this matter in conjunction with representations made from England, through Sir Isidore Salmon, M.P., that concerted inter-Empire action be taken to secure Empire decimal coinage. It is hoped that the matter will also be discussed at the British Empire Chamber of Commerce Congress to be held in Wellington in October next. In this connection it is worthy of notice that the last Empire Congress of Chambers of Commerce, in London, passed the following resolution:-

"That whereas the use of decimal coinage promotes commercial efficiency and simplified 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."

Although there is a wide cross-section of informed public opinion in New Zealand in favour of decimal coinage, and although the advocacy of this change naturally finds expression through the Society, it is not intended at this stage to take action in this matter other than to co-operate with other Societies interested, and to make available data on the subject accumulated as a result of specialised study. The general advocacy of this change must necessarily rest largely on actuaries, accountants, educationists, commercial men and others most likely to benefit by the change.

LEISURE HOURS: With the progressive increase in leisure hours, the development of educational pursuits or hobbies will tend more and more to engage the attention of a wider section of the community. In the field of educational pursuits the study and collection of coins and medals provide a most fascinating avenue of historical research or enquiry, which may be prosecuted in a variety of directions, according to the inclinations and interests of the student. As actual keys to history, coins and medals form durable and easily exchangeable direct links, not only with past ages, but also with illustrious personages whose images or supercriptions appear on these pieces of metal handed down to us. To the young student the coins and medals of more recent, or even modern times, are equally interesting, and serve as inexpensive geographical and general introductions to a variety of peoples and places, with an historical background always available for further enquiry. Many numismatists do not actually collect coins, but interest themselves mainly in the historical background of the issuers.

There is a tendency to bring the science of numismatics more into the field of education, and in some high schools and colleges abroad, electrotypes or copies of ancient coins are exhibited, and used as aids to the teaching of history. These coins, bearing portraits of the rulers of the past, must give a more intimate atmosphere, and help to vitalise what otherwise is often merely the inculcation of cold facts.

JUNIOR COIN CLUBS: During the year the Council was not able to devote the time necessary for carrying out the suggestion of forming Junior Coin Clubs in High Schools and colleges, but it is hoped that with the new school service to be arranged in conjunction with metropolitan museums, under the auspices of the Carnegie Corporation, the Society will be able to co-operate with museum and educational authorities in arousing greater interest in numismatics, and to arrange for the formation of Junior Coin Clubs where possible. Members who are able to assist in this should take the opportunity of discussing the matter with the Principals or the History Masters of adjacent educational institutions, and to offer any assistance, such as short talks, specimens or publications. The State Numismatic Collection has been moved to the new Museum, and it is hoped that numismatic displays will be arranged there from time to time for the benefit of nearby colleges, and to arouse further public interest in numismatics.

DONATIONS: During the year a notable donation was made to the Society by The British Numismatic Society, London, through H.W. Taffs, Esq., M.B.E., Hon. Secretary, of 19 volumes of the printed and illustrated Transactions of the British

Numismatic Society, dealing with all phases of the study of the science of numismatics, but mainly with the early English, Irish, Scottish and Colonial issues. The volumes are well indexed and will provide a valuable reference library for members. The Council desires to express its warm appreciation of the material assistance thus given to our young Society by this long-established kindred Society in the motherland. The Society is also greatly indebted to Will Fels, Esq., C.M.G., Vice-President, Dunedin, who arranged for the transfer of the volumes to N.Z. free of cost to the Society. (Mr. Will Fels is still in London, and will probably represent the Society, with others, at the World Numismatic Congress to be convened in London at the end of June). It is proposed to place these volumes in the Turnbull Library on semi-permanent loan, with other numismatic works and specimens of the Society to keep up to date the collection of numismatic literature bequeathed to the nation by the late Alexander Turnbull. If such an arrangement is completed, the numismatic works can be kept as a unit to be available for inspection by members and others under approved conditions. Other donations include £1.1.0 from Mr. H.R. Ford, and £1 by the Hon. Secretary for the purchase of supper equipment. With his usual generosity, Sir John Hanham, Wimborne, England, has maintained the Society's subscriptions to numismatic periodicals. The Council again wishes to record its best thanks to Johannes C. Anderson, M.B.E., for his general assistance in enabling the Society to pursue its numismatic studies, and to Dr. W.R.B. Oliver, Director, Dominion Museum, in connection with exhibits for meetings.

The year closed with a membership of 110, and a credit balance of £21, and with the recent addition of numismatic works the property of the Society housed in the Turnbull Library approximates £60. Outstanding subscriptions total £8.15.0.

During the year a programme of monthly meetings was arranged, the fixed meeting day being the last Monday in the month, with a mid-summer recess from December to February inclusive. A request for papers for the additional meetings met with a most satisfactory response. The circulation of the American 'Numismatist' and Spinks 'Circular' has been continued to members desiring same, and Mr. J.W.M. Smith, 30, Central Terrace, Wellington, has attended to this work.

During the year specimen sets of New Zealand coinage were circulated, and the export of bronze pence and half-pence was prohibited.

It has been the desire of the Council to maintain the interest of members resident outside Wellington by the circulation of reasonably full reports, within the limits of the funds of the Society, and it is hoped that these efforts have met with the approval of members. It is intended shortly to make arrangements for the binding of the reports for the first five years, and an index is in course of preparation by Mr. R.C. Cooper. When completed, members will be supplied with copies of the index on request.

During the year the Society has made steady progress, and the Council hopes that this progress will be well maintained during the year entered upon.

For the Council of the N.Z. Numismatic Society,

J. RANKINE BROWN,

President.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE 1935-36.

<u>RECEIPTS.</u>	£ s d	<u>EXPENDITURE.</u>	£ s d
Balance, P.O.S.B.	88 4 11	Printing and Stationery	5 17 5
Cash	15 5	Postages	18 6
Interest	19 5	Sub. to American "Numismatist"	11 2
Subscriptions and donations	18 11 0	Payment a/c Bledisloe Medal	71 17 11
Modal Account	2 12 6	" " design, medal	1 5 0
Sale of New Zealand coins	3 6 0	Purchase of New Zealand coins	9 11 0
		Sundry	3 2 9
		Balance, P.O.S.B.	18 8 5
		Cash	2 17 1
	<u>£114 9 3</u>		<u>£114 9 3</u>

(Signed) S. P. WARD,

Hon. Treasurer.

FIFTH ANNUAL (30th) MEETING -- 29-6-1936.

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The fifth annual (30th) meeting of the New Zealand Numismatic Society was held at the Turnbull Library, Bowen Street, Wellington, on 29th June, 1936, when Professor J. Rankine Brown presided over about forty members and friends. The minutes of the previous Annual Meeting were confirmed after which the retiring President, Professor Rankine Brown, moved the adoption of the Annual Report and Balance Sheet, and surveyed the work of the year. He referred to the proposal that a commemorative coin or medal should be issued to mark the centenary of New Zealand, and dealt with the decimal coinage proposal shortly to come under review. He referred to the valuable gift of 19 volumes of the Transactions of the British Numismatic Society by Mr. H. W. Taffs, M.B.E., London, and announced that Mr. H. R. Ford, of Wellington, had again shown his generosity to the Society by donating £5.5.0 to mark the fifth anniversary of the foundation of the Society. This announcement was received with acclamation. Professor Rankine Brown said that in looking after the interests of numismatists, and fostering the study of numismatics, the Society performed a useful service, and during the year it had made very good progress indeed.

Mr. Allan Sutherland referred to the handsome donations to the Society and expressed the appreciation of members for these gifts. The Transactions of the British Numismatic Society would be placed in the Turnbull Library on a semi-permanent loan. He welcomed Mr. J. Heenan, Under-Secretary, Internal Affairs Department, as a new member of the Society, and extended a welcome to Major-General Sir William Sinclair Burgess, and Lieut-Colonel Mead, General Headquarters, N.Z. Military Forces.

The annual report and balance sheet were adopted unanimously.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: In proposing that Sir James Elliott be elected President of the Society, Professor J. Rankine Brown said that it was with regret that he had decided to retire as he had found the position of President a very interesting one. He offered the congratulations of the Society to Sir James and Lady Elliott on the knighthood recently conferred on Sir James by His Majesty the King. Not only was Sir James a distinguished member of the medical profession, but also he had rendered public service in other fields, and particularly in combating one of the greatest plagues from which humanity was suffering. It was with the greatest confidence that he asked Sir James to accept the position as President as he felt sure that he would fill it with distinction to himself and to the Society.

Mr. W. D. Ferguson, in seconding the motion, added his congratulations on the honour recently conferred on Sir James Elliott, and said that the Society was fortunate in having a man of Sir James' attainments, and a numismatist, to occupy the first position in the Society.

It was with regret that members would see Professor Rankine Brown vacate the Chair. He had brought learning and distinction to the Society, and the erudite manner in which he had prepared papers for presentation to the Society had set a high example to be followed.

Mr. Allan Sutherland said that it would be with sincere regret that he would take leave of Professor Rankine Brown as President. Like his predecessor, the Rev. D. C. Bates, the Professor had set a high standard, and with the succession of able presidents the foundation of the Society had been truly laid. The Society was indeed fortunate in having among its ranks such men of learning available to guide its affairs. Mr. Sutherland offered his hearty congratulations to Sir James and Lady Elliott on the well-merited honour recently conferred on Sir James for the distinguished services he had rendered to the country, an honour that had pleased their fellow-members very much indeed. Since last annual meeting, no less than four members of the Society had been honoured by the King - Sir James and Lady Elliott, Mr. Willi Fels, C.M.G., Dunedin, and Mr. Johannes C. Andersen, M.B.E.

Sir James Elliott was elected by acclamation and took the Chair.

In returning thanks for his election as President, Sir James Elliott said that he was deeply honoured by the generous references made by members to the knighthood recently conferred on him by His Majesty the King. He could not fail to express the personal pleasure of Lady Elliott and himself for the many manifestations of goodwill and generous esteem shown by their friends, among whom they numbered individually members of the New Zealand Numismatic Society.

He would be failing in his duty if he did not pay a sincere and affectionate tribute to Professor Rankine Brown for the distinction and learning he had brought to the office of President. He felt sure that at times the Professor had discharged these duties at some inconvenience to himself, particularly in attending meetings in addition to his multifarious duties associated with the Victoria University College. "With the utmost sincerity, I must say I cannot bring the scholarship, the dignity and geniality to this Chair that my predecessor has done, and as a numismatist I am a mere tyro," said Sir James. He considered it an honour to be elected President of the Society, which promoted scholarship, and brought under review avenues for study and learning, particularly from the historical and artistic viewpoint. With the aid of Mr. A. Sutherland and with the example of Professor Rankine Brown, he would endeavour to discharge his duties as President to the best of his ability.

Other officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:

Vice-Presidents: Professor J. Rankine Brown, LL.D., M.A., Wellington; The Rev. D. C. Bates, 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. Council: Mr. H. R. Ford, Mr. W. D. Ferguson, Mr. H. G. Mayer, Mr. J. W. M. Smith, Mr. G. C. Sherwood, Hon. Treasurer: Mr. Robert C. Cooper (Education Department, Government Buildings, Wellington). Hon. Secretary: Mr. Allan Sutherland, F.R.N.S. (14, Clifton Terrace, Wellington). Hon. Auditor: Mr. S. P. Ward.

In a short paper on "BRITISH MEDALS" Sir James Elliott said the study of medals, a branch of the science of numismatics, was of value from an historical, antiquarian and artistic point of view. Medallion art was sculptural portraiture demanding both simplicity and breadth. It was very difficult to avoid only moderate success or failure, for a worthy medal taxed the skill of the designer, the artist, the engraver and the jeweller. The two words "medal" and "metal" had the same origin. Medals were usually struck for the commemoration of great events and after the lapse of ages often remained as the only memorials of faded achievements and splendours. Medals had become established as a reward of valour, scholarship, service to King and country, saving human life, and of exploration. Like coins, medals could be put to noble or ignoble use, for storming the immanent deadly breach, or fattening pigs, or growing sweet peas. The intrinsic value of a medal was of little account. Its worth rested alone on the achievement it commemorated. A piece of faded medal ribbon might be extrinsically as valuable as a Raphael to its owner. Medallions were made by the Greeks and Romans. One of the differences between a medallion and a medal was that the latter was worn by the owner. The striking of medals became a distinct art in the fifteenth century. The earlier Italian medals recorded events, and even the Medici used medals as well as poisons for political propaganda. When the use of armour for soldiers was abandoned they wore metal badges to denote their allegiance. Both the soldiers and the metal badges were very numerous, crude and cheap. For nightmen of valour, a limited number of badges, gold, silver or jewelled, were fashioned. The common metal badges evolved into the regimental badges of the present day, and the other special form of decoration now had its counterpart in medals awarded for gallantry and distinguished service. The first medals issued to English fighting men were for service against the Spanish Armada. (Foreign countries issued medals to soldiers earlier). Good Queen Bess was then in an ecstasy of delight not only because English sailors had driven the Armada off the sea, but because France and the Vatican was baffled, James of Scotland was conciliated, the Queen of Scots was in her grave, and the Lord in his infinite mercy had removed from this earthly scene the Duke of Guise. The Armada medals were in three designs and were awarded to the sea fighters and also to favourites at the Court. An Armada medal and a smile from the Royal imperious lady could quicken the pulses of a lagging courtier.

One of the designs showed a bay tree set the midst of our sceptred isle, with storm and lightning affrighting the sky, but not a leaf of the bay tree trembling. The second design of the Armada medal showed the royal cipher, E.R. in the sky, for the sky was the limit then, as now, and the third design revealed the Ark on the Flood, an allusion to the English flagship, the Ark Royal. All these medals were oval, roughly cast and then chased carefully by hand. After the destruction of the Spanish Armada the custom of issuing medals for naval and military service almost ceased.

The medals of James I possessed much artistic merit. James I was generally shown wearing a big broad-brimmed hat with feathers, but sometimes clad in armour. Charles I gave medals for soldiers certified by the Commander-in-Chief as having served in a forlorn hope, but, Stuart-like, did not persist long in rewarding those who were privileged to fight for his sacred person. The Parliament gave a medal to all of Cromwell's troops who took part in the crowning victory of Dunbar in 1650. This Dunbar medal was the first medal in British history awarded for a military campaign. The medals awarded to Admiral Blake and to General Monk had chains attached worth £300 each.

Charles II issued naval but no military medals because prize-money was used to pay the cost of these rewards. In 1692 William and Mary issued medals for the Battle of La Hogue and for the next fifty years few medals were issued. One hundred and forty medals were issued by George III for Lord Howe's victory of the glorious First of June, and officers only received the same medal later for St. Vincent, the Nile, Trafalgar, Capture of the Chesapeake and other engagements. These medals hung from chains, or else from white ribbons blue-edged. The Battle of the Nile in 1798 raised Nelson to the peerage; the officers received gold medals, and the seamen nothing. To remedy so gross an injustice, Davison, Nelson's prize agent, at his own expense gave a medal to each petty officer and seaman, and also to higher officers, who already had their gold medals, as a reward for not actively opposing the issue to the men. Nelson's gold medal is now worth £180. Queen Victoria gave a few survivors of Trafalgar a Naval General Service medal with a bar for Trafalgar. Too often when a war ended so also did all memory of the soldiers' or sailors' services. "England expects every man will do his duty," even if his destination be an earlier grave or the workhouse. A Mr. Boulter, of Birmingham, issued medals to the men who raised Britain's sea-power to its zenith in the thunders of Trafalgar. These medals were inscribed "To the heroes of Trafalgar from Mr. Boulter."

The Honourable East India Company issued medals without stint to native troops from the year 1778. The Peninsular War restored to the successors of Marlborough's Army the glory which for a whole age had departed from it. To quote Napier, "These veterans had won nineteen pitched battles and innumerable combats; had made or sustained ten sieges and taken four great fortresses; had twice expelled the French from Portugal, once from Spain; had penetrated France and killed, wounded or captured two hundred thousand enemies - leaving of their number forty thousand dead, whose bones whiten the plains and mountains of the Peninsula." When the Peninsular War had reached a third of its allotted span the British Government decided to strike a gold medal for officers who had been in action. The ribbon was crimson with blue edges and later bars were awarded. The Great Duke could not wear his medal because it had twelve bars and was a foot long. Therefore, it was ordained that after four bars a gold cross should be given. This was in the form of a Maltese Cross and suggested later the pattern for the Victoria Cross. Wellington received nine bars, not four, and a Cross. The men of the rank and file, "raidings of Hell," though some of the might have been, were filled with resentment that they were to be denied the medals which they had so nobly won. The officers generally were in favour of justice for the men, but some powerful politicians and a small detached military group (and, strange to say the Iron Duke himself) were for denying the remnant of the army its rights. The Duke of Richmond engaged the sympathy of the young Queen and she began a persistent correspondence with the Duke of Wellington, and, at last, in 1848, the military General Service medal was made available for soldiers of all ranks who had served in the Peninsula. This medal has the famous profile of Queen Victoria by William Wyon on the obverse, and on the reverse the young Queen placing a wreath on the head of the Duke of Wellington, who kneels at her feet. The date is 1793-1814, but the Peninsular War began in 1808; so the medal was issued forty years after. The few survivors were disgusted that the Duke's figure should appear on the medal. It was a painful piece of history. The sight of Wellington on the field of battle had been worth a new division to his men. He had been their incomparable leader - and he had lost their regard.

Throughout Victoria's great reign a bewildering number of campaign medals were issued. The Naval General Service medal was issued in 1848 for sea-fighting from 1793-1840. There are 230 different bars. Crimean medals, except those given to men who rode in the Charge of the Light Brigade, are valued at a few shillings - this for a reward of blood and agony. There are medals for the Indian Mutiny in 1857, the Second China War, 1857-60, New Zealand, 1845-70 and 1860-1866, the medal being struck in 1869. On the obverse of the New Zealand medal is the profile of Queen Victoria, crowned and heavily veiled. The reverse bears a laurel wreath with the words "NEW ZEALAND VIRTUTIS HONOR," and 22 different dates, and some medals have no date. The ribbon is deep blue with a red centre strip. The clasp has a plain ball from which project straight arms chased with the design of fern fronds. Its maximum sale price is about two and a half guineas.

The Victoria Cross was created by Queen Victoria following a parade before her of Crimean heroes, many sadly maimed, to receive medals bearing bars for Alma, Inkerman and Balaklava. The Queen decided to grant a Cross "For Valour" to be valued by men more than their own lives, and yet of no intrinsic worth. The V.C., which is made of bronze, looks like gold when first issued. Hours are spent in chasing the surface, and then it is lacquered. The crosses were first struck from guns captured from the Russians in the Crimea, and now they were cast. Fifteen Victoria Crosses were granted in New Zealand Wars. The first air officer to receive the V.C. was 2nd Lieutenant Rhodes-Moorhouse, posthumously, a New Zealander. There is also now a beautiful Distinguished Flying Cross.

The New Zealand Cross is rare and has an interesting history. On 10th March, 1869, the Governor of New Zealand decided to issue a medal for distinguished service in the Maori Wars in the local Militia, Volunteer Force and Constabulary. In advising the Secretary of State what he had done, he explained that he thought it right as Governor to act at once to save time, and he intended no insult to Her Majesty, Queen Victoria by acting without prior consent. The Secretary of State, Lord Granville, replied that the Governor had overstepped the limits of his authority. The Queen was prepared to sanction what he had done, but such an incident must on no account arise again. The New Zealand Cross is similar in shape to the V.C., but is of silver and has the same ribbon as the V.C. A star is shown on each limb of the N.Z. Cross and in the centre are the words "New Zealand," surrounded by a gilt laurel-wreath. There were 22 awards of the New Zealand Cross, and a few years ago only one survivor.

The Queen's South African Medal is of a beautiful design and the medals given for the Great War are well known. War medals are struck in silver at the Royal Mint. The diameter is generally 1.7/16th of an inch. Forgeries are rather smaller because they are cast from originals and shrink in the process. Spurious medals have rather pimply and spotty faces. The value of bars varies greatly and they are easily forged. If a name is very famous the value of the medal to the collector is greatly enhanced. The Royal Army Medical Corps earns Victoria Crosses out of proportion to its numerical strength. A medal for naval service is usually more valuable than one for military service because there are fewer recipients. The value of Waterloo medals vary greatly according to regiments; Scots Greys and Inniskilling Dragoons are listed at about £8; Guards, about £4.5.0; the Black Watch, £15; the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, £20. This fine old Ulster Regiment was posted near the centre of the British line by no less a person than the Duke himself, who instructed that they were on no account to move. They obeyed his orders so implicitly that, at the end of that terrible Sabbath day, barely a hundred out of the whole battalion could limp from the place where their dead lay face-forward, smoke-stained and incarnadined.

In moving a vote of thanks to Sir James Elliott for his paper, Professor J. Rankine Brown said that it had been a custom at some Universities at Home for Professors to deliver an inaugural address, and Sir James Elliott had, as it were, read himself into the Chair. Professor Rankine Brown remarked that his interest in numismatics was mainly in the classical period of Greece and Rome. It was the custom of the Greeks to issue large and attractive silver coins, called decadrachms, to commemorate special events, such as those issued by the Syracusians in connection with the Assinarian Games instituted by them to commemorate the defeat of the Athenians in 413 B.C. One key to the history of Roman awards was to be found on the Roman Centurion tombstones, found mainly in Germany, showing ornamental phalerae issued to the centurions as rewards for bravery, and suspended on the chest. These issues were a much nearer approach to the modern medals than anything issued by the Greeks. The Romans, to a large extent, commemorated their great events in their coin designs.

Sir William Sinclair Burgess, in seconding the motion, said it was surprising how recent the general award of medals and decorations had been. Soldiers were not usually experts on medals. Through force of circumstances they earned or accumulated some, but on the broad subject of medallic awards and decorations they did not often possess any specialist knowledge such as that possessed by Lieut-Col. Mead, his Adjutant-General of the Military Forces, whose official duties enabled him to know all that there was to know about New Zealand Service medals. Major-General Sir William Sinclair Burgess made interesting reference to the trend of medal awards in the British Empire, pointing out that in earlier times officers for the most part monopolised such recognitions, whereas in modern times the preponderance of medal awards, orders, and decorations for valour were granted to the non-commissioned officers and men, and rightly so. In his office he had in a framed case all the orders, decorations and medal awards issued to New Zealanders in the Great War, and he was impressed by the fact that such awards of British origin compared most favourably both in workmanship and design with similar orders of other countries. And in the end it was not the value of the medal and the tattered piece of ribbon attached to it that counted - it was the association and the merit which had richly won its reward.

The New Zealand Cross was referred to by Mr. Allan Sutherland, who described the interesting reactions in London following the institution of this purely New Zealand decoration by Governor Bowen. Miss E. H. C. Bowen, a member of the Society present, was a descendant of Governor Bowen. Reference was also made to the medal given by Captain Cook to the Maoris during one of his early voyages, and by courtesy of Mr. Joseph Heenan, the medal was exhibited for the inspection of members.

Sir James Elliott was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his most interesting and instructive paper.

Mr. H. R. Ford exhibited three antique specimens of the silversmith's art, a coffee pot, London, 1827, a chamber stick, Sheffield, 1829, and a claret jug, New York, 1914.

Mr. S. J. Sheriff, Upper Hutt, exhibited three sets of attractive plaster casts of medals and coins of the Greek and Roman classical period.

A tribute was paid to the work of the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Allan Sutherland, by Mr. A. Quinnell, Mr. W. D. Ferguson, and Sir James Elliott. Mr. Sutherland suitably replied.

A composite membership proposal was approved, members being allowed the option of compounding their annual subscription on the payment of £3.3.0.

At a Council meeting held earlier in the evening, over which Mr. H. R. Ford presided, the following new members were elected:- Messrs. J. Heenan, C. Stewart, L. C. Mitchell, R. F. R. Walpole, A. J. Wales, Wellington, C. E. Menzies, Grey Lynn, F. J. Hunter, Hamilton, and N. Soloman, Napier.

The meeting concluded with a social hour and supper.

ALLAN SUTHERLAND,

Hon. Secretary.

(END OF FIRST VOLUME)