



NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC JOURNAL



PROCEEDINGS OF THE
ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND
INCORPORATED

P.O. BOX 23, WELLINGTON, N.Z.

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NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

of the

ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY
OF NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED

P.O. BOX 23, WELLINGTON, N.Z.

Vol. 11

JUNE, 1965

No. 5 (41)

SILVER DOLLAR FOR NEW ZEALAND

The New Zealand decimal currency paper dollar to be issued in 1967 will have the highest dollar exchange value in the world—10s. compared with 7s. 1d. for USA dollars.

We are to have a souvenir metal dollar, for 1967 only, and the Government has decreed that it shall be in cupro-nickel. Surely this souvenir coin to mark a big step forward to decimal currency, should be a prestige coin in every sense of the word, and not just another base-metal coin. It should be minted in 80 per cent silver, so that it will gleam in the coin cabinets of the world, and be worthy of the value it proclaims.

In the decimal coinage structure for Australia the 50 cent coin, equal to 5 shillings, will be an 80 per cent silver coin, and it will circulate. Our dollar will not circulate; it will be coveted by collectors and souvenir hunters, and it will help to place New Zealand on the numismatic map of the modern world, in terms of value for money. Precious-metal money has gone, for the most part, but a token link through this souvenir coin in silver is needed for this occasion. If Australia can afford to issue 50 cent pieces in 80 per cent silver for circulation, surely we can afford a limited issue, say 200,000 pieces of the same content for our 100 cent dollar pieces—and the Government can have the profit.

Just as foreign silver dollars were used in New Zealand from the 1800s to 1849, as coins of necessity, so also will paper dollars of necessity be used in New Zealand from 1967 onwards. Our first metal souvenir dollar should be worthy of its value and of the event we seek to commemorate. Numismatists have not said the last word on this subject.

RETURN OF GREAT BRITAIN TO THE GOLD STANDARD, 1925

Although Great Britain is no longer on the gold standard, having abandoned it in 1933/34, the question of reversion to such standard after World War I was considered vital to her economic progress in 1925. In retrospect, it is interesting to observe the reasons why Great Britain and, with her, the members of the Commonwealth were compelled for their mutual protection to link up with other countries on a common gold standard basis. Times have changed in the intervening years and the present standard could, I think, be appropriately called the "International Monetary Fund Standard".

From the beginning of 1919, first under wartime regulations still in force after World War I and later under the Gold and Silver Export Control Act of 1920, the export of gold coin and bullion from Great Britain had been prohibited, except under licence. By the express decision of Parliament in 1920 the Act was of a temporary nature and would, in the normal course of events, have expired on December 31st, 1925, when Great Britain would automatically revert to the pre-war free market for gold. The Government therefore had to decide whether to prolong the Act or to let it lapse. It came to the conclusion that the Act should lapse. Before that decision could be reached, many complicated problems, both fiscal and political, had to be resolved. A return to an effective gold standard had long been the settled and declared policy and every expert Committee set up from time to time had urged its return but the difficult and very delicate questions were how and when.

A Committee was appointed to examine the question of amalgamation of the Treasury and the Bank of England note issue and other matters and, principally, to determine whether and how to return to the gold standard. After the Committee had heard evidence from numerous witnesses representing financial, trading and manufacturing interests, the Federation of British Industries and others, it presented a unanimous report expressing a firm opinion upon the question of the gold standard and its recommendations how the return to that standard should be effected.

The Government decided that the time was opportune to implement the Committee's recommendations. Britain's exchange with the United States had for some time been stable and was at that moment buoyant, she had no immediate heavy commitments across the Atlantic and she had entered a period when political and economic stability seemed to be more assured than it had been for some years.

By returning to the international gold standard, it did not mean that Britain was going to adopt a gold coin-

age. That was out of the question. It was considered to be unjustified at that time as it would have been an unwarranted extravagance which the country's financial stringency would not permit. In fact, an appeal was made to all classes, in the public interest, to continue to use notes and to make no change in the commercial habits and practices they had used for the previous ten years. That practice had protected the Bank of England and other banks against any appreciable demand for sovereigns and half-sovereigns. As Britain was returning publicly to the gold standard in international matters and with a free export of gold, it was deemed advisable to regularise the practice by legislation and the Act therefore made provision, amongst other things, that the Bank of England and Treasury notes would be convertible into coin only at the option of the Bank of England and that the right to tender bullion to the Mint to be coined should be confined in the future by law, as it had long been confined in practice, to the Bank of England.

But a return to the gold standard was not achieved just as simply as passing an Act of Parliament. A considerable amount of preliminary work was necessary. When it was decided to take that course and to justify its return, the Government had accumulated a gold reserve of £153,000,000 which would be used to defend and sustain the new position. Further, for many months before, the Treasury began discreetly to accumulate dollars and had in hand the whole of the 166,000,000 dollars required for the following two half-yearly payments of its American debt and for all other American debt obligations for that year. Finally, and as a further precaution, arrangements had been made to obtain credits in the United States of not less than 300,000,000 dollars with the possibility of expansion if necessary.

International affairs also had considerable bearing on Britain's decision. She could not have afforded to remain stationary while so many other countries moved. The two then greatest manufacturing countries in the world, the United States and Germany, were either on or related to an international gold exchange. Sweden was on gold exchange and Austria and Hungary were also based on gold or on sterling, which was then the equivalent of gold; while Holland and the Dutch East Indies, which were very important factors in world finance, had agreed to act simultaneously with Britain.

So far as the British Commonwealth was concerned, there was complete unity of action. Canada was already on the gold standard, South Africa had given notice of her intention to revert to it and both Australia and New Zealand had synchronised their actions with Britain's. Thus, over the whole area of the British Empire and over a very wide and important expanse of the world there had been established at once one uniform standard of value to which all international transactions were related and could be referred.

W. CHETWYND, F.R.N.S. N.Z.

NOMENCLATURE OF ENGLISH COINS

By G. C. SHERWOOD

In view of the impending change to decimal currency in this country and the possible changing of the names of our coins, it may be appropriate to consider the nomenclature of some of the English coins from Saxon times onwards. I purposely leave out Roman coins as these were mostly minted at Rome, there being no official mint in Britain until the latter part of the third century A.D.

About the year 600 A.D. a mint was established at Canterbury and was worked by Frankish moneyers. Already there had been other mints in Britain, including those at London and Colchester. The London mint was closed for a time after the death of Constantine I. A coin (Saxon) was minted at Canterbury and London—the "Thrymsa" but owing to the increasing scarcity of gold this piece was superseded after the year 700 A.D. by the silver "Sceat", some types of which were copies of Roman coins that were current more than 200 years earlier.

In the latter part of the reign of Aethelberht II (748-762) a new silver denomination "the penny", was introduced. This was appreciably larger than the sceat. The penny of Aethelberht II bears a crude representation of his portrait, facing right, also his name and that of his moneyer, "Lul", are inscribed around it. Only two specimens of this rare coin are known. At the battle of Oxford in 774, Offa, King of Mercia, conquered the kingdom of Kent, and from this time onwards most of the Mercian coins were minted at Canterbury by the same moneyers who coined for the kings of Kent and Archbishops of Canterbury. The early pennies of Offa weighed 20 grs. but his later ones weighed $22\frac{1}{2}$ grs., 240 being made out of a pound weight of silver. It is from this time that our present monetary system of 240 pence to the pound sterling can be traced.

The first coins to bear the name of an Archbishop of Canterbury were pennies of Jaenberht 766-791. Thrymsas and Sceats were also coined by Archbishops of York and other ecclesiastics.

Pennies and the half-pennies seem to have been the coins in most frequent use for a considerable period. As time went on several other mints were established, such as Gloucester, Winchester, Exeter, Oxford, etc. During the reign of Alfred the Great these mints produced many more pennies, but some of these coins were struck without the name of the mint. The London coins are probably the most familiar to collectors. Also, during this reign several different types of half-pennies were issued, a fact which suggests that coins were beginning to be used in daily commercial dealings.

About the end of the 10th century the long-cross penny, often voided, came into frequent use. It was a feature that was continued for several hundred years as it facilitated the cutting of a coin into halves and quarters for use as half-pennies and farthings. The voided cross on the reverse ensured an even division when cutting.

During the reign of Henry I the moneyers were often guilty of sharp practices, issuing coins under their correct weight but in base silver, or in copper with a thin layer of silver plating. In 1214 King John gave instructions that the moneyers be summoned to Winchester from all parts of the country. On their arrival they were arrested, and 94 of them had their right hands amputated. This severe treatment had a very corrective effect.

Henry III in 1257 introduced a new denomination, a gold penny worth 20 silver pence and made of pure gold, 24ct. The issue was not large and was soon discontinued.

In 1279 (Edward I), a new silver coinage was ordered which consisted not only of pence but also of fourpenny pieces, or groats. The design of these coins was much superior to those of previous issues and became the model for the English coinage of the next two centuries. They were also extensively copied on the Continent by the feudal states in the Low Countries. The idea of a large silver denomination was without doubt copied from the "gros tournois" of Louis IX and Philip II of France, hence the name "groat", given to the English coin. The design of the groat was a fine and original one but for some reason the coin proved unpopular and its manufacture was soon discontinued.

Pennies, half-pennies, and farthings were the only coins issued during the reign of Edward II 1307-1327. During the reign of Edward III 1327-1377, following a rise in the general prosperity of the country due partly to the immigration of French weavers and the re-organisation of the English wool trade, large silver denominations re-appeared, and, after an unsuccessful experiment, a handsome gold coinage was permanently established. In 1344 Edward issued a Gold Florin or Double Leopard, equal to 6/-, also a $\frac{1}{2}$ florin or leopard, and a $\frac{1}{4}$ florin or helm. These coins are extremely rare, as they were de-monetized after a few months because they were really not worth their official equivalent in silver coin, and were therefore, not readily accepted by the public. The difficulty in adjusting the weights and values of gold and silver coins was to crop up continually until the bi-metallic system was abolished in 1816 in favour of the Gold Standard. The florin was superseded by the noble, a much heavier coin and valued at 6s. 8d. A half noble and a quarter noble were also issued. Silver coins of this period consist of pennies, half-pennies and farthings, and these are normally referred to as "florin" type.

In 1351 the groat or fourpenny piece was reintroduced, also a half groat. In 1464, Edward IV's first reign, it was decided to improve the coinage. The weight of a penny was reduced from 15 grs. to 12 grs., and the next

year a new gold coinage was commenced, when the noble was revalued and re-designed. The new coin was called a ryal or rose noble, and was valued at 10/- instead of a third of a pound. Also minted were a half Ryal and a quarter Ryal. It was resolved not to abolish the old third-pound values, and so a second set of gold coins was issued. These were the angel, equal to 6s. 8d. and the half-angel, 3s. 4d. The obverse of the angel depicts the Archangel Michael slaying the dragon, whence comes the name of the coin.

Edward IV's second reign saw little alteration in the coinage, but the two periods can be easily distinguished by the mint marks. Coins of all denominations were issued at London.

Henry VII 1485-1509 took a great interest in his coinage and introduced two new denominations that have had a place in the English coinage ever since, the sovereign 20/- and the shilling.

At Henry VIII's direction Cardinal Wolsey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, was given the task of altering the standard of the English coinage in order to bring it into line with the Continental currencies and so prevent any drain of gold coin or bullion overseas. The sovereign was revalued at 22/- and later at 22/6, and the value of the angel rose from 6s. 8d. to 7s. 6d. To replace the old angel of 6s. 8d. a coin of the same value was introduced, called the george noble, together with its half. These coins were only minted for a short time and only a single specimen of the half george noble is known to have survived. Another gold coin only issued for a few months was the "crown of the rose", and only two of these are now known. This was valued at 4s. 6d. and was the equivalent of the French "écu an soleil". Both the English and the French coins were of 23ct. gold. The crown of the rose was superseded by the "crown of the double rose" and the gold half-crown, both made from gold of only 22ct. The silver coinage was not debased but the weights of the coins were reduced, thus showing more profit for the mint.

From early Saxon times until the Reformation various ecclesiastical authorities were allowed to mint coins, but after the closing of the monasteries and the establishment of the Church of England, the clergy were never again allowed the privilege of issuing their own coins. Cardinal Wolsey, who from 1523 was both Archbishop of York and Bishop of Durham, struck at York the only groat ever issued by an English cleric. The issuing of groats had always been solely the right of the Sovereign, and one of the charges made against Wolsey, in what would have been his impeachment, had he lived to stand trial, was that he had usurped the royal prerogative by the unauthorised manufacture of coins of this denomination. The York groats and half groats of Wolsey have his cardinal's hat placed below the royal arms and the initials T.W. at the sides of the shield.

During the last years of Henry's reign he further debased the coinage, reducing the gold coins to 20ct. fine-

ness and the silver coins to third silver and two-thirds copper—small wonder that Henry became known as old “coppernose”, for after the “silver” coins were in circulation for a while the base metal showed on that part of his face that was in highest relief and had the most wear!

Mary issued a sovereign of 30s. value and a gold ryal of 15s. value. The shilling and a sixpence show very fine portraits of Mary and her husband, Philip of Spain, face to face, with a single crown above.

Numismatically speaking the reign of Elizabeth I was extremely interesting, as more different denominations of coins were struck at one time for this queen than at any time before or since. They include the fine gold sovereign of 30s., ryal of 15s., angel 10s., half angel and quarter angel, the pound sovereign, 20s., half sovereign, gold crown and half-crown, silver crown and half-crown, shilling, sixpence, groat, threepence, half-groat, three-halfpence, penny, three-farthings, and half-penny.

An important development in the early years of Elizabeth's reign was the introduction of machinery for the manufacture of coins, introduced by a Frenchman named Mestrelle. The coins produced by him are of much finer workmanship than those made by the old method of hammering the dies by hand. Between 1561 and 1571 Mestrelle produced milled gold half pounds, crowns and half-crowns, also silver shillings, sixpences, groats, threepences, half groats and three-farthings. Also issued during this reign were dollars, half dollars, quarter dollars and eighth dollars, not for use in England but for the East India Coy, to counteract the Spanish pieces of eight reales that were used extensively by traders throughout the world.

James VI of Scotland became James I of England and he took a great interest in his coinage. He made alterations to the Scottish coinage every few years, and within two days of Elizabeth's death he issued his first orders relating to English currency.

The union of the two countries is commemorated on the coinage by the changes in the King's titles and the royal arms, and by the introduction of new reverse legends. The leopards of England and lilies of France were placed in the shield together with the rampant lion of Scotland and the Irish harp. James' title of King of Scotland is inserted on his earliest coins. At this time there was a ratio value of twelve to one between the English and Scottish coinages so the Scottish equivalent of the English shilling was called a twelve-shilling piece. The Scottish 60s. and 30s. pieces show a thistle on the trappings of the King's horse, whereas the English crown and the half-crown show a rose.

The Scots had a separate coinage of their own until after the Act of Union was passed in the reign of Queen Anne. However, there was most probably an interchange of currency between the two countries, and one gold coin, the 20s. sovereign, was called the Unite, as it commemorated the union of the two kingdoms by displaying a new reverse inscription in Latin, meaning in English, “I will

make them one nation (Ezekiel 37-22). Most of the coins of denominations of the previous reign were minted and one new coin introduced was a gold 4s. piece called the thistle crown. It has a crowned rose on one side and a crowned thistle on the other. This coin was struck both in England and Scotland, but they can be distinguished by their mint marks.

Coins of Charles I, struck at the Tower Mint were of the same weights and values as those of James I, one exception being a small issue of light weight shillings in 1626. Also, like those of James I, many of his coins are shown with the king on horseback.

On leaving London after the outbreak of the Civil War Charles stayed at York for several months, and established a mint there, producing half-crowns, shillings, sixpences and threepences of good design. This mint closed after the surrender of York in 1644. At another mint in Shrewsbury, established in October 1642, he struck crowns, half-crowns, shillings, and sixpences, also two new denominations, a large silver pound and half-pound and a small number of gold triple-unites, but these are now extremely rare. Coins were also struck at Oxford and Bristol.

Perhaps the most interesting of Charles' coins are the siege pieces. These were emergency issues struck by the besieged towns of Carlisle, Colchester, Newark, Pontefract, and Scarborough to pay the defending troops or to provide enough money for the everyday business transactions of the townsmen. These coins were usually made of odd-shaped pieces of metal cut from hammered-out silver plate, and were of crude workmanship, there being no mint available. Over 20 different denominations were issued ranging from 5s. 8d. to 4d., and such odd amounts as 3s. 4d., 1s. 1d. and 7d.

During Cromwell's time some 50s. pieces were struck and also, the design of the coinage was changed to the plainest possible design of any English coin struck in the last few hundred years. They were commonly known as "Breeches" money and as Lord Lucas said to Charles II, it was a fit name for coins of the "Rump". All coins from the Unite to the penny have a St. George Cross (the republican arms of England) on the obverse, surrounded by a wreath of palm and laurel, and on the reverse the two shields of England and Ireland side by side. The silver half-penny has the cross of St. George on one side and the Irish harp on the other, and this was the last time that a coin of this value was made of silver. For the first time in the history of the English coinage the inscriptions appear in English instead of Latin—the Puritan influence! In addition to the 50s. piece two other gold denominations minted were the Broad 20s., and the half Broad, these being incorporated in the very attractive "portrait" issue of 1658.

Of the hammered coinage of Charles II the only gold pieces retained were the crown and double-crown, the half-crown now being struck in silver, as were the lower denominations. With the advent of milled coinage,

"guinea" values—namely, five, two, one and one-half, were minted for the first time. Much of the gold for the coinage of these pieces was supplied by the Africa Coy. which operated on the Gold Coast, or Guinea, as it was then named. The initial value of the guinea was twenty shillings but this figure underwent several changes before being finally stabilised at twenty-one shillings. The crown, henceforth, was produced in silver.

The regal copper coinage of England was inaugurated during this reign. It consisted of half-pennies and farthings of very pleasing design. In 1684, as an economical substitute, these coins were minted from tin but proved to be unsatisfactory and their issue was discontinued in 1694.

Although James II left no personal record of imperishable glory, at least he made his mark in the numismatic field by the issuing of his famous "Gun Money". Landing in Ireland in June 1689 he raised an army for an attempt to regain the throne from William and Mary. Being short of money with which to pay his forces he had struck an emergency coinage of crowns, half-crowns, shillings and sixpences made from metal obtained from old cannon, church bells and any other suitable scrap that could be found. These coins (except the crown) are unique in that they bear the month as well as the year of issue.

On the coinage of William and Mary the busts of the joint monarchs are in jugate form. No new denominations appeared during this reign. After Mary's death in 1694, William carried on alone until his demise in 1702. In 1695 he instituted a great re-coinage but that is too long a story to re-capitulate here.

Perhaps the most notable event during Queen Anne's reign (1702-1714) was the Union between England and Scotland, which was effected in 1707. A re-designing of the coinage ensued in that year but no sweeping changes took place.

In the first year of George I's reign the guinea, which during the latter years of the 17th century had ranged from 20s. to 30s., then back to 22s., was fixed at 21s., and it remained at this rate for the next 100 years, when it was finally replaced by the sovereign. In 1718 a quarter-Guinea was issued but did not prove to be a popular coin. It was not re-issued during this reign.

No new coins were introduced during the reign of George II. There were, of course, several different designs of the denominations already existing. During this reign a progressive shortage of silver took place and a consequent increase in its price, the 1758 coins being the last silver pieces issued in appreciable quantity for 30 years. The famine continued into the reign of George III and also the price of copper rose so high that little copper coin was minted. Gold, too, became scarce during the Napoleonic Wars and was partially replaced by a paper currency. Other than patterns, no five guinea or two guinea pieces were issued during this reign. Quarter guineas were re-issued in 1762 but were again coldly

received and were never again repeated. Quantities of half-guineas were struck, also an issue of one third of a guinea (7s.).

In 1787 a plain, flat-topped shield design was adopted on the reverse of the guinea, which, from its resemblance to an old-fashioned spade soon earned for the coin the name of "Spade" Guinea. By 1797 the dearth of silver had become so acute that to remedy the situation the Bank of England bought Spanish dollars which the Mints in England counter-marked with a small punch bearing the head of George III, and issued to the public as "dollars", valued at 4s. 9d. These pieces were usually of Charles III or Charles IV of Spain. In the year 1800 owing to a further rise in the price of silver these coins were re-valued at 5s. In 1804 countermarking ceased and the coins were completely overstruck with a portrait of George III, and on the reverse "Bank of England 1804, Five Shillings, Dollar", which stressed the fact that they were Bank tokens and not a regal issue. Private silver tokens began to appear in 1811. Most of these were shillings and sixpences but other values up to five shillings were also in use.

A period of twenty-two years elapsed (1775-1797) during which no regal copper coins were issued at all. Such was the shortage of small change in 1787 that Parys Mines Coy. of Anglesey, began issuing token pennies made from copper obtained from their own mines, followed by an issue of half-pennies the next year. These tokens have a Druid's head on one side and the name and cypher of the company on the other, while on the edge are various inscriptions such as "Payable in Anglesey, London or Liverpool. These tokens are very well made and contain almost their full value of copper.

In 1797 the first English regal copper coins to be struck by steam-power were issued, and were remarkable for their size and excellent workmanship. The twopenny-piece weighed exactly two ounces avoirdupois and the penny half as much. These handsome coins became known as "Cartwheels." They did not remain long in circulation, however, as they were too cumbersome for convenient handling. The twopenny-piece was never repeated but in 1799, halfpennies and farthings of slightly different design and less relative weight were minted and in 1806-1807 a further set of three coppers—1d., $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and $\frac{1}{4}$ d. were struck.

In 1816 it was decided to have a complete re-coinage. The 21s. guinea was abandoned and replaced by a 20s. sovereign of 123 grs. and this, with its half, was to remain the standard gold coin for the next hundred years.

During the reign of George IV there was issued a two-pound piece as well as the other gold and silver coins, but for the first five years of this reign the only copper coins struck were farthings. Half-farthings and third-farthings were added later but these were mainly for use in the Colonies, especially Malta and Ceylon. A silver three-half-penny-piece was also struck during the reign of William IV, this denomination being for use in the British West

Indies and Ceylon. In 1837 the groat was reintroduced.

Coins of Victoria's reign were divided into three groups; the young head, 1837-1887, the Jubilee issue, 1887-1893, and the old head coinage of 1893-1901. Two new denominations introduced during this reign were the two-shilling piece, or florin, and the four-shilling piece or double florin. The florin was introduced as a first step towards a decimalization system, a florin being one tenth of a pound, and the first silver florin issued in 1849 read on the reverse, "One Florin—One tenth of a Pound." As the usual "Dei Gratia" was omitted this coin became known as the "Godless Florin." It was replaced by the Gothic type piece. In 1860 a bronze coinage was introduced to replace the copper. It was made from a copper alloy having a small percentage of tin and zinc to make the metal more durable. Five pound and two pound pieces were issued during the Jubilee year but were kept mostly as souvenirs.

A few words on the subject of Maundy Money. From earliest times it was the custom of the Monarch to perform an act of humility on the Thursday before Easter, known as Maundy Thursday, by washing the feet of the poor and giving alms in memory of Christ washing the feet of his disciples. The washing of feet has been dispensed with since the time of Queen Anne, and, as the recipients sometimes shocked those present by impatiently discarding their old garments and changing into the new clothes before the service had been completed, it was decided to substitute woollen cloth for clothes. In 1837 a monetary allowance was granted instead of provisions, and a similar allowance in lieu of clothing was granted in 1882.

Usually held in Westminster Abbey the distribution is generally carried out by the Sovereign, although the Lord High Almoner sometimes acts as substitute. The amount of Maundy Money proper varies each year and consists of as many pence as there are years in the Sovereign's age. The recipients are old men and women who are recommended by the parishioners of Westminster, the number of each sex also being equal to the years of the Sovereign's age. The money consists of sets of tiny silver coins—penny, twopence, threepence and fourpence. Thus, in 1950 when King George VI was fifty-five, that number of old men and as many old women each received the sum of 4s. 7d. (55 pence) in Maundy Money, made up of five sets of 1d., 2d., 3d. and 4d. and an odd 1d. and 4d. In addition they received ordinary money in lieu of clothing. Maundy money issued since 1816 is still legal tender. Half, third, and quarter farthings were struck in Victoria's reign for use in the Colonies, and half farthings were struck in Victoria's reign for use in the Colonies, and half farthings were declared legal tender in England in 1842.

The main alterations to coins in George V's reign took place about 1920. The price of silver soared very much indeed, so the existing issue, of .925 Silver (Sterling) was temporarily replaced by a debased coinage of only 50 per

cent silver and an equal per centage of alloy. Coins made from this mixture discoloured quickly, so in 1922 a more satisfactory alloy was employed and in 1926-1927 more silver was used. Apart from a few proofs, no five pound or two pound pieces were issued during this reign, and in 1916 Britain went off the gold standard. In 1935 a special Crown piece was struck to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of King George's reign.

After the Second World War England had to pay to the U.S.A. large amounts of silver borrowed under "lease-lend" during the War. Owing to the country's financial position it was decided that this could best be done by withdrawing all the silver in circulation and replacing it with a base metal coinage of little intrinsic value. Accordingly, in 1947, a new coinage was issued made of cupro nickel, an alloy of 75 per cent copper and 25 per cent nickel. (Maundy money excepted.)

An innovation of George VI's reign was the introduction of a 12-sided three-penny piece as a substitute for the small silver threepence. The 12-sided coin is made of nickel brass, an alloy of 79 per cent copper, 20 per cent zinc, and 1 per cent nickel. It will be seen that over the centuries many different names have been used for various coins, some, such as the penny (which dates from Saxon times) still in use.

New Zealand will soon be changing to a decimal system of currency, which will meet with general favour.

The 1959 Report of the Decimal Coinage Committee in clause 62, page 27, recommended that the name of the major unit should be short, free from ambiguity, and preferably one which could be distinctly associated with New Zealand. The term "Dollar" is to be used for the major unit. It cannot be said that this name will avoid confusion. There are nine countries already using the term "Dollar", and in none of these is the value the same. There is a wide variation in purchasing power of the nine "dollars" and there is no doubt that there will be a great deal of confusion in international transactions.

The word "dollar" has no association with New Zealand. How wise of South Africa to adopt the term "Rand", a name indicative of that country. The Hon. H. G. R. Mason, Q.C., M.P., supported numismatists in their advocacy of "Zeal" for the name of the major unit. This name would avoid confusion and is indicative of New Zealand. It is a short crisp name, and if adopted, it would soon be known throughout the world. Dollars and cents are to be used in Australia. We should avoid confusion with that country's currency because of its nearness. Although it is over 150 years since U.S.A. adopted the name "dollar" and "cents" for its currency, the cent there is still popularly called a "penny". A 10 cent piece, which 100 years ago was stamped "10 cents" is today known as a "Dime", and a five cent piece is referred to as a "Nickel." Let us have 10 pennies to one shilling and 10 shillings to one Zeal. This name is short, free from ambiguity, and distinctive of New Zealand.

CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOUR

The year 1964 has produced the first recipient of the "Medal of Honour" in the second century of valour of this, the highest U.S. military award. He is 30 year old Captain Roger Hugh C. DONLON, United States Army, who also becomes the first winner of the decoration in the bitter Viet Nam struggle, and the first recipient since the Korean War. The official citation follows:—

"The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to
CAPTAIN ROGER H. C. DONLON, UNITED STATES
ARMY

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Captain Roger H. C. Donlon, Infantry, distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his own life above and beyond the call of duty while defending a United States Military installation against a fierce attack by hostile forces on 6 July 1964, near Nam Dong, Republic of Vietnam. Captain Donlon was serving as the Commanding Officer of the United States Army Special Forces Detachment A—726 at Camp Nam Dong when a reinforced Viet Cong Battalion suddenly launched a full-scale, predawn attack on the camp. During the violent battle that ensued, lasting five hours and resulting in heavy casualties on both sides, Captain Donlon directed the defense operations in the midst of an enemy barrage of mortar shells, falling grenades, and extremely heavy gun fire. Upon the initial onslaught, he swiftly marshalled his forces and ordered the removal of the needed ammunition from a blazing building. He then dashed through a hail of small arms fire and exploding hand grenades to abort a breach of the main gate. En-route to this position he detected an enemy demolition team of three in the proximity of the main gate and quickly annihilated them. Although exposed to the intense grenade attack, he then succeeded in reaching a 60mm mortar position despite sustaining a severe stomach wound as he was within five yards of the gun pit. When he discovered that most of the men in this gun pit were also wounded, he completely disregarded his own injury, directed their withdrawal to a location thirty metres away, and again risked his own life by remaining behind and covering the movement with the utmost effectiveness. Noticing that his team sergeant was unable to evacuate the gun pit, he crawled toward him and, while dragging the fallen soldier out of the gun pit, an enemy mortar exploded and inflicted a wound in Captain Donlon's left shoulder. Although suffering from multiple wounds, he carried the abandoned 60mm mortar weapon to a new location thirty metres away where he found three wounded defenders. After administering first aid and encouragement to these men, he left the weapon with them,

headed toward another position, and retrieved a 57mm recoilless rifle. Then with great courage and coolness under fire, he returned to the abandoned gun pit, evacuated ammunition for the two weapons, and while crawling and dragging the urgently needed ammunition, received a third wound on his leg by an enemy hand grenade. Despite his critical physical condition, he again crawled one hundred and seventy five metres to an 81mm mortar position and directed firing operations which protected the seriously threatened east sector of the camp. He then moved to an eastern 60mm mortar position and upon determining that the vicious enemy assault had weakened, crawled back to the gun pit with the 60mm mortar, set it up for defensive operations, and turned it over to two defenders with minor wounds. Without hesitation, he left this sheltered position and moved from position to position around the beleaguered perimeter while hurling hand grenades at the enemy and inspiring his men to superhuman effort. As he bravely continued to move around the perimeter, a mortar shell exploded, wounding him in the face and body. As the long awaited daylight brought defeat to the enemy forces and their retreat back to the jungle, leaving behind fifty four of their dead, many weapons, and grenades, Captain Donlon immediately reorganized his defenses and administered first aid to the wounded. His dynamic leadership, fortitude, and valiant efforts inspired not only the American personnel but the friendly Vietnamese defenders as well and resulted in the successful defense of the camp. Captain Donlon's conspicuous gallantry, extraordinary heroism, and intrepidity at the risk of his own life above and beyond the call of duty are in the highest traditions of the United States Army and reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of his country."

President Lyndon B. Johnson presented Captain Donlon with the award on 5th December, 1964. The presentation ceremony took place in the East Room of the White House, in front of many distinguished guests including; Sen. Kenneth Keating, Sen. Carl Hayden and Sen. Robert Kennedy.

Briefly his military career is as follows:—

He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in December, 1953, and served till July, 1955. At that time he was admitted as a cadet to the U.S. Military Academy from which he resigned in April, 1957. He then enlisted in the Army in February, 1958 and was selected for Officer Candidate School in January, 1959. After graduation he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant of Infantry on June 24th, 1959.

In addition to the Medal of Honor, Captain Donlon is entitled to the following decorations:—

Combat Infantryman's Badge, Purple Heart, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, and the Presidential Unit Citation with Oak Leaf Cluster.

(Data adapted from an article appearing in "The Medal Collector" from material supplied by Major Alice Holberg, U.S. Army.

OBITUARY

In March, 1965, Mrs. H. D. Massey (nee Montague) passed away in Wellington. She was the first woman to be appointed a private secretary to a cabinet minister in New Zealand. When decimal coinage and a new coinage for New Zealand was under consideration in 1933 she, with Dr. R. M. Campbell and Dr. W. B. Sutch, were private secretaries to Rt. Hon. J. G. Coates, Minister of Finance. Miss Montague, as she then was, occupied the position of secretary to the coin and bank note designs committee under the chairmanship of Rt. Hon. J. G. Coates, and she exercised a considerable influence in the selection of designs. She gave the woman's viewpoint, and both Professor J. Rankine Brown and A. Sutherland, who represented the Society, at the conclusion of the work of those committees, paid tributes to the work of Miss Montague in helping them to reach finality and to secure good coin designs.

* * *

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

Coat of Arms Quarterly; Newsletter; The Numismatist, USA; Mintmark, Auckland; World Coins, USA; Reports of Australian Numismatic Society; Report of Numismatic Association of Victoria; Spink's Numismatic Circular; Valley Coin Club Circular; Seaby's Catalogues UK; Lists, A. H. Baldwin Ltd., London; Hans M. F. Schulman, New York, and various catalogues for coins and stamps.

These publications may be seen on request at Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, where the Society's library is housed.

* * *

EDITOR

Mr. C. R. H. Taylor, Hon. Editor, is now in London. He will be absent for some time, and at the request of the Council Mr. Allan Sutherland has assumed the position of Hon. Editor until the annual meeting.

NEW ZEALAND VARIETIES

By DAVID HARCOURT, Wellington.

It is only in the past two years that the varieties listed in this article have come to light. The number found is surprisingly large and collection of even a representative selection of those listed is now no mean task. I hope that New Zealand collectors will be encouraged to attempt to put aside a good selection before our present coinage is withdrawn. Many of our varieties

are very scarce and a few, most notably the 1956 "strapless" halfpenny, are apparently unique.

I use the word "variety" incorrectly by including within this term all coins varying from the usual: the true numismatic sense implied by "variety" is a coin varying from another through a difference in dies. For the sake of easier understanding I call this type of variety a "die variety." This group of varieties, including wide dates, is generally the most interesting and most valuable. Most New Zealand varieties are die-varieties.

A few varieties found in our series fall into the other main classes: "variants", or lesser varieties, resulting from wear or damage to the die, and including die-breaks, missing details of design (resulting from a "filled" die), and re-entries or double-strikes; and "freaks" or coins mis-struck or struck from weak metal.

As far as I know the first New Zealand variety (in the regular series) brought to general notice was the "strapless" series. This series has been mentioned in this Journal (Vol. II, No. 39, Page 137) but this mention was brief and the following comment may be of value: the name, "strapless", is not new. The same variety occurs in the Canadian series and the word was used by Canadian numismatists to describe the variation in busts. The early Queen Elizabeth II bust, used from 1953-1955 in the New Zealand series, differs from that used from 1956 onwards in that the latter type has an engraved line over the shoulder and the hair, ear, and other features of the bust are more sharply defined. The shoulder line was thought, probably quite incorrectly, to indicate the strap of dress. The bust on 1953-55 coins is accordingly described as "strapless."

In late 1963 it was reported in "Mintmark", the journal of the Numismatic Society of Auckland, that 1956 and 1957 coins had been found with the strapless bust. Details of the scarcity of these strapless coins is given in the listing of varieties.

Following closely on the heels of the news of the strapless coins came word of the 1946 "flat-back" florin, 1950 new reverse half-crown, and 1942 threepence and florin varieties. These varieties were reported in the Journal and need little further comment here. However the 1946 florin, 1950 half-crown, and 1956-1957 strapless coins must be considered our major varieties as they involve fundamental changes in design. They are not impossible to find in circulation and must form a part of any good collection of New Zealand coins.

The list which follows these notes cannot be all-inclusive since two varieties mentioned to me are on the finder's "secret list" and I cannot, at present, give details; and other varieties have not been properly classified as yet. Other collectors may know of varieties not included in my listing: I would very much like to hear from them.

All coins listed have been seen by me except where indicated. The indications of scarcity are only approximate; I have a limited number of coins in all cases.

VARIETIES IN THE NEW ZEALAND SERIES

HALFPENNY:

1940; in twenty-three specimens examined two have a narrower date than the others. The four in the date is closer to the nine.

1942; one specimen in eight on hand has a markedly wider date. The difference in width can be best seen between the nine and four.

1944; a complex coin involving several variations. The "normal" coin (ten in fourteen) has evenly spaced numerals with the nine and the two fours following a natural curve round the rim of the coin. The crossbars of the fours are roughly in line and the crossbar of the first four points to just below the centre stroke of the nine.

All variations involve the positions of the two fours, in relation to the nine and to one another. The major variety is a distinct wide date with both fours in line but wider away from the nine. I have found one specimen only of this coin.

A lesser variety involves the twisting of the first four in a counter-clockwise direction so that the crossbar points lower down the nine and the two fours are misaligned. One specimen only of this coin as well.

A further variation occurs on two specimens among the fourteen on hand: the second four is dropped slightly and is closer to the coin's rim.

Most of these variations can be traced only by comparison.

1956; one specimen only, to my knowledge, found of this coin with a strapless bust. I have not seen it but believe that it does exist.

PENNY:

1956; four specimens of the strapless coin of this date reported. I have seen one in very good condition and can vouch for its authenticity.

I have noted several minor variations in the pennies; among them a 1941 with slightly lower four in the date, and three different 1942 pennies with slight variations in widths of the date. These can only be classified after very close examination however and are generally unsatisfactory.

THREEPENNY:

1941; wide date reported from Auckland where two specimens have been found in seventeen coins of that date. Variation between four and one of date.

1942; three widths of date with the narrow and wide dates quite scarce. The variation is between the four and the two and in the most common (three in every four) variety, the medium date, the two stands just away from the four. In the slightly scarcer "wide date" the two is

well away from the four. One coin in six is wide date. One coin in twelve only is "narrow date" with the two very close to the four. Again comparison of numbers of coins is the only sure method of classification.

1942; missing diamond after date. The threepences have a small diamond before and after the date and several 1942 specimens have been found with the second diamond missing. This is apparently not a filled die but an omission from the die and is, to my experience, very scarce. Seven specimens in one hundred and two is the incidence reported from Auckland. I have found only one in twenty-five specimens in Wellington.

1944; one specimen among some one hundred and thirty of this date has a large blob on the second four. The variety is very similar to the Australian variety of the same date. Presumably a diebreak.

1945; level (with four) five and low five in date. The low five is scarcer than the level five and occurs about twice in seven coins.

1953; recut letters in obverse legend. Apparently unique, this coin has been re-entered throughout the full obverse legend.

1956; the least rare of the strapless coins, occurring once in thirty coins of this date. It is still a scarce coin nevertheless.

SIXPENCE :

1939; there are variations in this coin still to be determined, however a simplified description of the variety is "narrow" and "wide" date with the latter being quite scarce. The variation is between the three and nine.

1940; a wide date variety with the difference being between the four and nine. The wide date is very slightly scarcer than the narrow date.

1941; another wide date variety with the "normal", or close date, having evenly spaced numerals and the wide date having a wider gap between the nine and four. This date is itself scarce and the wide date, occurring once in four coins, is very scarce.

1942; there is no consistency in the variations in positions of numerals in this coin and it is impossible to arrive at a set classification of types. The two is apparently the only numeral to change position.

1945; there are close, medium, and wide date varieties in this coin. Three in four coins are medium date and about one in eight are close date and one in sixteen are wide date. Comparison is the best guide to classifying this variety. One in sixteen coins is a "high five" coin: the date is slightly wider than "medium" date and the five appears to be much higher than in other specimens. "Nar-

row", "wide", and "high five" specimens are all scarce in this not too common coin.

1946; a series of variations very similar to the 1945 sixpence: a wide date which occurs twice in every three coins; a medium date occurring about once in three coins; and scarce close date and "high six" varieties occurring once in twenty coins of this date.

1954; an odd diecrack variety along the bottom of the Queen's bust. I have found three specimens among a great number of this date.

1957; of the four strapless varieties this is the only one dated 1957—this variance has not been explained as yet. I can give no guide, even a reasoned guess, to the number of these coins in existence but am sure that the number is very low. This is a rare coin.

1963; a wide date variety occurring in about equal numbers: the three is simply wider of the six in one case.

SHILLINGS:

1934; a shilling with the "N" of "SHILLING" completely missing was reported in the June, 1964 (Vol. II, No. 4 (40)) issue of the Journal. I have examined a number of 1934 shillings since the article was published and have found no specimens with the "N" even partially missing. The conclusion arrived at, therefore, is that this variety must be very scarce; and it may be the result of an omission from the die as the 1942 "missing diamond" threepence appears to be.

1941; a "normal" date coin with evenly spaced numerals occurs twice in every three specimens, with a "wide" date (four wide from the nine), occurring once in three specimens on the average. The coin is scarce in itself and the wide date is quite a difficult coin to find.

1942; a complex series of variations of date can be summarised by three classifications: (a) "near, high two"; (b) "far, high two"; and (c) and "far, level two". The near, high two is the most scarce type.

1945; a marked close and wide date variety occurring in about equal numbers. A third variation, wider or narrower than the above, has been reported, but I have yet to find an example. Both four and five are further away from the nine in the "wide date" variety.

FLORIN:

1936; this is a very scarce coin and the variety, "near, low six" and "far, high six" is very marked. Fortunately the two types occur in about equal numbers with the "far, high six" being perhaps slightly scarcer.

1941; there are three varieties in this coin occurring in roughly equal numbers: (a) narrow date with date numerals evenly, but closely, spaced; (b) medium date

with a much wider four and slightly wider second one; and (c) wide date with the four the same distance away from the nine as in the medium date but the second one is very wide from the four.

1942; three variations in date again, involving the four and the two: (a) "near four, far two", where the four is very close to the nine and the top curl of the two is well away from the crossbar of the four; (b) "far four, near two", in which the four is wide of the nine and the curl of the two is closer to the cross-bar of the four than in the "near four, far two" variety; and (c) "far four, far two", is really mis-named because the four-nine (49) width is "medium", in fact (not as wide as in (b)), and the two is further away from the four than in (a).

The above is as uncomplicated a description as I can give without condensing until classification would be impossible. These descriptions will be best understood by study of actual specimens of course.

The near four, far two is the least scarce of the varieties with a ratio of about three in every five coins, with the far four, near two variety occurring about twice in every five coins. The far four, far two variety is very scarce; only two having been found in some seventy coins of this date.

1943; I have found a specimen with the four slightly wider from the nine than is the case with other specimens on hand but have not gone into this variety thoroughly as yet. It would appear to be scarce.

1945; a wide date variety, similar to the 1943 variety with the four slightly wider from the nine than is "normal". This is a scarce variety occurring only once in twelve specimens only.

1946; the design of the kiwi was changed in 1947 (details are given in the article in the Vol. II, No. 39 Journal), the most significant change being in that the kiwi was given a flat back instead of the former round back. This variety, occurring where the 1947 die was prematurely used to strike 1946 coins, is therefore best referred to as "flat-back". It is quite scarce, occurring only once in every ten or so coins of this date.

1953; about one in six specimens has a slightly wider three than usual.

1953; I have found a coin of this date with re-entered reverse legend. That the date of this double-strike should be the same as that of the other re-entered coin mentioned, a threepence, indicates that more re-entered coins of this date may be found. These re-entered coins must be at least very scarce.

1963; the three may be either close to the six or slightly more upright and further away. I am not certain of the scarcity of one over the other, but find about equal numbers of each in the few specimens I come across. The coin itself is the smallest-minted florin in our series.

HALF-CROWN:

1942; the position of the four varies slightly and this variation can best be determined by relating the four to the small ball by the scroll. The vertical stroke of the four points either to the right of this ball or at the middle of it. The two types occur in roughly equal numbers.

1950; this variety was described in the Journal (Vol. II, No. 4 (40)). There is a first die reverse similar to the 1947-49 coins in which the scroll of the shield points to the left of the five in the date, and a second die, with smaller shield and lettering, in which the scroll comes over the five. The latter type is scarce with a ratio of two in every nine half-crowns of this date.

GENERAL

I have collected a full series of threepences, including 1935 and 1956 strapless, with diebreaks. There are only nine gaps in my collection of sixpences with diebreaks (I do have a 1957 strapless sixpence with reverse diebreaks), and I am sure these will be filled. A systematic tackling of the diebreaks is interesting and rewarding even though they are "lesser" varieties. As can be seen, a good set can be collected. I have seen only one other New Zealand coin, besides the threepences and sixpences, with a die-break: a 1946 penny.

Numerous other lesser varieties are in existence but these would be of little interest to the general collector. Among these are mis-struck coins, missing minor details of design and the like.

I acknowledge my debt to Mr. J. A. Brook, of Auckland, for the assistance he has given me in the study of New Zealand varieties. He has been responsible personally for the discovery of a large number of them.

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POLYNESIAN COINS AND CURRENCY NOTES

Polynesia extends from Hawaii, down to New Zealand, and across to an apex at Easter Island. In this area three leaders have issued coins or paper money. In 1847 in Hawaii King Kamehameha III issued copper cents, and in 1883 Kalakaua I issued silver dimes, quarters, halves and dollars.

In the 1860's Maori King Tawhiao (Potatau II) in New Zealand issued a colourful currency £1 note inscribed in Maori "This money is available to all persons." It is described and illustrated in **Numismatic History of New Zealand** (Sutherland). In 1962 Queen Salote of Tonga issued the first gold coins in Polynesia, the one, half and quarter koula.

The high price charged for specimen sets of gold coins of Tonga and the method of selling the coins, prevented the average numismatist from acquiring specimens and sharing in what could have been a happy and historic numismatic occasion. Instead few persons in Polynesia now have specimens to mark the occasion.

A similar position has arisen in the issue of Tongan gold leaf map postage stamps, and there has been critical comment in philatelic journals on a proposed reissue of these stamps. Usually philatelists welcome new issues, but apparently many look askance at a repetition of the past experience.

A coin or a stamp fails in its purpose if it is not artistic, functional and within the reach of the average citizen.

If Tonga, Samoa, Cook Islands and other parts of Polynesia follow New Zealand into decimal currency it is to be hoped that customary methods of pricing and distribution will be adhered to in the interests of all of the citizens of Polynesia.

SIZE OF ONE CENT FOR NEW ZEALAND

The Secretary of the Decimal Currency Board has stated that the proposed size of the one cent is to be reduced because it would operate some sixpenny slot machines. This means that the coin size will be near that of the old threepence which has caused much criticism because it slipped through fingers and holes in pockets.

Coins are intended for the convenience of the people, and not of sixpenny-slot-machine-operators. The Government should reconsider its decision to repeat in the new series, the inconveniences of the old coinage.

AUSTRALIAN DECIMAL COINAGE

by W. H. BRADFIELD

The basic unit under the new Australian decimal system will be the dollar. The first coins minted will be the 1 cent, 2 cent, 5 cent, 10 cent, 20 cent, and 50 cent pieces. Designs of Australian wildlife will dominate the reverse of these coins.

On the 1 cent piece will appear Australia's feather tail glider, the smallest of gliding marsupials. It is strictly nocturnal and is quite common in the forests of the eastern area of the island continent. Its most common nickname in the bush is *flying mouse*, which gives an idea of its size.

The 2 cent piece will carry a likeness of the frilled lizard, found only in the tropical north of Australia. It grows to about 3 feet in length, mostly tail. It is harmless, but when cornered, presents a gaping, hissing mouth in the middle of its brightly coloured neck frill.

The 5 cent coin will feature a likeness of the echidna, or spiny ant eater, one of nature's two egg laying mammals (the other being the platypus). Like the hedgehog, it depends on its spines for protection, rolling up into a tight ball when frightened. The adult echidna is about 18 inches long and abounds in every part of Australia. A related species is found in New Guinea.

The lyrebird reproduced on the 10 cent piece is the male of the species as it appears when dancing and singing with its magnificent tail expanded and thrown forward over its head. It is a famous mimic, about the size of a pheasant, and inhabits the dense damp forests from southern Queensland to Victoria.

The 20 cent piece shows the platypus, Australia's other egg laying mammal, which suckles its young and is found in the rivers and creeks on the eastern side of the island continent. It is about the size of the echidna, has webbed feet, rich short fur, and swims with the skill and dash of a seal.

The coat-of-arms on the 50 cent piece is supported by a kangaroo and an emu. The kangaroo is Australia's biggest marsupial, and one of the various species is found in every part of the commonwealth. The doe, which develops to 4 or 5 feet in height, gives birth to a *joey* only an inch or so long. The *joey* completes its development in its dam's pouch. The emu is the second largest bird in the world, surpassed in size only by the ostrich. The male bird incubates the eggs and cares for the young chickens when hatched. Until pushed back by settlements, the emu ranged over the length and breadth of Australia.

This completely new, integrated series will replace a coinage that has suffered from having been built up piecemeal over the last 54 years.

The sheep motif on the current shilling will be discarded because the animal is not a native of Australia. The wheat motif on the threepence will be missing from the new series because it is not a specimen of wild life. Both will reappear in the designs of one of the new dollar decimal notes.

The diameter of the 50 cent piece will be approximately half way between that of the current Australian penny and the British and New Zealand half crown. It will be significantly thinner than the Australian penny.

Coin	Diameter (inches)	Weight (grains)	Composition
Silver			
50 cents (5/-)	1.240	200	80% silver, 20% copper
Cupro-Nickel			
20 cents (2/-)	1.122	174.6	} 75% copper } 25% nickel
10 cents (1/-)	0.929	87.3	
5 cents (6d.)	0.764	43.6	
Bronze			
2 cents (2.4d.)	0.850	80	} 97% copper } 2½% zinc, ½% tin
1 cent (1.2d.)	0.690	40	

The 20 cent, 10 cent, and 5 cent coins will have the same weight as the existing Australian silver florin, shilling, and sixpence, respectively but will vary one or two thousandths of an inch in their diameters to bring them into line with comparable British cupro-nickel coins. The change in the alloy will necessitate a slight increase in



their thickness, depending upon the height of the relief finally approved.

The diameter of the 2 cent coin has been fixed as far as possible from the new 10 cent coin, to alleviate the problem of coin rejection in coin operated machines. The thickness of the 2 cent coin is not likely to be significantly different from that of the 10 cent coin, nor is that of the 1 cent likely to differ greatly from that of the 5 cent coin.

The bird and animal designs on the reverses as well as the lettering on the obverse are the work of Melbourne artist Stuart Devlin. The Queen's effigy was done by a British artist, Arnold Machin, and was personally approved by Her Majesty for use on the coins of Commonwealth countries.

The Melbourne mint has already begun production of the 1 cent piece. The other coins are expected to be made by the end of 1965.

Inscriptions on the new coins will combine dignity with simplicity. On the left of the Queen's portrait will appear *Elizabeth II*, and on the right, *Australia 1966*. Many numismatists may have nostalgic memories of the days when Australian coins bore Latin inscriptions of some complexity. The first Australian coins carried the legend *Edwardus VII D. G. Britt. Omn. Rex, F. D. Ind. Imp.* Even in later simplified versions such as *Elizabeth II Dei Gratia Regina F. D.*, these inscriptions have only limited meaning and significance for the average Australian. The new inscriptions will positively identify the Queen's effigy, will identify each coin as Australian, and will bear a date.

Priority in production will be given the two bronze coins, the 1 cent and 2 cent pieces—the only two which do not have an exact equivalent in existing coinage. There will be no exact replacement for the threepence.

Initially there will be no \$5 bill, as there is no exact equivalent in the pound, shilling, pence system. The new Australian dollar will equal and replace the 10 shilling note. A \$2 bill will replace the 1 pound note, a \$10 bill will replace the 5 pound note, and a \$20 bill will replace the 10 pound note.

It is proposed that the various notes be issued in basic colours—\$1 in brown, representing the new value for the brown 10 shilling note; \$2 in green, replacing the green 1 pound note; \$10 in blue, replacing the blue 5 pound note, and \$20 in red, replacing the red 10 pound Australian note.

At the time of the changeover, all Australian banks are expected to close for three or four days, while adjusting their machines and procedures to the new coinage system. Dealing only in money, banks are expected to be the only institutions which convert completely at one stroke. All other businesses will operate on both systems for a period envisioned at 18 months to 2 years, and will convert completely at their convenience. Most transactions can be handled on either system, simultaneously, as most new coins have an exact equivalent.

From "The Numismatist", Feb. 1965.

PROFESSOR SIR JOHN RANKINE BROWN

K.B.E., LL.D.(Hon.), M.A., F.N.Z.I.A., 1861—1946

(A review of the short biography of Sir John Rankine Brown by Phillip P. O'Shea).

Sir John Rankine Brown was born in 1861 in Scotland and educated at Madras College and later at St. Andrew's University, from which he graduated M.A. with the Guthrie Scholarship in Classics and English, at the age of twenty. He studied at Oxford, then returned to St. Andrew's University as an assistant professor. In 1886 he was appointed a senior assistant professor at Glasgow University, where his students included John Buchan, the distinguished author, later Lord Tweedsmuir, Governor-General of Canada.

In 1899, he became the Foundation Professor of Classics at the new Victoria College, Wellington, New Zealand. Professor Brown was to give 47 years service to the University, a record eclipsed by few university leaders in the world. His students and friends thought very highly of him; to his students he brought the ancient Greeks to life. He was Chairman of the Professorial Board for three terms, and he gave valued services to the University Senate between 1903 and 1937, and was Vice-Chancellor of the University of New Zealand from 1923-27. He retired from the Chair of Classics in 1946 at the age of 84, but he continued to further his knowledge, and devoted time to his numismatic hobby. He was a foundation member of the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand, and gave long and valued services to the Society. His papers on Roman and Greek coinage will be hard to equal.

Professor Brown had several honours bestowed upon him, including an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from St. Andrew's University in 1927; a Fellowship of the New Zealand Institute of Architects; and in 1946 he was made an Emeritus Professor. His greatest honour came in 1946 when he was created a Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (K.B.E.), for his services to the Dominion. Unfortunately he did not live to receive the accolade and insignia of the Order.

A fitting and last memorial to Sir John Rankine Brown is the new Arts and Library Building at Victoria University which is named after him, together with the library which he established, and also the college song which he wrote.

Mr. Phillip P. O'Shea has brought out the human side of Professor Rankine Brown—his traditional Scots democratic background, his interest in golf (he was born



near St. Andrews)) his scholarship, and his helpfulness to hundreds of students who were privileged to know him.

In the journals of our Society the scholarship of Professor Rankine Brown sets a standard that many may seek to emulate and few will achieve.

Phillip O'Shea is to be highly commended for renewing our tribute to New Zealand's grand old man of letters.

Note: A colour plate of Sir John Rankine Brown appears in the first printed R.N.S. Journal (Vol. 4, No. 1—1947), together with a tribute by Sir Thomas Hunter, K.B.E.

Waitangi Coins. A Waitangi set of New Zealand coins, 1935, in proof condition was sold by auction by John Cordy Ltd., Auckland, on 28th May, 1965, for £475; a Waitangi crown was sold for £295; and an Australian 1930 penny for £100. In USA the sales price for Waitangi sets is 2,000 dollars.

DECIMAL CURRENCY FOR NEW ZEALAND

In the 1964 Parliamentary session a Decimal Coinage Bill was passed to provide that the monetary unit of New Zealand shall be the dollar and cent, and this is to take effect on a date to be proclaimed, probably 10 July, 1967. This date will enable banks to close on the previous Friday to facilitate the changeover. This gives effect to the report of the 12-man Decimal Coinage Committee 1957-61 on which the Society was represented by A. Sutherland and Captain G. T. Stagg.

There was general support in Parliament of the principle of decimal coinage which had been widely canvassed for so long, and approved by all representative organisations interested. The main question at issue was the name of the upper unit, and the supporters of "zeal", "dollar" and "crown" provided lively newspaper copy. Eventually, on 15 October 1964, the name "dollar" was confirmed on party lines, the voting being 36 to 32. Since then the advocates of "zeal" and other names have made attempts to have the name reviewed, but little interest is being taken, and most people are now looking forward to the advantages of the new system.

The Bill provides for the retention of the name "shilling" (in addition to "10 cents") to help in the changeover, and the highest value coin is the 50 cents, in copper and nickel. The Society asked for a commemorative dollar piece in silver for 1967 only, and the Government partly acceded to the request by including a dollar in copper and nickel. The Society has not accepted that decision and will attempt to have the content of the souvenir dollar changed to 80 per cent silver.

Under the Act, the Minister of Finance, Hon. H. Lake, set up a Decimal Currency Board. A Coinage Design Advisory Committee, set up earlier, was given legislative recognition.

DECIMAL CURRENCY BOARD

The members of the Decimal Currency Board are: D. W. A. Barker, now Secretary to the Treasury, who is Chairman. (He was Secretary to the Decimal Coinage Committee of 1933 set up by Rt. Hon. J. G. Coates); S. L. Moses, Managing Director, Maple Furnishings Ltd. (Deputy Chairman); R. N. Fleming, Chief Cashier, Reserve Bank of New Zealand, Wellington; B. L. Lyons, Advertising Manager, J. R. McKenzie Ltd.; E. J. Walker, Chief Accountant, National Bank of New Zealand Ltd., and G. E. Fineran, Director of Accounts, New Zealand Post Office (who has since died). The Secretary is J. N. L. Searle.

Mr. Fineran's place has been taken by Mr. F. D. Irvine. Mr. Moses assumed the position of Chairman in May 1965.

COINAGE DESIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The members of this committee are: J. N. L. Searle, Chairman; S. B. McLennan, Director of National Art Gallery; Professor J. Simpson, head of the Arts School, Canterbury University; Allan Sutherland, a past President of the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand, E. J. Walker, Chief Accountant, National Bank of New Zealand Ltd.; and Dr. A. H. McLintock, Parliamentary Historian.

BANK NOTE DESIGNS ADVISORY PANEL

The members of this panel appointed by the Reserve Bank of New Zealand are S. B. McLennan, Professor J. Simpson, and Dr. McLintock with R. N. Fleming, Chief Cashier, and G. Wilson, Governor of the Reserve Bank.

These bodies are busily engaged in completing the tasks allotted to them. Progress reports have been issued by Hon. H. R. Lake, Minister of Finance, and his Parliamentary Under-Secretary, R. D. Muldoon, M.P., who is the co-ordinating Cabinet member superintending the change-over.

A public competition for decimal coinage designs was held, and when these were sifted by the appropriate committee some New Zealand and overseas artists of note were commissioned to produce further designs. Shortly after the middle of the year the Government hopes to announce details of the approved designs.

PROOF COINS TO MARK THE LAST ISSUE OF L.S.D.

Sets of proof coins in special folders or packs will be made available for sale later this year to mark the last complete issue of New Zealand coins based on the pounds, shillings and pence system.

The folders will contain information about the coins and some details of the decimal system to be introduced in 1967.

This will be the third such proof issue since New Zealand adopted its own coinage in 1933.

As halfcrowns will be withdrawn from circulation from May 3 it is considered appropriate to strike a special issue including the half-crown which will no longer be minted after 1965.

From now until D.C. Day in July 1967 further minting of existing coins will be limited because work must start on the minting of some 200,000,000 decimal coins.

No price has yet been fixed for the 1965 proof sets as this is largely dependent on the costs of coin folders, packaging and other factors.

It is intended to issue proof sets of the new decimal coins, in the same form as the 1965 proof issue, when they become legal tender.

Treasury is anxious that these issues be regarded as

commemorative, historical, and therefore educational, sets and hopes that as many as possible will remain in New Zealand. Distribution will be primarily through the Bank of New Zealand, but the Society has arranged that it will obtain some sets for distribution to members, both local and overseas.

Numbers of coins to be minted have not yet been fixed. This will depend on the Royal Mint's capacity, but initial restrictions on individual purchases can be expected. This is reasonable in view of the intention that the sets should reach as wide a public as possible. However, at least two sets of the proofs should be available to each member. No restriction is anticipated on the non-proof coins.

Prices have not yet been fixed but will be announced as soon as possible. Members will be asked by circular to indicate their needs in writing to the Secretary, Box 23, Wellington.

CANBERRA MINT

The new decimal coin designs for Australia have excited interest. Most people are prepared to wait until the coins appear before giving an opinion. Then the skill of the designer and mint operatives will then be shown in bold and shallow relief.

Coin designs enable a country to proclaim its possessions, differences and achievements. Australia has gone back to fundamentals, to its original inhabitants. The Royal portrait symbolises the invisible ties of kinship that now link latitudes.

The Canberra Mint is claimed to be the first truly Australian mint. The century old mints in use at Melbourne and Perth were originally controlled from London. Formerly there was a mint in Sydney. In the 1850's the South Australian Government converted its assay office into a local or State mint to convert gold from nearby gold diggings into coins to relieve a shortage of currency media. Stokes and Martin struck copper traders' penny and halfpenny tokens for Australian and New Zealand use, so that that firm, too, operated a form of "mint" to relieve the shortage of coins.

The Canberra Mint has a daily capacity of one million coins, or 300 million coins a year, working one shift a day. Thirty tons of coins a week will be struck from 50 tons of metal, and the waste or scissel will be remelted. The number of silver and bronze coins in circulation in Australia is estimated at 1,500,000,000.

Lavish use of armour plating, bullet-proof glass and other materials have been used to make the Canberra mint bullet, bomb and fire-proof.

NUMISMATIC MECCA IN DETROIT

Rear Admiral O. H. Dodson, USN (Ret.),
Director of the Money Museum, National Bank of Detroit,
Detroit, Michigan, 48232.

Fortune tellers will tell you that human beings are interested in money and in love in about equal proportions. Money has a universal and fundamental appeal. It is difficult to conceive of anyone seriously indifferent to the magic of this word. A research scholar may hide in his sheltered cloister concentrating on the translation of Egyptian hieroglyphics, but money will take him to the Nile River and the Valley of the Kings. A research worker in pure science may feel far removed from monetary influence, yet it took two billion dollars of somebody's money to underwrite the development of atomic energy.

But today there exists more than a general interest in money. The collection and study of old coins as an avocation is world-wide and unchecked.

The weekly newspaper, **Coin World**, launched just five years ago in the United States, today has a paid circulation of 178,000 subscribers. With this sweeping interest in numismatics, when the magnificent and highly functional National Bank of Detroit building was being planned in 1959 in Detroit, Michigan, it seemed fitting that a museum devoted to the story of money be included.

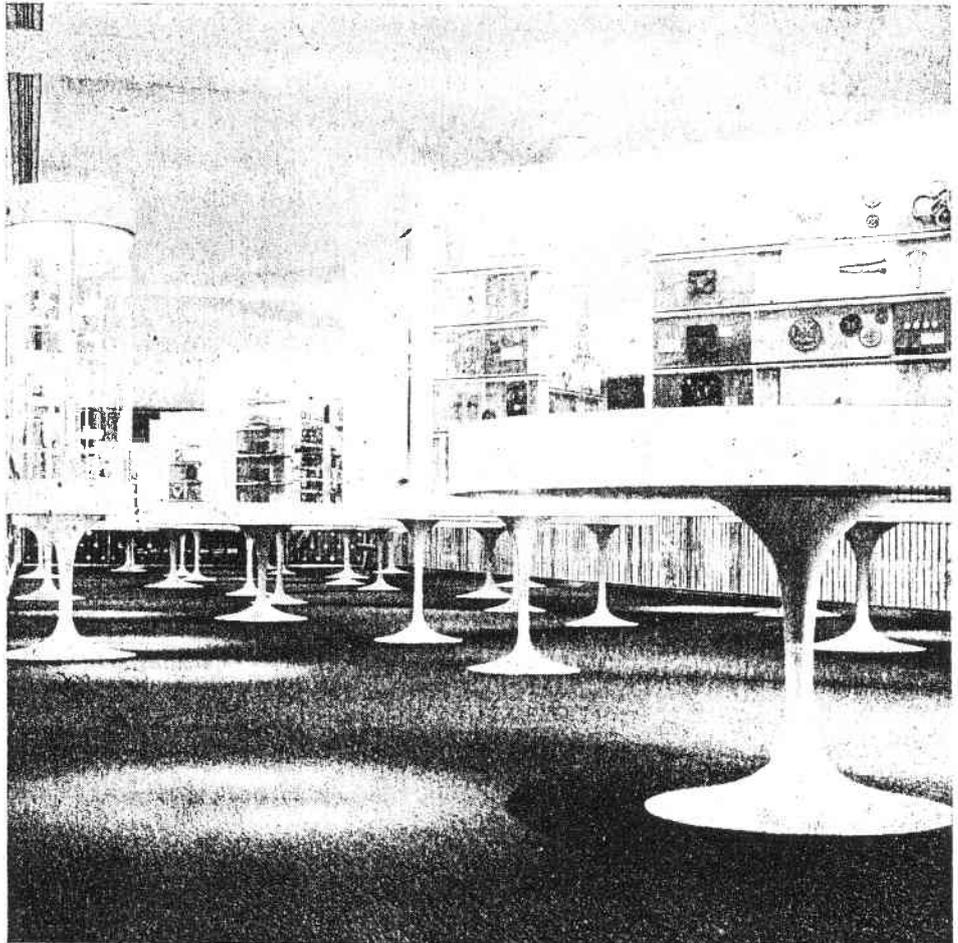
The display, readily accessible on the mezzanine floor of the main office of the bank in downtown Detroit, is not an ordinary museum. The collection was formed through many years of intensive effort by Nate S. Shapero, widely known Detroit merchant and philanthropist, and a member of the Board of Directors of the bank. The exhibit is remarkable in its diversity, truly notable for its rare gold coinage, and for the primitive media of exchange gathered from peoples the world over.

One display highlights the beaver. When Detroit was founded as a trading post in 1701, the most readily accepted "currency" was the beaver pelt. A fine beaver fur was worth three dozen middling fishhooks, or two small axes, a hat with headband, or ten pounds of pork, one pint of shot or two pints of powder, two yards of cotton cloth or five pecks of Indian corn. The beaver skin continued to circulate as the prime currency of the American Midwest long after 1793 when the first white men in New Zealand were collecting seal-skins for trade.

To the young collector, money may be glistening proof coins fresh from the mints of London, Calcutta or Philadelphia. But today's metallic coinage, almost universally used in the western world, has utterly failed to replace the hoary primitive forms of money still treasured on enchanting Pacific Isles, on palm-fringed atolls, and in village markets beside the slow-flowing Congo.

To collect samples of ancient and current primitive money from every climate and culture, and to gather specimens of coins used throughout twenty-six countries would be the work of a lifetime. Yet this towering task has been accomplished by Mr. Shapero.

The Museum's ancient primitive money display is mute evidence of prosperity and of cultures long vanished, of lost cities and jungle-guarded ruins. On display are clay tablets—the first known form of bank cheques—inscribed in the curious wedge-shaped cuneiform script by a writer



Display cases, Money Museum, Detroit.

who died when the historic world was young; delicate blue trade beads known to the pyramid-building Pharaohs; crude bars of silver and trade implements of bronze from the Oriental cradles of civilisation, some stamped with characters derived from the picture writing of the cave men. A rolled silver bar, used in the Russian city of Kiev in the ninth century A.D., recalls the Volga and Dnieper water roads and rustic trade routes extending to far-off Bagdad.

The exhibit of trade items from the early cultures of North and South America is impressive. The ice-locked Eskimos, the Aztec warriors who perished with Montezuma the Last, and the sun-worshipping, road-building

Incas never developed coined money. However, their bone fish spears, copper chisels and gold ornaments reflect a prosperous, widespread trade.

Along with barter items which kept the trade of the ancient world flowing, the earliest coins are displayed. Carrying a crude animal head, these coins first appeared in the markets of Lydia in Asia Minor about 650 B.C. The wild, cloud-soaring steed, Pegasus, decorates a coin of Corinth where St. Paul preached. On a crude coin of Athens is the adored goddess Athena backed by a



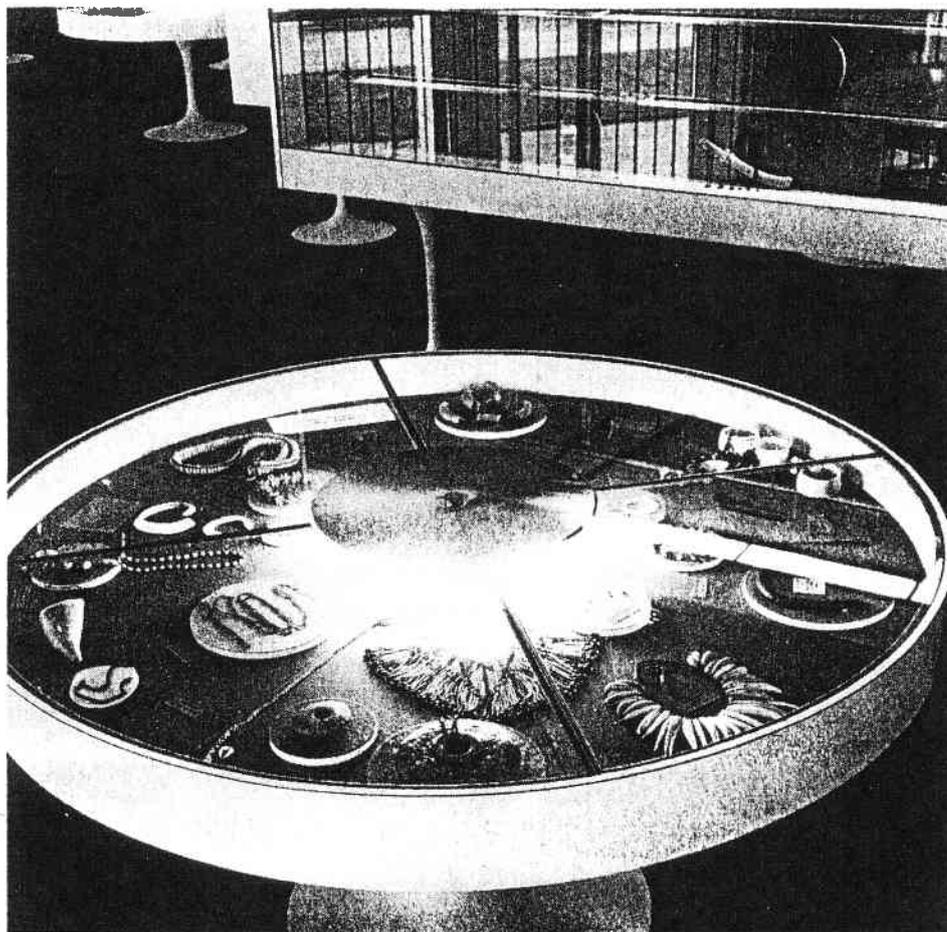
A rare silver necklace, made from melted Indian rupees and used as a storehouse of wealth by the hill people of northern Thailand, intrigues Ruth Street, Winsome National Bank of Detroit receptionist.

curious wide-eyed little owl—even today the symbol of wisdom. Another silver coin with the likeness of a horse—the heavy, raw-boned charger of the Macedonian cavalry—commemorates the victory of Phillip II in a horse race at Olympia. A silver coin with the likeness of a ram's head was used by Apollo worshippers at the Great Altar in Delphi. Other Hercules-decorated coins were received in pay by the invincible Macedonian soldiers who marched with Alexander to the end of the known world. Fragile cast bronze coins have survived from an era when Chinese students listened to the wisdom of Confucius and

Chinese labourers threw up the gigantic, forty-thousand-towered Great Wall.

Here are crude heavy coins cast in bronze which circulated in Rome when the infant Republic struggled for survival against rich and powerful Carthage, as well as Carthaginian silver pieces, showing the head of Persephone used by the battle-hardened African veterans who guided the elephants of Hannibal over the Alps.

It is a wonder that one type of coin, so tiny and frail, has survived—the bronze Lepta of the Jews, also called



A round exhibit-case displays trade beads, shells, boar tusks, shark teeth, necklaces of coconut fibre and of beetle-legs, each a valued trade item on a South Pacific Island. In foreground note two small stone "coins" from Yap Island and a sperm whale tooth necklace from the Fiji Islands.

the Widow's Mite—which was exchanged in the bazaars of Damascus and Bethlehem when Jesus taught on the shores of Galilee.

Visitors are intrigued by oval shaped Medieval gold and silver coins of Japan, up to six inches in length, issued by the world's oldest imperial dynasty, some still in use a century ago when the American Naval Officer, Commodore Matthew Perry, unlocked the hermit gates of this exotic land.

A Chinese Ming Dynasty paper bill printed on mulberry bark is the first known form of paper money. The

inscription glowingly describes the bill as "The Great Ming Universally Valid Precious Paper Money" and carries a grim warning that those who counterfeit the note will have their heads removed.

Also of particular interest is an intensive exhibit of currently used primitive media of exchange gathered by missionaries and traders from every part of the world.

In the turbulent Katanga province of the Congo, crude copper crosses will purchase a bride or a pig. In



Nate S. Shapero the owner of the Museum collection, Rear Admiral O. H. Dodson, U.S.N. (Ret.), the Museum Director, standing, and Mary Ellen Frahm, Museum receptionist, concentrate on a new, odd and curious currency display.

Equatorial Africa, from the Gold Coast to Ethiopia, cakes of salt, valued for preserving meat and fish, are used in payment of wages and taxes. The isolated Polynesian, happy in his metal-void coral atoll, barter in shark teeth, in tusks of the wild boar, and in bracelets fashioned from the shell of the giant clam. Indians of the Amazon River valley treasure necklaces of beetle wings.

The white, delicately shaped cowrie shell, valued by ancient man, recovered from prehistoric Egyptian, Chinese and Etruscan graves, remains a current money of New Guinea. During World War II primitive tribes of the interior spurned Australian and American money but gladly accepted cowries as payment for building airstrips in the jungle.

The Museum displays many varieties of the first money used in New Zealand. Spanish gold doubloons, silver Pieces of Eight, Dutch guilders and coins of eighteenth century England are prominently exhibited. In current coinage, issued since 1933, the kiwi and tui birds and the Maori warrior excite interest among both adult and student visitors.

Because most visitors to National Bank of Detroit's Money Museum appreciate having assistance in understanding the exhibits, college students, trained as guides, are provided for escorted tours of the numismatic displays and of the bank building.

Since the Money Museum opened in May, 1960 more than 185,000 visitors have viewed the displays. Students in particular (60,000 have toured the Museum) are impressed with the diversity of articles which have served mankind as money. The Museum staff is thrilled to observe the astonishment on the faces of imaginative students when they realise that these frail beads, spear heads, and coins have survived through centuries while empires have flourished and perished.

National Bank of Detroit's Money Museum is not the old-fashioned dry-as-dust type of museum. It attracts with a profusion of modern design and colour and fascinates with a view of man's economic and historical achievements as reflected in the money he has used. Its appeal is for everyone, for interest in money is universal.

CAPTAIN JAMES COOK MEDAL

The Hawaii State Numismatic Association has issued a medal to commemorate the 185th anniversary of the death of Captain James Cook, and the first convention sponsored by HSNA. Designed by Gordon Medcalf, president of the Honolulu Coin Club and Dr. George Oshiro, president of the HSNA, the medal depicts the bust of Captain Cook in high relief on the obverse.

On the reverse is a relief map of the Hawaiian Islands with the words OWHYEE SANDWICH ISLANDS, the original name, and the date 1779, being that of Cook's death. Below are the crossed flags of Britain and Hawaii, and the name of the Association and 1964 the year of the first convention held October 7-10 at the Reef Hotel.

KIRKCALDIE AND STAINS LTD.**CASHIER SAVED BY CORSET**

During the latter part of the nineteenth century, a shortage of copper coins in New Zealand caused a number of firms to issue their own 1d. and $\frac{1}{2}$ d. tokens. Only a very few of these firms are now in existence, and one has celebrated its centenary.

In Sydney, in 1883, Messrs. Kirkcaldie and Stains drew lots with two friends to decide the towns in New Zealand in which they would set up in business, not wishing to create competition for each other. Wellington was the place they drew. Their first place of business was built from the hull of the American ship "Inconstant", which had been wrecked on Barrett's Reef in 1849, and which had been used for many years by Mr. John Plimmer as his storehouse. The remains of this first shop were uncovered in 1899 when the foundations of the present Bank of New Zealand in Lambton Quay, were being laid.

Wellington, at that time, had a major reclamation programme in hand, and it was to reclaimed land that the partners moved their premises in 1868. At first only a corner of the present block was purchased but, as business grew, other buildings were bought until the whole of the Lambton Quay frontage of the block belonged to Kirkcaldie & Stains Ltd.

In 1898 the firm opened tearooms and here an incident, unusual enough to be mentioned in the firm's history, took place. A small Irish woman strode into the tearooms one day and, drawing a .45 revolver, shot the cashier, who fell to the floor. After firing two more shots in the direction of the cashier, she walked out with her smoking .45. Only one shot had hit the target and, as the cashier was wearing the then fashionable whalebone corsets, the only injury she suffered was a bruise. The reason for the attack was a lawsuit over the sale of an hotel on the West Coast in which they had both been involved. The Irish woman received a seven-year sentence for her part in what had turned from a tragedy into a comedy.

Mr. Stains returned to England in 1886 and the partnership was then dissolved but Mr. Kirkcaldie remained in Wellington and took an active part in the firm's activities until his retirement in 1918. With his death in 1925 a link with the city's history was broken.

JAMES HARPER.

DOUBLOONS

In 1784 the Bank of New York notified that it would receive Spanish doubloons, of a normal weight in gold of 17 dwt at 15 dollars, and for overweight coins 3d. a grain extra would be allowed, and 4d. a grain would be deducted for underweight coins.

THE ALEXANDRIAN TETRADRACHM

Perhaps the two most interesting facets relating to the coinage in the broad field of numismatics are the Greek and Roman series and of the latter more particularly the issues of cities with nominal independence within the Empire. Into this category fall the cities of Athens, Syracuse and of our immediate interest, Alexandria.

Founded by Alexander III of Macedon, who, in a fit of modesty named it after himself, this city has stood for over two thousand years on the north African coast, and although now rather obscure beside such modern metropolises as London or New York, in the heyday of Roman power it presented a picture of might and splendour rivalling that of Rome herself. As Venice was said to have held the East to fee, so could Alexandria have held the capital of the mighty Empire in similar bonds, for it was through the funnel of Alexandria that the produce of the wheat fields of Egypt was poured to make the trip across the Mediterranean to Ostia and thence into the well-nourished stomachs of a feckless and indolent Roman populace. Alexandria represented the trade and was the pivot of an Empire: and where there is trade, there is coinage, for these go hand in hand.

Alexandria was essentially a Greek town in a Roman world, and as such had a Greek tradition. It is not unnatural, therefore, that her coinage was of the Greek mode and denomination—the drachma. We cannot contrast the mean billon pieces of Alexandria and the beautiful creations of Athens and Syracuse and expect Alexandria to compare favourably. If the student is concerned primarily with artistic merit, the coinage of north Africa is not for him, for the lure of this series lies not in the merit of an Empire, shown in vivid lines on the reverse coin types, showing religion, commerce and war. My foremost interest is religion. The gods of Alexandria, like her coinage, were largely Greek in origin and Roman in continuation, a polyglot collection of deities from every corner of the Empire, with, for good measure, a sprinkling of gods from the wrong sides of the frontiers. The people were singularly adept at portraying their foible of god-collecting on their coinage.

Let us take an example, a billon tetradrachm of Hadrian; a good portrait in high relief. Hadrian was, incidentally, the eleventh Emperor to mint this Alexandrian denomination. Its originator was the Emperor Claudius. The legend reads "IMP.CAES.TRAJ.HADRIANVS AVG."

On the reverse is a symbolic portrait of the god, Serapis, and the legend "L.ENNEA.K.D." I discovered that Serapis or Sarapis was a corruption of the compound noun Oseris-Apis, and as a god was presented to the city

by request, at the instigation of the first Ptolemy. It embraced many gods within itself, and is thought by some to be a Greek embodiment of the Hebrew Zion. Jupiter Dis, Osiris and Pater Dis are just a few of the many embodied in the one being, and it was perhaps this which gave to the god an appeal reaching far beyond the walls of Alexandria. "Serapis conquers all things" runs the inscription on a gem of Gallic manufacture. The doctrine was not unlike other religions of the time, in particular Christianity, with its teachings of life after death, and indeed the wandering teachers of the god seemed to be forerunners of the mendicant friars of mediaeval Europe. Such, then was the god, Serapis.

Now for the legend, as mentioned above. Language represents one of the greatest barriers to the numismatic investigator; not content with using foreign alphabets, the Roman issuing authority insisted on the use of abbreviation, to such a degree as to make many legends practically indecipherable. This case was no exception. The words were, I reasoned, almost sure to be a proper name but an exhaustive search through several references failed to yield any information. A consultation with a fellow member, however, made the whole meaning clear. The legend was translatable as follows; the "L" was a device used by the Greeks to denote the term year, the starting point being the first year of the then current Emperor, while the remainder of the legend was a contraction of the words "ENNEA K (AI) D(EKATON)", translating into something approaching Emperor Caesar Augustus.

All this from a single coin! Such information can be gleaned by following up the local or provincial coinage of the Empire and is of particular value to the historian confronted by the problem posed by the breakup of the Roman system.

Why, then, one may ask, pick upon the Alexandrian coinage? The answer is simple. Alexandria, as I hope I have made clear, was a bustling city of vital importance to the Roman commercial system, and, as such, required an almost constant supply of coinage. Issues were, in fact, almost "day to day", presenting a fascinating picture of contemporary events. The coinage of this great city must almost have constituted the daily newspaper of the African coast as far as events in the capital and even local events were concerned.

For those, therefore, who wish to combine the majesty and pomp of the Roman Empire with a faint tang of the glory that was Greece there is little need to go beyond the billon tetradrachm of Alexandria.

A. J. SIMPSON.

The National Mint, Canberra, will have a "glassed-in observation gallery for tourists to see the minting of coins."

PRESBYTERIAN COMMUNION TOKENS

In New Zealand more than a century ago Presbyterian ministers, when farewelling some parishioners at the church doors, pressed into the hands of a few selected worshippers a lozenge or round or oval shaped lead or metal token which was an invitation to a communion table at a future service. The receipt of a token was a mark of favour. In later years communion cards were given.

Some metal tokens for New Zealand churches have survived, and the few nearly complete collections bear witness to the devoutness of the pioneers of the "horse and buggy days". Some tokens bear the name of the church and usually the text "This do in remembrance of me".

Recently issued from the Hawthorn Press, Melbourne, is a book "COMMUNION TOKENS", The Australian, New Zealand, and Miscellaneous Series" by R. M. Greig, Tranmere, South Australia, Harry Robinson, Auckland, N.Z. and W. W. Woodside, Pittsburgh, USA. In the miscellaneous series by W. W. Woodside, the following countries are dealt with, Europe, Africa, Asia, New Hebrides, South America, West Indies, and unattributed tokens.

In recording the New Zealand series in detail Harry Robinson has paid a tribute to the late Harry G. Williams, of Dunedin, for his original work in recording his tokens, and to Allan Sutherland for supplementing that list in "Numismatic History of Zealand", and for the both of them sharing their duplicate and assembling a near-complete collection so that the head office of the Presbyterian Church itself, in Wellington, could possess not merely two or three specimens, but a fairly complete array of tokens as visible links with the faithful of the past.

For the first time Harry Robinson has given the exact inscriptions on the tokens, which are numbered with his own, and also Sutherland's numbers for comparison. Excellent illustrations serve to make the book a worthwhile reference. Much painstaking work has gone into the preparation of this book, and the authors are to be congratulated on the factual material they have assembled for the student and the collector. That Harry Robinson is not a Presbyterian places us even more in his debt. Copies may be obtained from Harry Robinson, P.O. Box 5189, Auckland. The price is 15s.

The pennants flown by Abel Tasman when he discovered New Zealand in 1642 are believed to have borne the letters VOC. This monogram appears on the 18th century copper and silver coins of Dutch East Indies, and stands for VEREENIGDE OOST-INDISCHE COPAGNIE, a Netherlandic company chartered in 1602 to carry trade by sea to the East Indies. For about two centuries the company maintained a fort and trading post at Batavia. No doubt Tasman's crew, and perhaps Tasman himself, carried some of these coins to facilitate minor shipboard exchanges.

MEETINGS

WELLINGTON

June 29, 1964, 33rd Annual Meeting: L. J. Dale, Chairman. The annual report and balance sheet were read and confirmed. Officers elected:

1964-1965

Patron: His Excellency Sir Bernard Fergusson.

President: B. G. Hamlin, Dominion Museum, Wellington.

Vice-Presidents: L. J. Dale*, Christchurch; Dr. L. K. Gluckman*, Auckland; H. G. Hughan*, Carterton; Captain G. T. Stagg*, Wellington.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. E. Ranger*, 10 Torwood Road, Wellington, N.5.

Hon. Treasurer: D. McDougall, Box 23, Wellington.

Hon. Editor: C. R. H. Taylor*, Wellington.

Hon. Associate Editor: A. Sutherland*, Auckland.

Hon. Auditor: W. Chetwynd, Wellington.

Keeper of the Roll: G. N. Balmer, Wellington.

General Council Members: E. J. Arlow, Wellington; R. G. Bell, Christchurch; J. Berry*, Wellington; M. H. Hornblow*, Wellington; Dr. J. T. Matthews, Taihape; Mr. Barker, Christchurch. *F.R.N.S.N.Z.

The retiring President presented a "Shakespeare" medal to Mr. W. Chetwynd, for his 25 years unbroken service as Hon. Auditor of the Society. A vote of thanks was accorded to retiring officers.

June 29, 1964. Mr. B. G. Hamlin, Chairman. Five new members were elected, R. N. Farrer, Taihape; Professor B. F. Harris, Auckland; G. Parkinson, Mt. Albert; John Cox, Wellington; Milton V. Blackburn, Abbotsford, Canada. A further discussion took place on the name of the decimal currency upper unit, but no conclusion was reached. Mr. W. Chetwynd gave a talk on the gold standard.

July 27, 1964. Three new members were elected, L. McPherson, Christchurch; Mr. Cole, Auckland; Miles Armstrong, Wellington. Correspondence received from Mr. Muldoon, M.P. on decimal coinage. Decided to approach the Decimal Currency Board on the possibility of issuing a gold coin to commemorate the introduction of decimal coinage. Mr. David Harcourt gave a paper on New Zealand coin varieties and was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his interesting research.

August 31, 1964. Three new members were elected: V. Goodier, Lower Hutt; J. L. Ahle, New York City; J. Mair, Auckland. The meeting discussed and deferred a

proposal by Dr. Gluckman that an embossed seal be obtained in place of the rubber stamp which fades quickly. Decimal coinage sizes, weights, compositions, names and denominations were discussed, and Messrs. Mitchell, Balmer, Berry and Hamlin were appointed a sub-committee to make appropriate recommendations. Mrs. Ranger spoke on a surcharged token of Grey and Menzies, Auckland, and Mr. Mitchell gave a talk on commemorative and other tokens of the world.

September 28th, 1964. A proposal for commemorative 5 and 10 dollar gold coins was discussed and deferred for further consideration.

New members were elected: Donald D. Hagquist, Rochester, USA; Paul Norris, Oxford, England; Matt Krzastek, New Jersey; R. M. Mensinger, Stockton, Calif.; R. Loudon, Eastbourne, Wellington; Wayne Gibson, Orange, Calif.; Alan Dawbin, Palmerston North.

Captain Stagg gave a talk on medals and their designs, and James Berry, discussed the designs of the Australian decimal coins.

November 2nd, 1964. Colonel Hughes of Auckland was welcomed.

New members were elected: J. R. Murtagh, Hastings; W. Geary, Hastings; J. Barchino, Brantford, Ontario; Burt J. Davis, Staten Island, New York; J. Flood, Maidstone, Ontario; M. J. Mance, Redondo Beach, Calif.; Jerome O'Connor, Buffalo, N.Y.; Mrs. S. Pollett, Lower Hutt; F. S. Seymour, Blair Athol, South Australia; W. Wilson, Christchurch.

The decimal currency changes were discussed, and pleasure was expressed at the decision to strike a commemorative dollar in 1967, but members were far from satisfied to learn that the coin is to be in cupro-nickel.

Mr. James Berry was invited to submit designs for a Captain James Cook bi-centenary medal for 1969.

Mr. E. Horwood gave a talk on the history of the shilling and illustrated his address with fine specimens. Mr. James Berry discussed the designs of the coins.

November 30th, 1964. Two members were elected: G. J. Shapiro, Syracuse, New York, and C. Sluis, Rodlands, Calif. The Canterbury Branch offered assistance in striking a commemorative medal. This was ladies' night, and a film was shown by Mr. G. Ranger, through courtesy of B.P. The meeting terminated with supper at which a decorated Christmas cake was presented, by a member, for the occasion.

February 22nd, 1965. Five new members were elected: Wm. Youel, Bournemouth, England; L. C. Humphries, Dulwich, Australia; Master N. J. D. Raeside, Dunedin; Master G. Scoullar, Wanganui; R. H. Hole, Christchurch. Twelve "Journals" were returned by the Post Office as unclaimed mail, and the names were removed from the roll. (Croft, Durie, Greener, Hannaker, Kirkpatrick,

Salter, Selfridge, Sinclair (Wgton.), Slocum, Wark (Tauranga), Woodhams (Avondale), Weston, Mass., USA.

A short biography "Sir John Rankine Brown" by Phillip P. O'Shea was circulated, and this junior member was highly commended.

Illustrated reprints from "New Zealand Medical Bulletin", "Manley V.C. Surgeon General and other Medical Medallists of the second Maori War" were received from Dr. L. Gluckman, Auckland, for distribution to members of the Council, and appreciation was expressed therefor. Decimal coinage and names were further discussed. Mr. James Berry corrected an article in "Evening Post" on the Waitangi crown piece 1933. Mr. McDougall read an article on the new Canadian 1965 sets.

March 29, 1965. The following new members were elected: Mrs. L. Farquhar, Christchurch; Mr. F. Fletcher, Wellington; Mr. J. A. Hueber, Fort Wayne, Indiana, U.S.A.; Mrs. E. R. Morrison, Box 14, Taihape; J. F. Kaldelis, R.F. Cadet School, Waiouru; R. A. L. Batley, Aramoana, Moawhango, Taihape; I. Gregory, Box 210, Taihape; G. Pomeroy, Waiouru; M. J. Ford, Waiouru; R. P. Sakey, Taihape.

Mr. R. Cole, Auckland, reported that he had found a New Zealand shilling 1958 with a small figure 8; also the D in New Zealand was smaller than the other letters in the name.

Mr. C. Winstone, Auckland, suggested that membership cards be issued giving each member a number that should not be re-allocated, even after the death of a member. This was deferred for consideration.

Dr. Matthews, Taihape, reported that a branch of the Society had been formed in Taihape, 12 intending members having attended, and nine other having intimated a willingness to join the branch.

Mr. P. O'Shea gave a talk on medals.

April 26, 1965. The following new members were elected: Clive R. Cresswell, Huntly; R. J. Gamble, Wellington; A. Block, Blenheim; R. A. Martin, Columbus, Ohio; A. R. T. Smith, Dunedin; Chris. Stewart, Auckland; Michael Waugh, Melbourne; Mrs. R. Anderson, Wellington.

A report by Treasury, that 25,000 proof sets of the last £ s. d. coins, including the halfcrown, would be issued in 1965, was discussed, and the meeting decided to ask Treasury to ensure that a sufficient number of sets be allocated for members of our Society.

Mr. James Berry discussed and displayed coin and medal designs and was accorded a vote of thanks.

* * *

At all meetings reported above (in Wellington and in Christchurch) coins and medals were exhibited and described, and numerous coin periodicals, including "Mintmark," Auckland, were tabled for the inspection of members.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

April 4, 1964. Mr. L. J. Dale, Chairman. Miss Steven and Mr. Barker, Christchurch, were among those present. The meeting decided to appoint a committee, Messrs. Arlow, Chetwynd, Hamlin, and Captain Stagg, to recommend amendments to simplify and condense the rules. A proposal to increase the annual subscriptions was deferred.

November 30th, 1964. Mr. B. G. Hamlin, Chairman. Messrs. Dale and Barker, Christchurch, were among those present. Consideration was given to a proposal that bronze and silver medals be issued in 1967 to commemorate decimal coinage in New Zealand, also that the bi-centennial of the landing of the first white men in New Zealand with Captain Cook be similarly commemorated. Deferred for further consideration.

February 1, 1965. The meeting decided that subscriptions should be increased to meet increased postages, printing costs, and inflation generally.

The new subscriptions, to take effect for the Society's financial year commencing 1st June, 1965, or after advance subscriptions have expired, are:

Annual—£1 (N.Z. Currency).

Composite Life Subscriptions—£N.Z.12.10.0, members resident in USA and Canada 40 dollars.

Junior members to 18 years, including students at universities, 7s. 6d.

Decided that the Society strike silver and bronze medals (a) in 1967 to mark the introduction of decimal coinage, and (b) in 1969 for the bi-centennial of landing of Captain Cook and his men in New Zealand.

A life membership was conferred on Mr. W. Chetwynd. The meeting decided that in accordance with rule 19 any member in arrear in subscriptions would have his or her name deleted from the roll.

May 17, 1965. By courtesy of Dr. Falla the meeting was held at the Dominion Museum. Mr. B. G. Hamlin presided. A formal motion was passed confirming the establishment of a branch of the society at Taihape, and congratulating Taihape members on the event. The Council offered any assistance needed.

The seal of the society was discussed, and Mr. J. Berry was asked to submit a new design.

The New Zealand Numismatic Journal was discussed by Mr. A. Sutherland who said that a double-sized issue was being printed. Strenuous efforts had been made to issue a *Journal* by 1 June, to advise members of new developments on the proof coin issue, and formally to convene the annual meeting, but these efforts had been unsuccessful, and circulars would be sent to members. A more representative editorial committee should be set up at the annual meeting, say one representative from

Auckland, Wellington, and Christchurch, and the President.

The venue of meetings was discussed at length, also the custody of the Society's property, and the requirements of the rules of an incorporated society.

The distribution of proof sets to members was discussed, including the favourable reaction of Treasury to the Society's request for the reservation of three proof sets for each member of the society (additional sets to be the responsibility of each member to secure). Members will be invited by circular to indicate their requirements, to Box 23, Wellington. (See report elsewhere in this issue).

Mrs. Ranger submitted her written resignation as Hon. Secretary, to take effect at the annual meeting, to be held on 28 June. Members present expressed appreciation of Mrs. Ranger's long and valued services to the Society.

CONTRIBUTIONS INVITED

Members are invited to submit for publication short articles and illustrations on numismatic subjects. Extracts from articles printed will be considered provided they are brief and the sources are acknowledged. Copies of papers read before numismatic societies will be welcome. They should be typed double space, and the length of papers or articles submitted for publication should not exceed 2,500 words.

Letters to the Hon. Editor should be addressed to Box 23, Wellington, New Zealand.

CANTERBURY BRANCH

May 18th, 1964. Mr. L. Morel, Chairman. Members discussed the type of designs they preferred for the new decimal coins. Decided to press for a crown-sized coin in the new decimal coinage.

June 15th, 1964. Miss M. K. Steven gave an address, illustrated by slides, "Visit to Olympia", which gave a new light on happenings at Olympia at the time of the ancient Olympic Games.

July 20th, 1964. The branch recorded its appreciation of the services given by L. J. Dale as President of the Society. Mr. Dale spoke of some of the pleasures and romantic stories that had given coin collecting a worthwhile interest to him. He spoke at length on Edward VIII, and exhibited an extensive series of coins and medals to illustrate his talk. He also exhibited a doubloon and guinea—so-called treasure trove gold coins—and primitive forms of currency. The holey dollar and dump of Australia were also shown.

September 21st, 1964. Mr. J. Parry gave a paper on The Constantine Family and illustrated the paper with coins and enlarged drawings of coins.

October 19th, 1964. Members discussed the proposed name of "dollar" for the new decimal currency unit, and decided to write to the Minister of Finance stating that there were too many other countries using that name (which has a big variability in value). New Zealand should adopt another name. Mr L. Morel gave an interesting paper "The Fables, Facts and Fascinations of Gold."

November 16th, 1964. The meeting discussed a letter from the Parliamentary Under-secretary to the Minister of Finance on the name "dollar" as the unit of currency for New Zealand; members considered that the basis of their objection to the name had been missed, but decided that no good purpose would be obtained in continuing the correspondence. This was the 17th annual meeting of the Branch (111th meeting) and Mr. L. Morel read his annual report which was adopted. Decided to become an institutional life member of the Association of Friends of the Museum and to pay £5 therefor. Appreciation was expressed for the continued use of a meeting room in the Museum.

OFFICERS 1965 CANTERBURY BRANCH

Chairman: Mr. L. Morel.

Vice-Chairmen: Messrs. Peers and Salter.

Hon. Secretary: Mr. Rose.

Hon. Treasurer-Trustee: Mr. L. J. Dale.

Council representative: Mr. Barker.

Committee members: Messrs. Bell, Thomas and Ridley.

Hon. Librarian: Mr. Wilson (Museum Librarian).

Hon. Auditor: Mr. Tibbs.

Consideration was given to a proposed display of coins and medals to coincide with the Pan-Pacific Arts Festival in February. Commemorative coins and medals for New Zealand were discussed. Mr. Bell spoke on the numismatic exhibition held in Melbourne in October.

February 15, 1965. Appreciation was expressed for the co-operation given by Messrs. Ballantynes in a numismatic window display.

Mr. L. J. Dale referred to the reports of discoveries in the wreck of a bullion ship found off the Florida coast.

Mr. Eric Price read a paper on "Known South Island Traders' Notes". He dealt with four prominent traders and gave an interesting summary of the economic position of the time. He was accorded a vote of thanks.

March 15, 1965. Suggestions for fund-raising were put forward by Messrs. Squires and Morel who were invited to develop their proposals on their own account. Mr. Bell proposed that a levy of 10s. for senior members and 5s. for junior members be made for 1965 only, and this was agreed to.

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Members who want addresses of new members should send stamped addressed envelope to Hon. Secretary, Box 23, Wellington.

PROOF SETS OF NEW ZEALAND COINS

Interest of Members Safeguarded

The Society is doing its best to ensure that all members will have the right to apply for and receive a limited number of proof sets of New Zealand coins, 1965, including the half crown. This will be the last issue of £ s. d. denominations in New Zealand.

Decisions have not been made as to the packs in which the proof, and other coins dated 1965 will be made available, and the prices have not been fixed.

At this stage members are invited to write to the Hon. Secretary, Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand Inc., Box 23, Wellington, New Zealand, stating the number of sets they require. The Society hopes to be able to secure for members three proof sets each. Coins in excess of three proof sets, and coins in other packs required by members, will be supplied by Treasury, Wellington, to which orders should be directed.

No money should be sent to the Society or to the Treasury until the prices have been announced.

SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE

Subscriptions £1N.Z. for senior members and 7s. 6d. N.Z. for junior members are now due and are payable to Hon. Treasurer, Box 23, Wellington. See page 224 for full details of subscriptions.

MONEY

by Errol Mair, Sydney.

Money! Money! Coins! Money!
 Black, white, yellow, hard and cold,
 Molten, graven, struck and rolled;
 Eagerly sought—light to hold;
 Bartered, hoarded, bought and sold,
 Borrowed, stolen, squandered, doled:
 It's pleasure's spent—expressions vary—
 Spurned by the young, saved wise by the old;
 In ancient, medieval, to modern times, cared
 By tyrants, kings, emperors and natives bored
 From childhood days, to e'ry grave's mould.
 From childhood days, to
 A vandal's means—and many crimes unfold;
 Copper! Silver! Bronze! Gold!
 Good or bad in all ages told,
 But how vast its agencies vary—
 To some—to ruin—to curse unreckoned—
 Even in these days of 'Beth the Second
 Our minted coins—no uniformity—dismal!
 But slowly ever slowly, countries now, use decimal.
 The "Denarius" was Rome's silver standard
 From B.C. Two-hundred and sixty-nine;
 Its weight was then heavy, and silver fine,
 But was reduced in Nero's reign candid.
 This was the first reduction in weight
 Of millesimal-fineness and grain;
 But there was to be a much worse fate—
 By lusty "Caracalla"—for gain.
 He debased the coinage to such an extent
 That most emperors dare take heed;
 They furthered decay of artistic intent'
 By not adhering to Rome's need.
 Gallienus struck copper-money
 And gave it a silvery-wash;
 He called it "Denarii"—s'not funny
 Twas Rome's most inartistic cash,
 But was revived by Diocletian—
 The cruel emperor who dared
 Put right his crimes, by substitution
 Of new coins, and art—not lives spared.
 Denarii had now grown thin and old
 And made way for new times
 By fading into the obvious cold
 World of decay—"Rome's clime".
 Money! Money! Ancient Money!
 From Abraham's time strange shapes unfold;
 'Twas not square nor round, and funny
 As may seem, metals replaced herds, I'm told,
 Consisting of Weights—Silver—Gold!
 Books have taught of these tawdry days;
 Money-systems primitive, of shekels and scales
 More modern than the older ways
 Of stone-ducks from China; Egypt's oval-stones
 in bales

And to equal "one half, and third manna" in
all single sales.
Long since have these days gone by;
When simple trade made many pursue
Larger profits, whilst some would sigh
And hope for a change of revenue
To bring peace of mind that their gods then
knew.

Letter to Editor

IND IMP

Sir,

India became independent in 1947 and our coinage for 1948 onwards had the title "Emperor" deleted. If you take a look at English and Australian coins you will find that the title is still in the legend for that year. Why? I have not seen any other Commonwealth coins for that year for a long time, so I cannot say if they have retained "Ind. Imp."

—R.J.T.

The Deputy Master of the Royal Mint, Melbourne, to whom this enquiry was referred, replied:

"As to the query concerning the omission of the words "Indiae Imperator", from inscriptions on coins the following extract from the Annual Report of the Deputy Master and Comptroller for 1947 makes it clear—

ROYAL STYLE AND TITLES.—By the Indian Independence Act, 1947, the Parliament of the United Kingdom assented to the omission of the words "Indiae Imperator" from the Royal Styles and Titles. Necessary legislation by Dominion Parliaments for the change had not been passed by the end of the year. The final step required an Order in Council and was not taken till 23rd June, 1948.

This change will affect the inscriptions on coins, medals and seals and the Royal Cypher. For various reasons it is considered highly desirable that the changes to be made in respect of coinage should coincide with the annual change in the date, in order to minimise both the waste of tools and the fall in press output entailed for a time by new dies."

THE AUSTRALIAN COIN CATALOGUE 1964

A complete listing of Australian regal coins to 1964, with values, is contained in "The Australian Coin Catalogue" edited by John Gartner, F.R.N.S. and Associate Editors S. V. Hagley, F.R.N.S., G. C. Heyde, F.R.N.S., O. C. Fleming, S. Macaboy, R. M. Greig, M. B. Keain, John Dean, and D. P. Moorhead. This distinguished array of numismatic talent guarantees the authenticity of the publication. It is a necessary work for all students and collectors in this field.

Subjects include the Australian regal coinage, mint-marks, coin types, composition, grading and varieties. The holey dollar and the dump, and also patterns are dealt

with. Each denomination is shown pictorially from G. C. Heyde's collection, and all the dates, mints, mintages, and relevant details are given with values shown for fine, very fine, extra fine and uncirculated.

Proof coins are dealt with separately, then gold coinage, internment camp tokens, New Guinea coins, which are now a closed book for the Australian-held territory. Finally the scarcity of Australian coins is referred to, and type sets are listed. Those who want type sets only will need a total of forty coins to 1964.

Australia is on the eve of changing to decimal currency, and the issue of this handbook of issues and values is opportune in helping the tardy numismatist to seek to fill the gaps, even from circulation, if he wishes to possess a complete collection of Australian coins.

The price of the book is 10s. 6d. The printer was The Hawthorn Press, 15 Guildford Lane, Melbourne. Much meticulous work has been put into the compilation of this book which is a ready reference of issues and values. This book is a very good investment for numismatists. My copy is from Owen Fleming.

—A.S.

SECRET OF UNIVERSE

The scribe, the Pharisee, and the sage, were discussing the secret of the universe.

Said the scribe, "Knowledge is the secret of the universe. With acquirement and spread of knowledge, mankind will become wise, and will eliminate disease, and even death itself."

Said the Pharisee, "Law is the secret of the universe. Law teaches right from wrong. It sets a standard, a code of ethics, and is a yardstick for measuring character. Without law, even the law of the jungle, mankind could not exist."

Said the sage quietly, "Time is the secret of the universe. Without time, nothing could exist. It is the basic ingredient of all things. Its origin is unknown. It is everlasting, and indestructible. Everything else has a limit of existence. This is called a lifespan. Time is the only element known that cannot be contained or controlled."

ALF PALMER.



On right is a "broken back" shilling, 1942, discovered by Mr. R. J. Taylor. There is a break between the band of the piupiu (skirt) and the back of the warrior. Specimens in very good condition are very difficult to find.

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MEMBERS' SPECIALTIES AND WANTS

The following schedule has been compiled for the benefit of Members of our Society and it will be repeated in every issue of the Journal unless cancelled or alterations authorised by the member concerned. All members have the right to have their names included and a small charge is made for each line for each issue. Use registered post or insure parcels when sending specimens by post.

**ADAMS, D. Phillip, El Dorado Coin and Stamp Shop,
Lihue, Kauai, Hawaii.**

Carry Dansco value books for Coins of British Oceania and coin folders for N.Z., Australian and Hong Kong. Buying, selling and trading coins of the U.S., Canada, British Oceania and Great Britain. Carrying catalogue books on the values and mintage figures of British and Canadian coins. Write for "The Garden Isle Trading Post" which lists the buying, selling and trading rates offered by El Dorado Coin and Stamp Shop.

**ALLEN, H. Don, F.R.N.S., 788 Laflamme Street, P.O. Box
2200, Chigougamau, Quebec, Canada.**

Specialties: Bank note issues, especially Commonwealth countries, and metallic tokens relating to transportation.

**ALLEN, Theodore Jr., Arizona State University, Tempe,
Arizona, U.S.A.**

Specialty—Silver dollars and taes of China and Tibetan coins. Sellers please write.

ARLOW, E. J., 68 Dixon St., Wellington.

Specialty—World Coinage all dates. Exchanges available.

ATKINSON, D. O., F.R.N.S.N.Z., Takanini, Auckland.

Medals and Badges, especially Australasian and Colonial.

BALMER, G. N., 4 Carrington St., Wellington.

Specialty—world gold coins.

BELL, R. G., 50 Murray Place, Christchurch.

Wanted to buy or exchange: New Zealand and Australian tokens, commemorative medals, medalets, coins. Correspondence welcomed.

BERRY, JAMES, F.R.N.S.N.Z., G.P.O. Box 23, Wellington.

Commemorative Medals of all types with particular emphasis on artistic angle, also Illustrated Books of same.

BETTON, James L. Jr., P.O. Box 533, Santa Monica, California, U.S.A. Zip 90406.

Specialty: Trade tokens of England and Australasia. Write.

BURDETT, L. J., 19 Whenua View, Titahi Bay, N.Z.

Specialty—Coins generally, and Church Tokens.

F. C. J. COOK, 344 River Road, Hamilton.

Specialty—Gold and Crown size coins of the world. Exchanges available.

CRAIGMYLE, J., P.O. Box 99, Wanganui.

Specialty—Gold Coins.

Wants—N.Z. Waitangi Crown 1935.

CROSS, W. F. W., P.O. Box 210, Tauranga.

Specialty—N.Z. Coinage. Exchanges available.

DENNIS, E. R., 172 Nelson St., Invercargill.

Specialty—Old English, Roman, and general.

FOWLER, F. J., P.O. Box 24, Tawa, Wellington.

Specialty—Coins of Pacific Countries.

FREED, A. J., 28 Abbott St., Ngaio, Wellington.

Specialty—Coins generally.

GASCOIGNE, A. W., 16 Brecon Rd., Stratford, N.Z.

Wants—William IV half sov. small head 1834, also Crown piece proof or pattern 1831.

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and EUROPEAN CROWNS 1700-1800**

by **John S. Davenport.**

These, the first two of three volumes, have been brought up to date before reprinting and new valuation lists compiled.

The last will be published during 1965.

This will also be revised, and a new valuation list prepared.

Price: £4/3/- each—Post free.

GEARY, Bill, Post Office, Hastings.

Wanted to buy, or exchange Indian Head cents and Lincoln Head cents. All correspondence answered. Also old English coins.

GIBSON, J. L., R.R.1 Fort Erie, Ontario, Canada.

Specialty—Commemorative coins, British Maundy sets, foreign proof sets.

GOURLAY, E. S., F.R.S.N.Z., 124 Nile Street, Nelson.

Specialty—Hammered English silver and gold coins, from Ancient British to Charles II—also wants to buy same.

GRAYDON, J. R. C., 7 Plymouth St., Karori, Wellington.

Medals—British Campaign Medals and Decorations.

HORWOOD, W. E., F.R.N.S.N.Z., 6 Highbury Rd., Wellington.

Specialty—English and Roman Coins.

HUGHAN, H. G., F.R.N.S.N.Z., P.O. Box 48, Carterton, N.Z.

Specialty—World Gold Coinage, and Coins of the Realm.

HUNT, C. G., King's Bldg., Victoria St., Hamilton, N.Z.

Specialty—Historic N.Z. Coins and Medallions.

JEFFERY, F. J., Coins of the World, Milksham, Wilts, England.

For Sale: All types English coins. Send for list in dollars or sterling. Send dollar for Elizabeth II set farthings BV.

KENT, William E., 256 N. Greenwood Avenue, Kankakee, Illinois (60901) U.S.A.

Dealer in coins of the world. I want to buy world coins and items of numismatic value. Payment on receipt of items sent. Your purchases may be returned post free if not to your satisfaction. I will buy junk along with better material—only fair way.

KIRKWOOD, James, 4484 Douse Av., Cleveland 27, Ohio, U.S.A.

Wants—Notes of British Commonwealth.

KOONCE, WILLIAM D, 669 Barrenjoey Rd., Avalon Beach, N.S.W., Australia.

Specialty—Australian, N.Z. and U.S.A. coins, tokens, paper money, orders and medals. Correspondence invited.

MADDEN, I. B., M.A., F.R.N.S., F.S.A. (Scot), Rosslea, 15 Belvedere Street, Epsom, Auckland.

Specialty: English and Irish silver coins all periods. Member American Numismatic Assn., and numerous other historical, heraldic, antiquarian and genealogical societies throughout the world. Vice-Pres. Auckland Historical Soc.

McCLEW, J. M., P.O. Box 9363, Newmarket, S.E.

Specialty—English and British coinage.

McNAUGHT, C. M., P.O. Box 166, Wellington.

Stamps and Coins including U.S.A. and Canadian Dollars. N.Z. and Australian commemorative coins and early English silver coins, especially crowns.

MENSINGER, R. M., 8948 Stewart Lane, Stockton, California, U.S.A.

Specialty: Commonwealth Proof sets and BU coins before 1959. Wanted especially New Zealand, Australian and South African Proof sets. Will buy or trade for English or U.S. Coins.

MITCHELL, MRS. R., Lawson Park, Dunedoo, N.S.W., Australia.

Full set of Florins E.F. Will exchange for Australian or buy. Waitangi Crown: willing to pay well.

MOORE, RICHARD GEORGES, P.O. Box 459, Abbotsford, British Columbia, Canada.

Specialty—Canadian Pre-Confederation Bank Tokens and British Commonwealth Commemoratives in B.U. Will purchase or trade Canadian Silver Dollars for same. Correspondence welcomed.

MOREL, L. G., 165 Innes Rd., Christchurch 5.

Specialty: English tokens. German, Reichbank, State and City Inflation Notes. Purchase or exchange all other coins for same.

MURTAGH, J. R., 509 Windsor Ave., Hastings, N.Z.

Coins offered in exchange for Old Boys' weekly papers, "Magnet", "Gem", "Popular", "Nelson Lee", "Union Jack", Schoolboys' "Own", etc.

PARR, E. J., c/o Editor, "N.Z. Numismatic Journal", 2 Sylvan Avenue, Milford, Auckland.

For sale "Numismatic History of New Zealand", bound, blue cloth, issue 150, numbered, autographed (N.Z. gift exchange, barter, coins, medals, tokens and paper money). Illustrated. £40, including value-list of N.Z. tokens, 1960.

PEERS, W., 86 Halton Street, Christchurch 5, N.Z.

Wants crown sized coins of the world.

POLASCHEK, SERGEANT A. J., 21 Tui St., Burnham Camp, Canterbury, N.Z.

Specialty—Medals—British and Foreign.

PROWSE, A. E., 17 Charles St., Upper Hutt, N.Z.

Wants: British and Nazi war medals, also ribbons of all countries.

REMICK, J. H., C.P. 742 Haute Ville, Quebec P.Q., Canada.

Wants—Gold, silver and copper coins of British Commonwealth.

ROBERTS, J. P., 9 Nottingham Street, Westmere, Auckland.

Specialty: Mutiny medals—1857. With or without bars.

ROBINSON, H., P.O. Box 5189, Auckland.

Wanted N.Z. Tradesmen's Tokens, Church Tokens, and all or any material listed or not listed in the N.Z. Numismatic History of Allan Sutherland. Have exchange material or will buy.

ROUFFIGNAC, J. K. de, 94 Kauri St., Miramar.

Specialty—Medals and Gold Coins.

RUTHERFORD, R., 11 Princess Street, Newtown, Wellington.

Wants Overseas Coin pen friends.

SADD, A. A., 15 Marne St., Palmerston North.

Specialty—Roman Coins.

SCOTT, J. F., Dentist, Dannevirke.

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SIMPSON, A. J., 252 Graham's Road, Bryndwr, Christchurch.

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