

Volume 9 - No. 5 (29)

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# NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

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# PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED

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# INDEX TO THE JOURNAL

Many members intend to bind their *Numismatic Journals* and the need has arisen for a comprehensive index. Mr. T. P. Southern of 50 Kingsview Road, Mt. Eden, Auckland, has undertaken to supervise the editing of an index and has appealed to members for ideas and suggestions.

At present it is proposed to bind the first volume of the *Journals* (June, 1947, to December, 1952, consisting of Vol. 4, No. 1, to Vol. 6, No. 5 inclusive) to measure 1½ inches between covers. The second volume (January, 1953, to December, 1958, consisting of Vol. 7, No. 1, to Vol. 9, No. 5 inclusive) to also measure 1½ inches between covers.

It has been suggested that the index include abridged entries from the index to Vols. 1 to 3 of the cyclostyled *Reports* to make it complete and that the new index should be printed and sold to members.

All correspondence on this matter to Mr. Southern please.—Ed.

All correspondence relating to the N.Z. Numismatic Journal should be addressed to the Hon. Editor—J. C. M. Cresswell, 196 Panama Road, Mt. Wellington, Auckland, S.E.7.

# NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

of the

# ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED

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

VOL. 9

JULY to DECEMBER, 1958

No. 5 (29)

# THE RIGHT HONOURABLE VISCOUNT BLEDISLOE

G.C.M.G., K.B.E., D.Sc., F.R.N.S., N.Z.

"No Governor-General has made a deeper or more lasting impression upon New Zealand life than Lord Bledisloe, whose death has occurred at his home, Lydney Park, Gloucestershire. While in New Zealand as Governor-General from 1930 to 1935, Lord Bledisloe became such a popular figure, that when he returned with Lady Bledisloe twelve years later, on a goodwill mission on behalf of the Agricultural Society of England, his arrival was more of a homecoming than a welcome to a distinguished guest".

So wrote the leader-writer of the *Evening Post*, Wellington, on July 4, 1958. Lord Bledisloe's term of office coincided with an economic depression. On July 23, 1931, he participated in the first telephone call over the 12,000 miles between England and New Zealand. In 1931 too, our Society was formed, and his A.D.C., Sir John Hanham, helped the small band of enthusiasts in Wellington to draft the rules of the Society; later he arranged for Lord Bledisloe to give a paper before the Society and soon the Governor-General was our first Patron and welcome visitor on special occasions. The issue of the Society's portrait medal is the first tribute of its kind to any Governor-General of New Zealand. This followed Lord and Lady Bledisloe's gift to the nation of the Treaty House, Waitangi, Bay of Islands.

At the July meeting of the Society tributes were paid to the memory of our distinguished first Patron. Mr. G. Sherwood spoke of a day spent with Lord and Lady Bledisloe at their home at Lydney Park and of the very friendly welcome extended to him. Mr. Sherwood drove Lord Bledisloe from the small house where he was living to the big house about a mile away. This necessitated going down the drive to the main road, over a quarter of a mile along the main road and then up the drive leading to the big house and included the opening and shutting of several gates. Lord Bledisloe insisted on getting out of the car and opening and shutting the gates while Mr. Sherwood drove through, saying that he was not too old at 85 to open a few gates. In the big house which Lord Bledisloe had converted into six flats for elderly people, there were three rooms kept by him as a museum. Two hours were spent with Mr. Sherwood going over coins and other interesting items. Lord Bledisloe was specially proud of the gifts made to him by various bodies in New Zealand, many being of inlaid wood and some were Maori caskets containing addresses of welcome or farewell. Lord Bledisloe retained a remarkable memory, not only of New Zealand place names but also of its people, and asked after many by name, mentioning particularly Mr. Allan Sutherland, Mr. Johannes Andersen, Sir James Elliott and Mr. W. D. Ferguson. Altogether it was a delightful day and it was also the first appearance of Lady Bledisloe after an illness. There was no doubt that the years spent in New Zealand by Lord Bledisloe were among the happiest of his life and he retained a very close and most sincere connection with the country until the end.

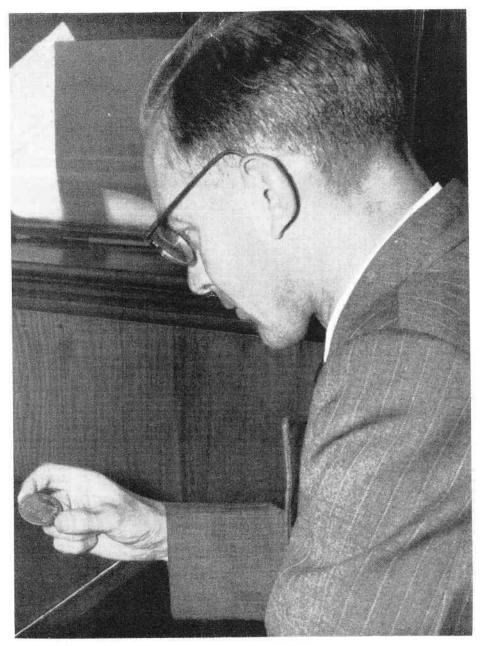
Mr. Allan Sutherland said that Lord and Lady Bledisloe and Sir John Hanham, all of whom had passed away, would always be remembered by the foundation members for their sincere friendship and help in the formative years of the Society. Mr. Sutherland added that his own father's birthday was on the same date, but a year later than that of Viscount Bledisloe, who would have been 91 years of age if he had lived to September 21. The Society's portrait medal was an enduring tribute to a great Governor-General and a link with a valued friend.

Mr. W. D. Ferguson told of Viscount and Viscountess Bledisloe's affection for the Society and mentioned that on the return visit to New Zealand they made special arrangements for a second afternoon meeting so that they could meet their old friends of the Society. Mr. Hornblow also spoke of the debt owed to Lord Bledisloe whose specially printed address on Lydney coins and archaeological finds was a valuable contribution to the early papers of the Society.



Photo: N.Z. Herald

THE LATE VISCOUNT BLEDISLOE



Photograph by courtesy of Photo News Ltd.

Mr. P. D. TETHER (late Secretary of the Society)

# SOCIETY CONVEYS SYMPATHY TO NEW VISCOUNT BLEDISLOE

8th July, 1958.

The Right Hon, The Viscount Bledisloe, Redhill, Lydney, Gloucestershire. ENGLAND.

My Lord.

It was with profound regret that the members of the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand read of the passing of their beloved Honorary Life Patron.

Though known to the majority of the present day members. primarily as a very distinguished and warm-hearted Governor-General, who retained a kindly interest in the land and people of his second home; it is the older members who remember vividly the days when he took a lively interest in the Society during its formative years. On a number of occasions he graced our meetings as guest speaker and, as a true scholar, discoursed learnedly over a wide range of numismatic

subjects.

He will live for ever in the annals of the Society as its First Man of Numismatics. He was our first Patron and set the seal for viceregal patronage which has been maintained ever since. He was our first, and to date, only, Honorary Life Patron. The first medal issued by the Society in 1935 commemorates his association with New Zealand as an outstanding Governor-General and his magnificent gift to the Dominion of the Waitangi Estate. When Fellows were first introduced into the Society he was among the first Honorary Fellows elected in

His life was a long and full one, being dedicated in untiring service to his country and the betterment of his fellow men, enriching as it did the many spheres of his numerous activities.

I beg to convey to you and the members of your family, the deep and sincere sympathy of the Council and members of our Society in your sad bereavement.

> I have the honour to remain, My Lord, Your Lordship's obedient servant. (Signed) G. T. STAGG, President, Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand

# FELLOWSHIP AWARDED

At the fifty-ninth meeting of the Canterbury Branch Mr. Dale announced that Mr. W. Salter, Chairman of the Branch had been elected a Fellow of the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand. Mr. Dale, on behalf of the Council presented Mr. Salter with the gold badge.

# Mr. P. D. TETHER

The death on 1st November, 1958, after a short illness, of Percy Douglas Tether at the age of 39, came as a great shock to all who knew him.

Born in the East Yorkshire coastal village of Withernsea, he was educated at Hymer's College, Hull, and later entered the banking profession in England. Perhaps it was only natural that in such an environment, a boyhood hobby of collecting various things should develop into a keen interest in coins and for him to become, as he later did, a

collector specialising in crown-size pieces.

While still a youth, he came to New Zealand in 1938 when his father, a Merchant Navy captain, was appointed to a shore position in Wellington. Continuing in the banking and finance profession, Mr. Tether found time to join the volunteer Territorial Army and when war broke out in September, 1939, he immediately volunteered for active service overseas. He entered camp on the day after his 21st birthday and served in the Pacific theatre and in New Zealand for over five years. Rising through the ranks, he was commissioned in 1943 and was posted to the Reserve of Officers in the rank of Lieutenant, shortly after VJ Day.

Mr. Tether joined the Society in 1947 and first took office in 1950, being elected honorary treasurer. When in February, 1952, Mr. Murray Weston resigned from the secretaryship to proceed overseas, Mr. Tether acted with the assistant secretary until the following annual meeting when he was elected honorary secretary, which position he continued to hold until his death. His long term in office coincided with a period of expansion in the activities and membership of the Society, which added considerably to the burden of his duties.

Possessed of a quiet dignified manner, Mr. Tether conducted the affairs of the Society with a smoothness and efficiency which reflected the soundness of his business training as well as his desire to serve in an administrative capacity. As honorary secretary of the Society, Mr. Tether became known personally to many of our members, and through the medium of official correspondence was also well known to a larger number of members within and beyond New Zealand.

With his passing the Society has lost a loyal and tireless worker, whose name has long since been firmly inscribed in its annals, and many members mourn a tried and trusted friend.

Mr. Tether leaves a wife and a teenage son and to them, as well as to his parents, his brothers and sisters, we extend our sincere sympathy.—G.T.S.

### 1958 COINAGE

Following are the figures for the 1958 New Zealand coinage as reported to the parent body by Mr. H. Hughan, F.R.N.S.N.Z.: Shilling (£50,000); sixpence (£75,000); threepence (£60,000); penny (£45,000); halfpenny (£4,000).

# NEW NATIONAL SECRETARY

At an emergency Council meeting held in the National Club Rooms, Wellington, on November 24th, Miss L. A. Stagg, daughter of the President, Captain G. T. Stagg, was unanimously elected Secretary, filling the vacancy caused by the sudden death of Mr. P. D. Tether. Her address is c/o Box 23, Wellington.

# A FEATHER IN AUCKLAND'S CAP

The first issue of "Mintmark", the official journal of the Auckland Branch was published in December in place of the Branch Newsletter which had appeared each month for several years. The new magazine contains all the features of the Newsletter with many new items. New issues, correspondence, wants and for sales all find a place in the new magazine, which at present contains six pages of approximately the same area as a page of the *Numismatic Journal*. An article on medals and a page devoted to a specialised branch of coin collecting are features of each issue. The Branch Social Committee have taken over production with Mr. B. R. Williams of Amriens Road, Taupaki, Auckland, as Hon. Editor.

# CORRECTION

"An Earlier Coinage Crisis" on page 183, Vol. 9, No. 4, was extracted from a paper by Mrs. E. Ranger of Wellington and not Mr. E. Morris of Auckland as stated.

# BEAUTY HIDDEN—INFORMATION CONCEALED

by R. G. Bell

It seems to me that an intelligent interest in coins or medals is hardly possible unless at least a working knowledge of heraldry has first been acquired. Perhaps it would be better if I said "At least some knowledge of heraldry has been acquired". In my opinion you have not really seen a coin of heraldic design, unless you have made some study of heraldry. Without this knowledge a vast field of numismatic interest remains undiscovered.

When you handle a coin which has a coat of arms on the reverse, what do you see?

Do you see a thing of beauty?

Do you see a "coat" of lovely colours?

Do you see a wealth of information scientifically portrayed?

Or do you merely see a shield with a few meaningless emblems on it?

It is quite astonishing the amount of information that can be gleaned from a coat of arms without any reference to books. Time will not allow me to explore the subject fully. I shall confine my remarks mainly to heraldry on coins.

What is heraldry?

Why arms on coins?

Heraldry takes its origin from feudal times, when it was customary for a warrior going into battle to carry a shield on which were painted certain emblems of identification.

Thus we have the simple beginning of heraldry or, as it is more correctly called, "Armory". It was a form of recognition and identification. During the thirteenth century, scientific heraldry began to take shape. Different emblems and devices, in several colours, placed in various positions on shields, were registered and used as a means of identifying certain families for all time. The shield became as it were a family patent or hall mark.

Royalty made full use of this colourful means of recognition, hence the common practice of using armorial designs on coins. Anyone entitled to "bear arms" has what is known as an "achievement". The achievement is normally divided into six parts:

The Shield. (This is the most important part.)

The Helmet.

The Wreath.

The Crest.

The Mantling.

The Motto.

In this paper, however, we shall consider mainly the shield and what is known as its "charges". The charges are "marshalled" on the shield. The colours, metals and furs used on arms are known as "tinctures". The chief tinctures are:

"Gules"—red.

"Sable"—black.

"Azure"—blue.

"Purpure"—purple.

"Vert"—green.

#### Metals:

"Or"-gold.

"Argent"—silver.

#### Furs:

"Ermine"

Several furs are used but ermine, the most likely one to be found on coins, will suffice for now.

This brings me to a most important point: Quite frequently arms are not displayed in colour; for example on a coin. In such a case it is customary to substitute tinctures by conventional forms of shading, a different form for each tincture. In effect the colours are all there, but are hidden from those who are unacquainted with heraldry. The shadings or "hatchings" employed are:

Vertical—Gules (red).

Horizontal—Azure (blue).

Vertical and Horizontal—Sable (black).

Diagonal, left to Right—Vert (green).

Diagonal, Right to Left—Purpure (purple).

Black Dots—Or (gold).

Plain or White—Argent (silver).

Small black diamond shapes with dots—Ermine.

Supposing therefore we saw a spotted lion on a shield which was vertically shaded, we would in fact be looking at a golden lion on a red shield. It is as simple as that.

With this brief introduction to armory we must now examine some coins and see what can be learned from them.

I propose to use seven English half crowns, one of each reign from Queen Anne to Queen Victoria, although one of William IV and Victoria would serve quite well for purposes of comparison.

We will start with an 1887 Victoria Jubilee half crown. First the shield: Its surface is known as the "field". The shield can be divided in eight different ways. In this instance it is divided into four right angle quarters. This is termed "Quarterly". If you examine each quarter carefully you will notice that the top left and bottom right are shaded vertically. They are therefore gules (red), and are known as the first and fourth quarters. Now the top right (second quarter), has a spotted field so must be gold. The third quarter (bottom left), is horizontally shaded. Its tincture is therefore blue. So now our shield has colour. Two quarters gules, one quarter or, and one azure.

In addition each quarter has charges marshalled on it. The first and fourth have three lions "passant". The second, one lion "rampant", whilst the third has a harp. Animals used in armory are described by their stance. The most common positions are:

Statant—standing on all fours.

Passant—walking, with one front leg raised.

Rampant—on hind legs, with one pawing the air.

Guardant—looking at you. Face on.

Unfortunately some of the charges on the coin are too small for us to pick out their tinctures. We all know, however, that the lions on the English quarters are or (gold), and on the Scotch gules (red). The harp of Ireland is gold (or). Our shield now has colour and beauty. Its beauty is being revealed.

Much could be said about the helmet. Unfortunately it is not often shown on coins. I think it was on a crown or a half crown of William IV that I did see the helmet beautifully portrayed. I regret I do not possess a specimen.

The royal crown shown above the shield is mainly gold heavily studded with jewels. The ermine is faintly visible, as is also the lovely purple lining. It is customary to have a crest over the crown, usually a lion.

Encircling the shield is the Garter, Collar and Pendant of the Noble Order of the Garter. Horizontal shading, clearly visible, represents the rich Garter blue, whilst small dots on the Links of the Collar denote or (gold). Each golden link is separated by an enamelled link in the form of a Tudor Rose. Each rose is encircled by the Garter. I must mention

of course the famous Garter Motto, "Honi Soit Qui Mal Y Pense". The history of this noble order is a story in itself, well worth repeating, but beyond the scope of this paper. I hope now that you will agree that the arms not only have colour but also life and lustre.

We must now take a quick look at the other six half crowns. We will take ladies first, so to Queen Anne. Instead of one shield this coin has four crosswise: 1st and 3rd—England - Scotland, 2nd — France, 4th — Ireland. It is important to note the "impaled" arms of England-Scotland, denoting the reunion of the two. The earlier coins of the reign showed the arms separately. My chief reason for including this coin was for the purpose of comparing it with that of her successor, George I. A striking alteration takes place. George includes a new shield. It replaces one of the England-Scotland combinations. The new arms are those of the House of Hanover. A new royal lineage is indicated. With Queen Anne dies the house of Stuart. We now have a German monarch.

George I was succeeded by his son, George II. His arms are identical with those of his parent. The Hanoverian family is established.

George III carried on the family tradition by having the same arms on his early coinage as those of his forbears, but as we examine his half crown dated 1817 we find that the shield of France is missing. No longer do the fleur de lys grace the British currency. It is evident then, that Britain can no longer claim dominion over France. Heraldry announces the news unmistakably. The House of Hanover still continues, however.

After a long reign, George III was succeeded by his eldest son, George IV. As you can see, no change takes place in the arms. The same can also be said for William IV, his brother. The reverse on William's coin shows the beautiful cloak of the Order of the Garter; note the "ermine" diamonds.

We now return to our first coin, the Victoria Jubilee half crown. If you examine this carefully, you will notice a sudden change. The Hanoverian arms are missing. Why is this? It seems rather strange, because Victoria was a grand-daughter of George III, so was of the same blood and lineage. We must therefore seek a reason, because arms are not altered without good cause. The answer is to be found in an old Hanoverian law known as the Salic law. Under the Salic law a woman cannot rule. So now we know why our great Queen was duty bound to substitute three lions passant on a red shield, for the arms of the House of Hanover.

Our analysis of the seven heraldic reverses is completed. Much more could have been said about them. Much more could be learned from them. We have learned enough to prove that unless we are prepared to gain some knowledge of the science, heraldry, or as I should say, armory, we leave "Beauty Hidden and Information Concealed".

# IRISH COIN DESIGNS

# London Artist's Great Numismatic Achievement

by E. J. Morris

Some of the most beautiful coins of modern times are to be found in the series that make up the coinage of the Irish Free State. The work attached to bringing such a pleasing set into existence is the subject of this paper.

In December 1921, following negotiations between England and Ireland, Southern Ireland became Soarstat Eireann while Northern Ireland remained part of the United Kingdom. The Government of Soarstat Eireann at an early stage decided on the issue of a token coinage for circulation within its territory. Apart from the prestige attached to a separate monetary system there is quite a large profit involved in the issue of a token coinage.

Since the intrinsic value of the bullion contained in each coin is less than its face or currency value, the margin of difference so arising is a profit to the State sufficient to cover the cost of manufacturing the metal into coin, transport charges and expenses of distribution and at the same time yield a substantial balance.

It was with this aim that the Coinage Act of 1926 was passed empowering the Minister for Finance to provide and issue silver, nickel and bronze coins. In the preparation of the scheme strict regard was paid to the interest of the citizens, in order that the introduction of the new coins might not result in dislocation of trade or even temporary inconvenience. For this reason it was from the first decided to take no step towards decimalisation of the coinage, and to retain the British denominations then in general circulation, with only such modifications as seemed likely to make for greater usefulness.

#### Crown Obsolete

The Minister took the view that the crown was an obsolete coin, and decided to omit it from his scheme. It

had already become a rare coin, seldom met with in circulation, and the British Government had ceased to mint it.

The threepenny piece was felt to be an unpopular coin difficult to handle and easily lost. On the other hand, the general rise in prices caused by the European War had reduced the purchasing power of copper coins and seemed to indicate that a coin equivalent in value to threepence would be useful, if made of convenient size. The Minister therefore decided to return to the threepenny piece in the form of a larger coin. Such a coin if minted in silver would upset the balance among the silver coins, the sizes of which would no longer be in general proportion to their values. To avoid this difficulty while securing the advantages of having a threepenny piece in the series, it was decided to mint the new threepenny and sixpenny pieces in nickel, with dimensions larger than those of the corresponding British coins.

The type of metal selected for the two denominations was pure nickel because it was understood to retain its colour better, and to be more pleasant to handle than the cupro-nickel used in some other coinages. It was found desirable to depart somewhat from the proportion of silver and alloy then used in the British coins. Since 1920 the proportions used by Great Britain had been 50% silver and 50% alloy, and experience had shown that with such a high percentage of alloy it was difficult to manufacture coins of good appearance; to prevent them becoming patchy and discoloured in circulation, the Royal Mint had to resort to a system of "blanching", by which a higher proportion of silver was accumulated on the surface of the coin than in its interior. In view of this experience, and also for the purpose of making the new issue more acceptable to the public the Minister of Finance decided that the proportions used in the Saorstat coins should be 75% fine silver and 25% alloy even though the use of this percentage of silver would reduce the profits accruing to the Exchequer from the issue.

# Royal Mint Commissioned for Work

For the three bronze denominations, acting on the advice of the the Royal Mint, the Minister decided on a blend of  $95\frac{1}{2}\%$  copper, 3% tin and  $1\frac{1}{2}\%$  zinc. Very little investigation was needed to indicate that the setting up of a mint in the Saorstat would be impracticable: the annual requirements of the Saorstat would keep such a mint in production

for only a small portion of the year, and the initial expenditure on premises and plant would make the undertaking unprofitable. It was decided therefore to give the work to an outside mint, and the Minister's choice fell on the Royal Mint in London. This choice was due to the proximity of the Royal Mint, which would render easy delivery of the coins, to the fact that the coins were to retain for the most part the denominations and dimensions of the British coins and to the certainty that work of the highest quality would be secured for the coinage.

Having decided on the denominations, weight, fineness etc. of the coins to be issued the Minister was determined to secure the best advice available in order that worthy designs based on appropriate subjects might be obtained. He therefore appointed a Committee of persons interested in the arts to advise him in these matters.

The Committee was informed that the Minister desired that a harp should be shown on one side of the majority if not all the coins, that any inscriptions should be in Irish and that no efficies of modern persons should be used.

The Committee decided that the obverse of each coin must bear the Irish harp and the words "Saorstat Eireann." As inscriptions were to be in Irish only, they decided for the sake of those who were too idle or stupid, or too old and occupied, to learn Irish that the denomination of each coin should be indicated by a numeral as well as the word.

The Committee wrote to various Societies and through the Press invited individual members of the public to offer suggestions as to symbols or emblems which might suitably be employed for the designs. They were recommended round towers, wolf-hounds, shamrocks, single or in wreaths, and the Treaty Stone of Limerick. They did not receive suggestions of religious emblems from anyone, with the exception of a lady who thought that a nice design for the half-crown would be "a kneeling angel pouring money from a sack". They were advised by the Society of Antiquaries to avoid patriotic emblems altogether, for even the shamrock emblem was not a hundred years old.

Ultimately after numerous meetings and much discussion a decision was come to in favour of animal symbols, for what better could be found for this horse-riding, salmonfishing, cattle-raising country?

On the half-crown it was decided to have represented a riderless Irish hunter; on the florin — the coin nearest the other in size — a salmon, for the sake of contrast and for legendary association. The bull was selected for the shilling because of the excellence of Irish cattle, their importance in the trade of the country and the artistic possibilities of the type.

The sixpence and threepence are commonly associated, and as both were to be struck in nickel the Committee decided to emphasize their association by putting a hound

on the sixpence and a hare on the threepence.

For the penny a hen or hen with chickens was selected. It was thought that it might be too homely a subject for a coin design but it represented a staple industry and it would appeal to farmers and especially to their wives and daughters, to whom the care of poultry was a particular concern.

# Pig Portrayed

For the halfpenny they recommended a pig, despite the unfair ridicule often associated with Ireland. They felt that as a valuable product of the country it merited a place in the series and the objections to it were unworthy of serious consideration.

The farthing seems to have been a knotty point ultimately resolved in favour of the wood-cock. The wood-cock is itself a small bird appropriate to the denomination.

The designing was thrown open to competition, and six artists accepted the invitation. They were supplied with photographs of a harp, of famous hunters, of a wolf-hound and some ancient Greek coins, portraying a horse, bull and hare and of examples of Gaelic script. Sixty-six models in all were received and examined by the Committee.

In accordance with a decision previously made they did not inspect any of the models until all had been received, and did not know the authorship of the sets until the choice had been finally made. On their instructions the Secretary had covered with slips of paper the names and initials which some of the competitors had placed on their models. The aim of the Committee was not to select the best set of models but to build up the series by selecting the best individual designs.

Beginning with the Farthing the members of the Committee took each denomination in turn, and after careful consideration of the design prepared for the reverse of that denomination made their choice. Having done this for each denomination and having last of all considered the harp designs submitted for the obverse, they found that in every case the design of one and the same artist had been

chosen. The name of this artist was Mr. Percy Metcalfe of London.

The committee recommended that he be commissioned to execute the designs for the whole series of coins, as they regarded them as being of outstanding excellence, and as certain to provide a coinage of unusual interest and beauty.

At their final meeting in April 1928 Mr. Metcalfe submitted a complete set of models of coin size struck by Royal Mint showing his designs in their final form. Subject to some minor modifications in the lettering of three of the inscriptions, the Committee decided to recommend the designs to the Minister for Finance for acceptance.

# High Praise From Britain

On the eve of issue in December 1928 a public exhibition of the designs for the new coinage was made on the grounds that the issue of the new coins was an occasion of considerable national interest and importance, and that an exhibition would introduce the coins to the public in a worthy manner.

The Committee received both abuse and praise on their choice of designs. A gentleman writing to the Irish Independent said, "The sole object of having these pagan symbols instead of religious emblems on our coins is to wipe out all traces of religion from our mind, to forget the 'Land of Saints' and beget a land of devil-worshippers, where evil may reign supreme."

The critics of the Manchester Guardian and the Evening Standard wrote:—

"I think that the Irish coinage will be acknowledged as the most beautiful in the modern world."

"We may well be jealous of the beautiful new Irish coins."

In 1937 Saorstat Eireann officially changed its name to "Eire". Apart from the name the coins have remained unchanged in design and metal.

# THE LONG SERVICE MEDALS AWARDED IN THE NEW ZEALAND ARMY OVER THE PAST SEVENTY-ONE YEARS

by Capt. G. T. Stagg

Continued from page 179

### 13. THE NEW ZEALAND EFFICIENCY DECORATION

Instituted by a Royal Warrant dated 23rd September 1930 and amended by further Warrants of 1st February 1940, 4th April 1946, 8th April 1949, 8th August 1949, and 6th August 1951, the general conditions were then greatly changed and an entirely new Warrant was signed by Queen Elizabeth II on 17th November 1952. This Warrant was published in New Zealand as Statutory Regulation Serial No. 1954/6 and Regulation No. 1954/7, which is entitled The Efficiency Decoration Regulations 1954, was approved by Her Majesty the Queen in New Zealand on 13th January 1954, during the Royal Visit.

Replacing the Colonial Auxiliary Forces Officers' Decoration in New Zealand from 23rd September 1931, the Efficiency Decoration was originally awarded to commissioned officers of the Territorial Force for 20 years' service, with war service between 3rd September 1939 and 1st April 1949 being reckoned as double qualifying time. Service in the ranks in peace time counted half time as did service in any of the regular forces of the Empire. Under the Royal Warrant of 17th November 1952 the qualifying period of service was reduced from 20 to 12 years, where the officers service extended beyond the 3rd September 1939, and in addition bars were awarded for each complete period of 6 years served subsequent to the award of the decoration. Officers already in possession of the decoration gained with the full 20 years qualifying service were, providing they had served on after the outbreak of World War II, permitted to have their service reassessed on the 12 year basis and be awarded bars in respect of the extra service rendered. Officers whose service had terminated before 3rd September 1939 were still required to fulfil the full 20 years period before becoming eligible for bars in respect of each complete 6 years period served subsequent to the award of the decoration. Recipients are entitled to use the letters "E.D." after their names.

The decoration consists of an oval oak wreath in frosted silver, cross-tied with gilt ribbons, having in the centre the Imperial Cypher and surmounted by the Imperial Crown, both in gilt. Decorations bearing the Cypher of King George V have the crown within the wreath while those bearing the Cypher of King George VI, of which there are two different Cyphers, have the base of the crown on the inner edge of the wreath and projecting above the outer edge. Decorations bearing the Cypher of Queen Elizabeth II have the crown in the higher position but the Tudor Crown of the earlier types is replaced by St. Edward's Crown. The decoration is provided with a silver ring through which the 13 inch dark green ribbon with 3 inch central yellow stripe passes. At the top of the ribbon is a silver bar brooch bearing the words "NEW ZEALAND".

The bars are executed entirely in gilt having a plain raised rim with, in the centre, the Cypher "E.II.R" surmounted by St. Edward's Crown and are made to slip over the ribbon and to be affixed thereto. In undress uniform the possession of bars is indicated by the wearing of a silver rosette on the ribbon for each bar held.

Due to the reduction of the qualifying period and the war years this decoration has been awarded very liberally and numerous bars have been issued. Those to whom the decoration is awarded are usually given the option to attend an investiture at one of the main centres and receive their decorations from the Governor-General. Normally they are included in the same investitures at which Birthday and New Year Honours are presented, but due to the large numbers awarded as of recent years, several special investitures have been held at which only Efficiency Decorations have been presented and because of the delays some hundreds of recipients have elected to have their awards sent through the post. The custom of the Governor-General presenting the decorations at an investiture dates back to July 1922 when the Colonial Auxiliary Forces Officers' Decoration was so treated for the first time.

To date 1,170 awards have been made of the Efficiency Decoration, which is a current award. All bars issued have been embellished with the Cypher of Queen Elizabeth, the total being 366. Of these 261 were for 18 years' service,

88 for 24 years' service, 15 for 30 years' service, one for 36 years' service and one for 26 years' service where the officer had terminated his service prior to 3rd September 1939.

#### 14. THE NEW ZEALAND EFFICIENCY MEDAL

Replacing the Colonial Auxiliary Forces Long Service Medal by a Royal Warrant dated 23rd September 1930, the Efficiency Medal did not apply in New Zealand until a year later. The conditions of award were subsequently amended by Warrants dated 1st February 1940, 26th August 1944, 4th April 1946 and 10th May 1946. The various Warrants were published in New Zealand as Statutory Regulation Serial No. 1954/8, and Regulation Serial No. 1954/9, entitled the Efficiency Medal Regulations, 1954, was also approved by Her Majesty the Queen whilst in New Zealand. The qualifying period for this medal has always been 12 years served in the ranks of the Territorial Force and bars are awarded for each complete period of six years served subsequent to the award of the medal, with war service counting double. If, after having been awarded the Efficiency Medal a Territorial was commissioned, he was permitted to count half of his other rank service towards the Efficiency Decoration under the old 20 year qualifying period. On being awarded the Efficiency Decoration he was not permitted to wear his Efficiency Medal until such time as he had completed the full qualifying period for the decoration without counting his medal qualifying service. This counting of service that went towards a medal for the decoration as well is not permissible under the new regulations governing the award of the decoration for 12 years' service. If a soldier is commissioned before qualifying for the medal and then does not complete sufficient service as an officer to qualify for the decoration, he may on retirement be awarded the medal if his total service is 12 years or more.

The medal is of silver and oval in shape, bearing on the obverse the head of the reigning Sovereign and on the reverse the words "FOR EFFICIENT SERVICE" in large cleanly-cut lettering. The 1½ inch wide ribbon is dark green with an ⅓ inch yellow stripe at either edge, and is attached to the medal by a clasp composed of two laurel leaves, across which is a scroll having the words "NEW ZEA-LAND" in raised letters. There are two different legends on the medals of the reign of King George VI.

The bars are plain silver with a black etched borderline on either side of a small etched crown. Originally provided with four small holes in the corners to be sewn onto the ribbon, they are now made to slip over the ribbon. Like the Efficiency Decoration rosettes are worn on the ribbon in undress uniform, one for each bar held.

To date 895 Efficiency Medals have been awarded and the medal is a current award. A total of 280 bars have been awarded, 228 for 18 years' service, 50 for 24 years' service and 2 for 30 years' service.

#### 15. THE CADET FORCES MEDAL

Instituted by King George VI by a Royal Warrant dated 1st February 1950 and published in New Zealand as Statutory Regulation Serial No. 1954/10, the application of this medal within New Zealand is governed by Regulation Serial No. 1954/11. This regulation, which is entitled The New Zealand Cadet Forces Medal Regulations, and dated 13th January 1954 was approved by Her Majesty the Queen whilst in New Zealand. It has applied to the Cadets of all three Services from date of approval.

Prior to 1949 secondary school teachers taking part in the activities of School Cadet Units were commissioned in the Territorial Force and seconded for duty with their school unit, thereby remaining eligible for award of the Efficiency Decoration. During 1949 all secondary school cadet officers were transferred to the newly-formed Cadet Corps and they now fall into two distinct categories. Category "A" officers carry out the same conditions of training, promotion and service as Territorial Officers and are still eligible for the Efficiency Decoration. Category "B" officers, after receiving some initial training to enable them to hold a commission in the Cadet Corps, do no further training or promotion courses and can qualify only for the Cadet Forces Medal.

The medal is awarded for 12 years' service with the N.Z. Sea Cadets, the N.Z. Cadet Corps and the N.Z. Air Training Corps, each Service administering its own cadet formation. In the Sea Cadets service as a Chief Petty Officer counts as qualifying service, but apart from this all service has to be commissioned service, except that in time of war all service counts and compulsory service in peacetime counts provided that such service interrupted continuous qualifying service.

The medal, which is struck in cupro-nickel, 1.45 inches in diameter, bears on the obverse the crowned effigy of Queen Elizabeth II. The reverse bears a hand holding aloft the torch of knowledge around which are the words "THE CADET FORCES MEDAL", the design being by Percy Metcalf. The medal is provided with a straight suspender clasp for the 1½ inch ribbon, which is basically dark green with ¾6 inch yellow edge stripes, inside of which is a dark blue stripe to the left and a light blue stripe to the right, each ⅓ inch wide. Inside these stripes on either side is a ¼6 inch stripe of red, the colours representing the three Services.

This medal is a current award and is the only one of the five current awards which does not incorporate the words "NEW ZEALAND" to indicate the country in which it was earned. To date only 18 have been awarded to the Cadet Corps of the New Zealand Army, the other Services being responsible for issues within their own cadet formations.

#### CONCLUSION

In all there have been 9,547 long service awards issued by the New Zealand Army during the past 71 years. This number has been spread over 38 different strikings of 15 separate awards. The collecting of a specimen of each striking would present a most formidable task for any collector, due not only to the restrictions placed on the free sale of old medals in New Zealand, but also to the very small numbers issued of some of the rarer awards.

Attached are two tables, the first giving the totals of each separate award issued and the other the numbers issued by the various types of each award and indicating

to what extent verification has been established.

I fully realise that there are obvious gaps in this survey which could be filled, but the collating of this small effort has taken many months of spare time research. It is quite possible that some errors have crept in, but I have tried to adhere to facts which are supported by official documents. Unfortunately some of the old files which could possibly have provided further information have been destroyed, particularly those dealing with the purchase of medals prior to 1939. Where I have had to draw my own deductions from inconclusive records or conflicting data, I have endeavoured to make this fact clear in the text.

This survey could not have been attempted, nor would

it have been possible, without the co-operation I have received so readily from the Medal Section of the Military Secretary's Branch and Army Records Section and the assistance I have received from these sources as well as collectors and owners of medals is greatly appreciated.

I would like to fill in the gaps in this survey by obtaining information concerning New Zealand long service awards in possession of others who may read this paper. Information giving the exact type of medal and the name, etc., of the recipient will enable me to check a particular medal in the appropriate register to ascertain the date of issue and thereby close the gaps left where the numbers by types of medal are as yet unverified.

Wellington, N.Z. 22nd January, 1958.

### TABLE I.

### TOTAL OF AWARDS ISSUED

	TOTAL OF AWAIDS ISSUED	
No.		YTITMAU(
1.	N.Z. Long and Efficient Service Medal	2,343
2.	Imperial Volunteer Officers' Decoration	
3.	Imperial Volunteer Long Service Medal	137
4.	N.Z. Long Service and Good Conduct Medal (Army)	
5.	N.Z. Meritorious Service Medal	262
6.	N.Z. Volunteer Service Medal	736
7.	Colonial Auxiliary Forces Officers' Decoration	
8.	Colonial Auxiliary Forces Long Service Medal	735
9.	Imperial Long Service and Good Conduct Medal (Army	18
10.	Permanent Forces of the Empire Beyond the Seas Lon	g
	Service and Good Conduct Medal	206
11.	N.Z. Territorial Service Medal	2,324
12.	N.Z. Long Service and Good Conduct Medal (Military	) 171
13.	N.Z. Efficiency Decoration	1,170
14.	N.Z. Efficiency Medal	895
15.	Cadet Forces Medal	18
	130-1340 - CV (CV 130-1344) - CV (CV 1344) - CV (CV	
TOT	TAL OF ALL AWARDS ISSUED 1887-1957	9,547
	BARS AWARDED	
1.	Bars to Efficiency Decoration	366
2.	Bars to Efficiency Medal	
	—	
тот	TAL OF BARS AWARDED 1887-1957	646
		9164

# TABLE II.

# ISSUES BY TYPES OF EACH AWARD

Showing—Designation of Decoration or Medal.
Period of Award and Total Issued.
Effigies and Legends Depicted.
Engravers and Die Variations.

	1.—NEW ZEALAND LONG AND EFFICIENT	
Typ No.		Quan- tities
_,,,	Period of Award: 1 Jan. 1887 - 22 Sep. 1931. Total Awarded: 1st Medal Issued: 8 Sep. 1887. Last Medal Issued: In 1957.	2,343
1.	Type A. Engraver: "S. KOHN". Appears below bow of ribbon and a fourth star appears between "N" and "Z" on obverse.	
_	Period confirmed: 1 Jan. 1887 - July 1896. Number Issued: Undetermined Period: August 1896 - 1903. Number Involved:	281 179
2.	Type B. Engraver: "G. T. White". Appears just inside rim and "N·Z·" on the obverse.	
	Period Confirmed: 1903 - 10 Oct. 1921 Number Issued: Undetermined Period: 11 Oct. 1921 - 16 Jan. 1922.	836
	Number Involved:	2
3.	Type C. Engraver: Not stated. "T" of "Efficient" over the star on the reverse. Lettering evenly curved.	
	Period confirmed: 22 Feb. 1922 - 8 Aug. 1927.	451
	Number Issued: Period of Mixed Issues of Types C and D of which it is not	471
	possible to state the number of each type issued. Period approximately 1 Feb. 1929 - 1932. Number Involved:	409
4.	Type D. Engraver: Not stated. "T" of "Efficient" to left of star and the words "Efficient Service" higher on left side than on right side, also curve uneven.  Period Confirmed: 1 Jan. 1933 - 1957. Number Issued:  Note: No medals were issued between 8 Aug. 1927 and 1 Feb. 1929.	165
	2.—IMPERIAL VOLUNTEER OFFICERS' DECORATION	•
	Period of Award: 23 Aug. 1894 - 30 Apr. 1902. <b>Total Issued:</b> 1st Medal Issued: 3 Sep. 1894. Last Medal Issued: 6 Nov. 1915.	54
5.	Queen Victoria — "V.R.I." Cypher. No confirmation. Issues 1894 - 1900. Number Issued:	45
6.	King Edward VII — "E.R.I.VII." Cypher. No confirmation. Issues 1901 - 1915. Number Issued:	9
	3.—IMPERIAL VOLUNTEER LONG SERVICE MEDAL.	
	Period of Award: 16 Feb. 1898 - 30 Apr. 1902.	
	Total Awarded: 1st Medal Issued: 20 Jul. 1898. Last Medal Issued in 1902.	137

7.	Queen Victoria — Crowned and veiled bust, facing left. Engraver: Mr. G. W. deSaulles. Legend: VICTORIA REGINA ET IMPERATRIX. No confirmation. Issues 1898 - 1900. Number Issued:	120
8.	King Edward VII — Bust in Field Marshal's uniform, facing left.  Engraver: Mr. G. W. deSaulles. Legend: EDWARDVS VII REX IMPERATOR. No confirmation. Issues 1901 - 1902. Number Issued:	17
	4.—NEW ZEALAND LONG SERVICE AND GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL (ARMY).	
	Period of Award: 28 Apr. 1898 - 8 Sep. 1903. Total Awarded: 1st Medal Issued: 9 Jul. 1898. Last Medal Issued: 8 Sep. 1903.	49
9.	Arms of the Union supported by a Military Trophy. Engraver: Benedetto Pistrucci. Number Issued:	49
	5.—NEW ZEALAND MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL.	
	Period of Award: 28 Apr. 1898 - present day. Total Awarded: 1st Medal Issued: 9 Jul. 1898.	262
10.	Queen Victoria—Diademed head of young Queen, facing left. Engraver: William Wyon, R.A. Legend: VICTORIA REGINA. Period Confirmed: 9 Jul. 1898-13 Nov. 1906. Number Issued:	20
11.	King Edward VII—Bust in Field Marshal's uniform, facing left.  Engraver: Mr. G. W. deSaulles. Legend: EDWARDVS VII REX IMPERATOR.	
	Period Confirmed: 10 Jan. 1907 - 10 Dec. 1909.  Number Issued:	6
12.	King George V—Bust in Field Marshal's uniform, facing left.  Engraver: Sir Bertram Mackennel, M.V.O., A.R.A.  Legend: GEORGIVS V BRITT:OMN:REX ET IND:IMP: Period Confirmed: 28 May 1912 - 5 Jun. 1934. Number Issued:	168
13.	King George VI— Type A—Crowned head, facing left. Engraver: Mr. Percy Metcalf. Legend: GEORGIVS VI D:G:BR:OMN:REX ET INDIAE IMP:	
1.4	Period Confirmed: 24 Mar. 1939-6 Jan. 1942. Number Issued:	24
14.	Type B—Coinage head, facing left. Engraver: Mr. H. Carter Preston. Legend: GEORGIVS VI D:G:BR:OMN:REX F:D:IND:IMP. Period Confirmed: 7 Jan. 1942 - 8 Dec. 1953. Number Issued:	30

15.	Queen Elizabeth II—Laureated head, facing right. Engraver: Mrs. Mary Gillick. Legend: + ELIZABETH II DEI GRA:BRITT:OMN:	
	REGINA F:D: Period Confirmed: 9 Sep. 1955 - 1957. Number Issued:	14
	Note: There were no issues between 10 Dec. 1909 and 28 May 1912, between 5 Jun. 1934 and 24 Mar. 1939 and between 8 Dec. 1953 and 9 Sep. 1955.	
	*	
	6.—NEW ZEALAND VOLUNTEER SERVICE MEDAL.	
	Period of Award: 9 Apr. 1902 - mid-1912. Total Awarded: 1st Medal Issued: 1903. Last Medal Issued: Mid-1912.	736
16.	King Edward VII—Coinage head facing right. Engraver: Jones. Legend: * NEW ZEALAND VOLUNTEER * 12 YEARS SERVICE MEDAL *	
	Period Confirmed: 1903 - 15 Jan. 1912. Number Issued:	726
-	Undetermined Period: 12 Feb. 1912 - 3 May 1912. Number Involved:	10
	7.—COLONIAL AUXILIARY FORCES OFFICERS' DECORATION.	
	Period of Award: 1 May 1902 - 22 Sep. 1931. Total Awarded: 1st Medal Issued: 1902. Last Medal Issued: 1 Apr. 1952.	429
17.	King Edward VII—E.R.I.VII Cypher. Period Confirmed: 1902 - 14 Jun. 1912. Number Issued:	107
	Undetermined Period: 24 Dec. 1912 - 16 Oct. 1913. Number Involved:	13
18.	King George V—G.R.I. Cypher. Period Confirmed: 22 Nov. 1913-1 Apr. 1952. Number Issued:	309
	8.—COLONIAL AUXILIARY FORCES LONG SERVICE MEDAL.	
	Period of Award: 1 May 1902-22 Sep. 1931. Total Awarded:	735
	1st Medal Issued: 1902. Last Medal Issued: 3 Nov. 1948.	100
19.	King Edward VII—Bust in Field Marshal's uniform, facing left.	
	Engraver: Mr. G. W. deSaulles. Legend: EDWARDVS VII REX IMPERATOR. Period Confirmed: 1902 - 9 Nov. 1911. Number Issued:	269
П	Undetermined Period: 10 Nov. 1911 - 17 Nov. 1920. Number Involved:	188
20.	King George V—Bust in Field Marshal's uniform, facing left.	100
	Engraver: Sir Bertram Mackennel, M.V.O., A.R.A. Legend: GEORGIVS V BRITT:OMN:REX ET IND:IMP: Period Confirmed: 18 Nov. 1920-1 Apr. 1952. Number Issued:	280
	•	

9.—IMPERIAL	LONG	SERVI	CE AN	D GOOD	CONDUCT
	ME	DAL (A	ARMY)	١.	

Period of Award: Late 1903 - 14 Jan	. 1909. Total Awarded:	18
1st Medal Issued: Late 1903. Last		
1909.		

21. King Edward VII—Bust in Field Marshal's uniform, facing left.

Engraver: Mr. G. W. deSaulles.

Legend: EDWARDVS VII REX IMPERATOR.

No confirmation. Number Involved: 18

## 10.—PERMANENT FORCES OF THE EMPIRE BEYOND THE SEAS LONG SERVICE AND GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL.

Period of Award: 7 Sep. 1909 - 22 Sep. 1931. Total Awarded: 206 1st Medal Issued: 23 Mar. 1910. Last Medal Issued: 1 May 1933.

22. King Edward VII—Bust in Field Marshal's uniform, facing

Engraver: Mr. G. W. deSaulles.

Legend: EDWARDVS VII REX IMPERATOR.

Period Confirmed: 23 Mar. 1910 - 13 Aug. 1915.

Number Issued: 29

Undetermined Period: 14 Aug. 1915 - 15 Nov. 1916.

Number Involved: 11

23. King George V-Bust in Field Marshal's uniform, facing left.

Engraver: Sir Bertram Mackennel, M.V.O., A.R.A.

Legend: GEORGIVS V BRITT:OMN:REX ET IND:IMP:

Period Confirmed: 16 Nov. 1916 - 1 May 1933.

Number Issued: 166

#### 11.—NEW ZEALAND TERRITORIAL SERVICE MEDAL.

Period of Award: 1 Jun. 1912 - 22 Sep. 1931. Total Awarded: 2,324 1st Medal Issued: Assessed as 3 Jul. 1912. Last 1956. King George V-Bust in Field Marshal's uniform, facing left.

Legend: • NEW ZEALAND TERRITORIAL • 12 YEARS SERVICE .

24. Type A. Engraver: Mr. G. T. White. "G.T.W." on reverse. Period Assessed: 3 Jul. 1912 - 12 Mar. 1913.

Number Involved: 43

Period Confirmed: 13 Mar. 1913 - 16 Nov. 1918.

490 Number Issued:

-- Undetermined Period: 17 Nov. 1918 - 22 Feb. 1922.

Number Involved: 496

25. Type B. Engraver: Mr. Charles Wright. "WRIGHT ENGd" on reverse.

Period Confirmed: 1 Mar. 1922 - 1956. Number Issued: 1,295

# 12.—NEW ZEALAND LONG SERVICE AND GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL (MILITARY).

171	Period of Award: 23 Sep. 1931 - present day. Total Awarded: 1st Medal Issued: 1 Sep. 1933.	
•	King George V—Crowned and robed bust, facing left. Engraver: Sir Bertram Mackennel, M.V.O., A.R.A. Legend: GEORGIVS · V · D · G · BRITT · OMN · REX · ET · INDIÆ · IMP ·	26.
26	Period Confirmed: 1 Sep. 1933 - 2 Nov. 1937. Number Issued:	
2	Undetermined Period: 3 Nov. 1937 - 29 Mar. 1938 Number Involved: King George VI—Crowned head, facing left. Engraver: Mr. Percy Metcalf.	
	Type A. Legend: GEORGIVS VI D:G:BR:OMN:REX ET INDIAE IMP:	27.
80	Period Confirmed: 30 Mar. 1938 - 2 Dec. 1952.  Number Issued:	
	Type B. Legend: GEORGIVS VI DEI GRA:BRITT:OMN REX FID:DEF:	28.
39	Period Confirmed: 25 Mar. 1953 - 22 May 1956.  Number Issued:	
	Queen Elizabeth II—Crowned bust, facing right. Engraver: Mr. Cecil Thomas, O.B.E., F.R.B.S. Legend: ELIZABETH II DEI GRATIA REGINA F.D.	29.
24	Period Confirmed: 10 Dec. 1956 - 31 Dec. 1957.  Number Issued:	
	13.—NEW ZEALAND EFFICIENCY DECORATION.	
1,170	Period of Award: 23 Sep. 1931 - present day. <b>Total Awarded:</b> 1st Medal Issued: 25 Jun. 1934.	
80	King George V—G.V.R. Cypher. Period Confirmed: 25 Jun. 1934 - 9 Jul. 1937. Number Issued:	30.
00		
<b>5</b> 10	Type A—G.R.I. Cypher, Period Confirmed: 15 Sep. 1938 - 29 May 1950. Number Issued:	31.
	Type B—G.VI.R. Cypher. Period Confirmed: 27 Jul. 1951 - 11 Dec. 1953.	32.
102	Period of mixed issues of "G.VI.R." Cyphers and "E.II.R."  Cyphers of which it is not possible to state the number of each cypher issued but the preponderance of decorations verified are "G.VI.R."  Deriod 22 Sept. 1054, 20 New 1054	
49	Period: 23 Sep. 1954 - 3 Nov. 1954. Number Involved:	0.0
429	Queen Elizabeth II—"E.II.R." Cypher. Period Confirmed: 24 Nov. 1954 - 31 Dec. 1957.  Number Issued:	33.

#### 14.—NEW ZEALAND EFFICIENCY MEDAL.

1st Medal Issued: 22 Jun. 1934.	
34. King George V—Crowned and robed bust, facing left. Engraver: Sir Bertram Mackennel, M.V.O., A.R.A. Legend: GEORGIVS.V.D.G.BRITT.OMN.REX.ET.INDIÆ IMP.	
Period Confirmed: 22 Jun. 1934 - 1 July. 1937.  Number Issued:	84
- Undetermined Period: 2 Jul. 1937 - 5 Oct. 1939. Number Involved:	51
King George VI—Crowned and robed bust, facing left. Engraver: Mr. Percy Metcalf.	
35. Type A—Legend: GEORGIVS.VI.D.G.BR.OMN.REX.ET. INDIÆ.IMP.	
Period Confirmed: 6 Oct. 1939 - 15 Nov. 1951. Number Issued:	566
36. Type B—Legend: GEORGIVS VI DEI GRA:BRITT:OMN: REX FID:DEF:	
Period Confirmed: 18 Jan. 1952 - 17 Mar. 1955. Number Issued:	140
- Undetermined Period: 18 Mar. 1955 - 15 Dec. 1955. Number Involved:	6
37. Queen Elizabeth II—Crowned bust, facing right. Engraver: Mr. Cecil Thomas, O.B.E., F.R.B.S. Legend: ELIZABETH II DEI GRATIA REGINA FID.DEF. Period Confirmed: 16 Dec. 1955 - 31 Dec. 1957.	
Number Issued:	48
15.—CADET FORCES MEDAL.	
Period of Award: 13 Jan. 1954 - present day. <b>Total Awarded:</b> 1st Medal Issued: 12 Dec. 1955.	18

38. Queen Elizabeth II—Crowned bust, facing right. Engraver: Mr. Cecil Thomas, O.B.E., F.R.B.S. Legend: ELIZABETH II D:G:BR:OMN:REGINA F:D: Legend: ELIZABETH II D.G. Div. Period Confirmed 12 Dec. 1955 - 31 Dec. 1957.

Number Issued:

18

Note: Where there is a break between the dates of two confirmed periods without any undetermined period intervening, no medals were issued between the dates quoted.

# **CORRECTION**

In Vol. 9, No. 4 (28) on page 172, line 18, for "coinage" read "varying".

# 10,000 FOR THE COLLECTOR—

# 65,000 FOR THE MELTING-POT

by the late Mr. C. J. Weaver (Sydney)

There is some controversy over the exact number of the beautiful Victorian Centenary florins to survive the melting-down spree that the Australian Commonwealth Government embarked upon late in 1935, but there is little doubt that five-sixths of the total issue were fated to be converted, via the furnace, to plain, everyday coinage. The story of this issue, one of the most artistic of Australian types, began in Melbourne in 1934, the ninety-ninth year since the founding of the city.

This coin bears a very beautiful reverse, the field being occupied by a fine equestrian design. A splendid horse full of vigour and equine beauty advances to left. The horse is without trappings and bears upon its back an heroic male figure, nude, with right arm extended holding a flaming torch.

The horse represents the last century which was one in which horses played a very important part in exploration, settlement, cultivation and development of every industry in Victoria and also symbolises the two great horses Carbine and Phar Lap brought to fame by Victoria during that century. Moreover, during this period Australia has been referred to as a nation of horsemen.

It is also noted in this connection that the constellation of Centaurus is adjacent to the Southern Cross, one of the emblems of Victoria. The nude rider represents young Victoria grown to full manhood and the torch is a symbol of progress and enlightenment, a favourite type on a large number of the world's coins. The raised forehoof of the horse indicates no limit to future progress. This splendid design was executed by George Kruger Gray, Chief Engraver at the Royal Mint, London.

The inscription in modern letters reads: — Around, CENTENARY VICTORIA MELBOURNE 1934-35. In the exergue, FLORIN on either side of which a diamond-shaped dot.

Upon the ground line underneath the raised fore hoof, K.G., the initials of the artist above mentioned. It is undoubtedly a pity that this fine reverse should be coupled with

a mediocre obverse bearing the inartistic Dominion bust of the King identical with the obverses of the Rhodesian, New Zealand and Fijian coinages.

Sandwiched between a large unnecessary crown and ermined bust the head of the King does not appear to advantage. The inscription in English GEORGE V KING EMPEROR is too abbreviated and ambiguous, and lacks the dignity of the previous Latin titles. The edge of the coin is milled. The reverse of this florin makes it the most handsome and artistic coin yet issued by the Australian Commonwealth.

The issue was limited to £7,500 worth comprising 75,000 pieces and was not released in to the currency but was given into the hands of the Centenary Committee for private sale at a premium. The florins were retailed by the Committee at three shillings each the profits going to the Centenary fund to pay for the celebrations.

It would seem that there must have been considerable mismanagement in the administration of the celebrations, as, of the 75,000 florins struck, 10,000 only were disposed of leaving 65,000 on the hands of the Committee. This body then decided that "in order to keep faith with those who bought them (i.e., the Commemorative florins at 3/- each), the unsold 65,000 should, by arrangement with the Mint Authorities, be sent to the Mint and melted down to be converted into ordinary currency florins. This was accordingly done and these handsome coins went into the melting pot.

Considering that the great bulk of the total issue was melted down the reason given for such a regrettable proceeding seems quite inadequate and the disastrous result, a loss of 65,000 against a gain of 10,000 of Australia's historic and most beautiful coin issue. Since writing the above, a later report states that out of an issue of 70,000, no fewer than 68,000 of the Victorian Centenary Florins were left on the hands of the Commonwealth Government to be melted down.

# N.Z.E.F.—BUT WHAT UNIT?

by J. C. M. CRESSWELL

# (Reprinted from

Mintmark, the Journal of the Auckland Branch, R.N.S.N.Z.)

Medals of the First World War awarded to New Zealand personnel can cause a great deal of trouble to the collector. Each 1914-15 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal is very neatly stamped around the rim with the number, rank and name of the recipient, followed by the letters N.Z.E.F. for "New Zealand Expeditionary Force". Unless the man's rank is given as gunner, lance-bombardier or bombardier (strictly artillery ranks) there is little to indicate the unit served in when the rank is private, corporal or sergeant.

The solution, or partial solution, lies in the regimental number. If a man served in any capacity before the formation of the tenth reinforcements he was given a number consisting of a key figure separated from the consecutive number by a bar, e.g.: 3/12345. The first number indicates the unit in which the man served immediately after enlistment. These key numbers were allotted as follows:

ment. These key numbers were anotted as follows

Headquarters	*****		1
Artillery		*****	2
Medical Corps			3
Engineers			4
Army Service Corps	14600	24300	5
Canterbury Infantry			6
Canterbury Mounted Rifle	es	20000	7
Otago Infantry			8
Otago Mounted Rifles			9
Wellington Infantry	*****	*****	10
Wellington Mounted Rifles			11
Auckland Infantry		*****	12
Auckland Mounted Rifles	***		13

It must be held in mind that the infantry and mounted rifle regiments were sub-divided into battalions, each with its own badge. For instance, the Auckland Regiment (infantry) consisted of the 3rd Auckland (Countess of Ranfurly's Own), 6th Hauraki, 15th North Auckland and 16th Waikato Regiments. The regimental numbers do not give any clue to

these subdivisions but official war histories are available at most libraries and are a great help.

By the time the evacuation of Gallipoli had been completed the men of the N.Z.E.F. had been transferred and retransferred from unit to unit to such an extent that the key number was no longer a reliable guide to a man's unit. Also, reinforcements were at that stage being trained in New Zealand and shipped overseas without being posted to their units until arrival in Europe. Obviously, New Zealand H.Q. could not anticipate which key numbers to allot. As a result of this confusion the system was revised and all men called up after the ninth reinforcements were given a number without the key figure and bar, e.g. 123456. I hope I have cleared up this matter but I must confess that I am bluffed by a pair of medals awarded to a matron, N.Z.E.F., and bearing the number 22/105.

# DECIMAL COINAGE AROUND THE COMMONWEALTH

In India decimal coinage has been introduced; in South Africa full-scale arrangements are in train to make the change in February, 1961. The new unit will be a rand of ten shillings, divided into ten shillings and 100 cents.

From Australia comes the following press cable: "The principle of a decimal coinage has been accepted by the Government and the task of a committee named yesterday will be to advise on the method and timing of the change". In 1902 a Select Committee of the House of Representatives recommended that Australia adopt a decimal currency system, and in 1937 a Royal Commission on the monetary and banking system also recommended its introduction.

In New Zealand the Government Decimal Coinage Committee, appointed in 1957, is expected to report about the middle of 1959.

Canada and other parts of the Commonwealth have used decimal coinage for a long time. In the light of world trends the United Kingdom Government should now re-examine its own century-old recommendations in favour of a change there.

## STOLEN COINS

Members are asked to communicate with their nearest Police Station if they are offered any of the following gold coins—mint condition:

£5 VICTORIA dated 1887

£1 VICTORIA dated 1845 (Young head)

£1 VICTORIA dated 1887 (Jubilee)

# AN ECCLESIASTICAL NUMISMATIC DISPLAY

by Capt. G. T. Stagg

When considering the relationship of the church with numismatics one generally thinks of the collection plate, or possibly of the medallic art of the commemorative issues of ecclesiastical anniversaries or important dignatories. It is unusual therefore, to find a display of coins in a church, but as will be seen from the following paragraphs, one such display serves to bring home to us another important relationship between the Church, the Holy Bible and coinage.

St. Stephen's Church, Maheno, contains a display of coins of the period of Jesus Christ's life on earth. It is not an outstanding display from the point of view of its range, but is none the less outstanding in that the few coins depicted

represent the birth, ministry and death of Christ.

This lovely church was given to the small rural community of Maheno, a few miles south of Oamaru, by two brothers, Colonel J. Cowie Nichols and Mr. Cyril Nichols, to commemorate the lives given by members of the Nichols'

family in World War I.

Externally it is constructed of reddish-brown sandstone in the Gothic style, the dark walls being relieved with Oamaru stone around the door and window openings. The inside walls are composed of white, cream and pink Oamaru stone, harmoniously blended to bring out all the beauty of the local stone.

The top of the altar, prayer desk, sedilia, organ and pews are in golden oak, embellished with beautiful carvings of an era now past. Unfortunately, the old craftsman responsible for these magnificent carvings passed on before he was able to complete the range of native birds intended to cap the ends of the pews, a different bird to each pew. It is doubtful if it will be possible to find anyone in New Zealand capable of matching the old craftsman's skill to finish the work as originally planned.

A stained glass window over the altar depicts the angelic message to the shepherds, "Gloria in Excelsis Deo" (Luke, Chap. II, Verse 14), and is in memory of William Henry Teschemaker and his wife Eliza Jeanette, who settled

in the locality in 1854.

The memorial window at the west end of the church depicts the Archangel Michael overcoming the Devil and bears the names of four members of the Nichols' family, together with Regimental Crests.

On the south side of the chancel are eight pieces of masonry from old English cathedrals, set in a raised frame of Oamaru stone, bearing in carved letters the following inscription: "These Stones From Ancient English Shrines Are Placed Here In The Hope That The Spirit Which Inspired

Their Fashioning Will Hallow These Walls".

On the north side of the chancel is set the display of coins of the time of our Lord. Colonel Cowie Nichols was a foundation member of our Society and though his prime interest lay in medals, he arranged this display and endeavoured to obtain a set of thirty silver pieces of the betrayal money. Because of their immense historical importance, these coins are extremely difficult to obtain, but after some years of searching overseas he was able to acquire only two specimens. These, together with two of the tribute pennies of Tiberius Caesar, are mounted in a cast bronze frame which bears in high relief the text of Christ's reply to the chief priests who tempted Him, viz., "Render unto Caesar the things which be Caesar's, and unto God the things which be God's". The whole display is attractively executed, the coins being named and the significance of the pieces recorded by biblical references as may be seen in the plate opposite.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir.

I suggest that in a future issue of the *Journal*, a list of Fellows of the Society with their accomplishments in the world of numismatics be published. It seems to me that this would fill a need, as many new members are woefully unaware as to who's who in New Zealand numismatics.

-" Chopmark," Auckland.

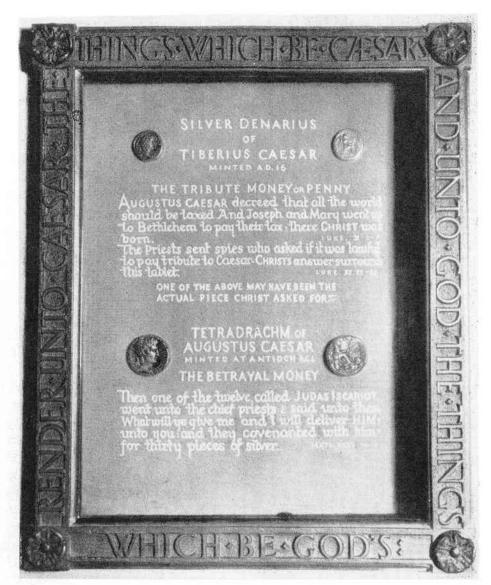


Photo: L. F. Johnstone, Oamaru

# INTRODUCTION TO NUMISMATICS

PART III

(concluded from page 89)

by Roy Sellars, Auckland

# **Types of Emergency Coinage**

During times of stress or emergency it is not always possible to issue the normal forms of coinage, so unorthodox types are produced by whatever means happen to be available at the time. Obsidional money, or money of necessity, as it is sometimes called, comes into this category. The designs on this class of coinage are often simple—sometimes even crude—and the metal used may be quite different from that of the normal emanations. An issue of obsidional money may be in copper instead of silver and may also be much reduced in size.

The Irish gun money of 1689-90 is a notable example, and the circumstances which gave rise to its production are that in 1688 James II had been forced by his son-in-law, William of Orange, to abdicate and flee from England. At first he took refuge in France but, in the following year he crossed to Ireland, with the intention of raising an army strong enough to defeat William's forces and ensure his own return to the throne. He needed money in order to provide for the requirements of his troops and, as he was unable to secure gold or silver, he commandeered the metal from obsolete field-guns and church-bells, and used it in the manufacture of his famous gun money. At first he issued halfcrowns, shillings and sixpences, the designs of which are quite attractive. When the supply of metal began to dwindle the position was met by withdrawing half-crowns and overstamping them as crowns. A new issue of half-crowns followed, the size now being reduced. The shillings were also issued on smaller flans in 1690. In the meantime, William—now sharing the throne of England with his wife, Mary—learning of James' military activities, decided to force the issue and crossed to Ireland at the head of his troops. Without delay he met and engaged James' forces in the historic battle of the Boyne, emerging victorious. The discomfited James again found it advisable to seek asylum in France, where he passed into oblivion.

The counter-stamping of coins is another expedient sometimes adopted in order to meet an unusual situation. At the end of the eighteenth century, when the price of silver was high the English made use of Spanish dollars-mainly of Charles IV—to tide themselves over a difficult period. For this purpose the head of England's ruler (George III)—first in a small, oval depression and, later, in a larger, octagonal compartment—was superimposed on the neck of the Spanish king and the coins were then circulated at a recognized value of four shillings and ninepence. As neither monarch was held in high esteem by his subjects and as, also, the coin, though crown-sized, had a value of less than a crown-piece, someone originated the expression "two heads not worth a crown". A harsher critic made mordacious reference to "the head of a fool on the neck of an ass". Perhaps they were both right.

Sometimes, owing to the failure of governing authorities to discharge their obligations to the public, the money circulating was insufficient to meet ordinary trade requirements. On such occasions banks of standing have been authorised to issue, temporarily, a semi-official coinage of their own. In 1804 the Bank of England thus issued silver dollars, followed some time later by silver tokens (of two distinctive types) for three shillings and one shilling and sixpence, respectively. Almost concurrently, the Bank of Ireland produced silver tokens for six shillings, thirty pence, tenpence (two types) and fivepence.

The occasional dearth of official "small change" has also been responsible for the issuing, in large quantities, of tradesmen's tokens. Struck mainly in copper, brass or bronze the usual denominations were for a penny or a half-penny, the farthing value being much less plentiful. Limited issues of silver tokens, for higher amounts, have also been made.

We are all aware that in 1933 we embarked on a coinage of our own but it may come as a surprise to many to learn that for a considerable period during the nineteenth century foreign money circulated freely in this country. In the tills of the banks, hotels and trading stores dollars of the United States of America, French five-franc pieces, Indian rupees and coins of Spain commingled with the money of England. In 1857 New Zealand tokens made their appearance and for many years played their humble but necessary part in facilitating the daily business transactions of those times.

# AUCKLAND CELEBRATES FINE NUMISMATIC DISPLAY AND SOCIAL

by J. C. M. CRESSWELL

The year 1958 was a notable one for the Society in many respects. The most outstanding mark of progress was the 100th General Meeting of the Auckland Branch. The meeting proved to be a great success and the biggest function of its kind ever held in New Zealand. The numismatic display of over 760 items assembled from the collections of more than half the members covered a vast variety of subjects and ranged from the commonest items to pieces of considerable

rarity.

Originating from a suggestion by Mr. J. P. Roberts early in the year, the meeting soon became almost the sole topic of discussion in the Branch. A committee, consisting of Messrs. Lynch, Williams, Cresswell, Rubb and Southern, was appointed to make the arrangements. Mr. Rubb very generously placed his restaurant at the disposal of the Branch and the meeting was set to take place on October 7th. Mr. Williams drafted a programme and Mr. Cresswell had this printed by another Branch member, Mr. van Impelen. The result was enclosed in the previous edition of the Journal. Mr. Southern undertook to make and loan display-trays for the exhibition, and Mr. Lynch took charge of the planning of the stands and lighting. The catering was left to Mr. Rubb, assisted by Mrs. Rubb and Mr. A. Robinson who arranged the liquid refreshments. The biggest job—that of arranging the exhibits, seeing that members did not duplicate and labelling, fell to the lot of Mr. Williams.

Preliminary meetings were held by the committee at Mr. Rubb's "Trade Winds" and at the homes of Mr. Sellars and Mr. Cresswell. On October 7th, before the meeting began, a host of helpers, headed by Mr. Baxter, made the preparations something less of a rush job than it might have been.

The 100th General Meeting itself was held at 7.30 p.m. in a room above the restaurant and proved to be the shortest the Branch has yet experienced. It lasted approximately five minutes and no business was discussed. On reassembling below, the members and their guests, numbering forty-eight,

listened to a short opening address by the Chairman, Mr. D. O. Atkinson, F.R.N.S.N.Z., and then stood, at the proposal of Mr. T. W. Attwood, F.R.N.S,N.Z., and drank the Queen's health in Mr. Rubb's excellent punch. Mr Williams as Master of Ceremonies then took over and introduced the speakers who proceeded to give accounts of various sections of numismatics, using the display to illustrate their talks. Mr. Sellars took ancient Roman and Greek coins; Mr. Baxter, coins of the British Isles; Mr. Lynch, the British Empire and Commonwealth coins; Mr. Brook, foreign coins; Mr. A. Robinson, gold coins of the world; Mr. Southern, banknotes; Mr. Morris, tokens; and Mr. Atkinson, decorations and medals.

Mr. H. Hughan, F.R.N.S.N.Z., representing Wellington and Mr. R. G. Bell representing Christchurch were officially welcomed. Mr. Hughan read a letter of congratulation from the President of the Society, Captain G. T. Stagg, R.N.Z.A., of Wellington, and Mr. Bell expressed the good wishes of the Christchurch Branch. Mr. Williams, on behalf of the Society then presented Mr. Hughan, Mr. Bell and Mr. Atkinson each with a finely turned gavel for the use of the chairman at the three main centres. The gavels were the work of Mr. Southern who presented them to the Society to mark the occasion of the 100th Meeting of the Auckland Branch. Supper followed, and members got together for a rare numismatic huddle before the meeting terminated.

# MEMBERS AND VISITORS PRESENT AT THE HUNDREDTH MEETING OF THE AUCKLAND BRANCH

Mr. D. O. Atkinson, F.R.N.S.N.Z., Chairman and foundation member of the Branch, Mrs. Atkinson; Mr. J. R. Baxter, Hon. Secretary of the Branch, Mrs. Baxter, Master R. J. Baxter; Mr. S. T. Allen; Master N. Amos; Miss J. Anschutz; Mr. T. W. Attwood, F.R.N.S.N.Z., past Chairman and foundation member of the Branch, Mrs. Attwood; Mr. J. A. Brook, past Hon. Secretary of the Branch; Judge M. A. Brook, Mrs. M. A. Brook; Mr. J. C. M. Cresswell, Hon. Editor N.Z. Numismatic Journal and past Hon. Secretary of the Branch, Mrs. Cresswell; Mr. J. B. Duncan, Hon. Public Relations Officer of the Branch; Mr. R. G. Bell, representing Christchurch, Mrs. Bell; Mr. H. Hughan, F.R.N.S.N.Z., Vice-President and Auckland Branch Representative on the Council of the Society, representing Wellington; Mr. B. W. Forster, Hon. Treasurer of the Branch; Master K. Garwood; Mr. C. A. Hulse; Dr. L. Gluckman; Mr. A. Holloway, Mrs. Holloway; Mr. F. van Impelen, Mrs. van Impelen; Mr. N. Holmes, representing the Auckland Star; Mrs. Houston; Master R. M. King, Mrs. King; Master F. Koszegi; Mr. M. Lynch, Branch Committee Member; Mr. C. E. Menzies, foundation member of the Branch; Mr. E. J. Morris, foundation member and past Chairman and Hon. Secretary of the Branch; Mr. D. M. O'Neill; Mr. J. P. Roberts, Vice-Chairman and past Chairman of the Branch, Mrs. Roberts; Mr. A. Robinson, Vice-President of the Society and past Chairman and foundation member of the Branch, Mrs. Robinson; Mr. D. Rubb, past Hon. Editor N.Z. Numismatic Journal, Mrs. Rubb; Mr. R. Sellars, past Chairman of the Branch; Mr. T. P. Southern, Hon. Auditor and foundation member of the Branch, Mrs. Southern; Mr. R. S. Sinclair; Mr. B. R. Williams, Branch Committee member; Mr. M. J. Wood; Master R. Wood.

# NOTES OF MEETINGS

# WELLINGTON

The 211th meeting was held on July 28th, 1958. Captain Stagg presided. Attendance 21. Captain Stagg read a letter written on behalf of the Society on the death of Viscount Bledisloe and the reply received from his heir. It was resolved to ask the present Viscount Bledisloe for approval to maintain his name as an Honorary Life Member. The Junior Essay Prize was awarded to Master G. Stutter.

The 212th meeting was held on August 25th, 1958. Captain Stagg presided. Attendance 24 including one guest. The main feature of the evening was a paper on Canadian Numismatics and the exhibition of

21 Canadian Silver Dollars by Mr. Arlow.

The 213th meeting was held on September 29th, 1958. Captain Stagg presided. Attendance 24 including two guests. The guest speaker, Mr. M. C. Barnett gave an interesting talk on the early history of the Shaw Savill Line and its part in the development of New Zealand. Mr. Hughan exhibited British sovereigns of 1957 and 1958.

The 214th meeting was held on October 20th, 1958. Captain Stagg presided. Attendance 23. Mr. Hughan reported on the 100th Meeting Celebrations at Auckland and handed the Chairman the gavel which he had received on behalf of Wellington from the Auckland Branch. Mr. Horwood read a paper on the coinage of Queen Elizabeth I.

The 215th meeting was held on November 24th, 1958. Captain Stagg presided. Attendance 38 including nine guests. Members stood in silence as a mark of respect to the late Mr. Tether. This was the Ladies' Night and Social, and no business was conducted. Mr. Silcock screened two short films, one of which was "The Story of Money". Four guest artists provided good entertainment and were presented with small gifts. The organisation of the evening was undertaken by Mr. Arlow (Master of Ceremonies) and Mrs. Arlow and Mrs. Ranger. Mr. Macpherson terminated the evening when he produced the Ladies' Night Christmas Cake which had had made himself.

#### CANTERBURY

The 58th meeting was held on August 8th, 1958. W. Salter presided. Attendance 8. The main feature of this meeting was Mr. Bell's paper on heraldry (which appears in this issue of the Journal).

The 59th meeting was held on October 13, 1958. W. Salter presided. Attendance 9. It was announced by Mr. Dale that Mr. Salter had been made a Fellow of the Society. Mr. Dale presented Mr. Salter with the Gold Badge. Miss Steven gave an impressive address on a coin of the Roman Emperor Vespasian and the siege and capture of Jerusalem.

#### **AUCKLAND**

The 98th meeting was held on August 6th, 1958. D. O. Atkinson presided. Attendance 23 including one guest. Most of the evening was devoted to a discussion on the arrangements to be made for the 100th meeting.

The 99th meeting was held on September 3rd, 1958. D. O. Atkinson presided. Attendance 27 including two visitors. After further discussion on the 100th meeting it was announced that the Junior Essay Competition had resulted in a draw between Masters R. Baxter and K. Garwood. Master Garwood then read his entry.

The 100th meeting was held on October 7th, 1958 (reported else-

where in this issue).

The 101st meeting was held on November 5th, 1958. D. O. Atkinson presided. Attendance 23 including three visitors. Mr. H. Robinson gave an interesting talk on his European tour, followed by a short address on German coinage by a visitor, Dr. Kimper of Cologne.

# SIZES AND VALUES OF COINS

Apparently small three-penny pieces are unpopular in parts of New Zealand because of their size, and half-penny pieces are unpopular because of their low purchasing value. The following letter was sent to the Editor of  $Auckland\ Star$ :

"While hurrying to catch a ferry recently I tendered the gatekeeper 1s. 3d. for a return ticket. Seeing a sign above the ticket office which asked customers to have the correct fare ready, I put down two sixpences and six halfpennies. 'You can take the halfpennies back,' said the man. 'We don't take them'. The only other money I had with me was a £5 note which he grudgingly changed".

The man missed the boat. To the *Star* the Company said that this "would appear to be an isolated case," as there had been no previous complaints. We know what bus conductors say and do with halfpennies tendered to them! If decimal coinage is adopted in New Zealand care will have to be exercised in the values and sizes of the coins decided

upon.

# G. E. HEARN

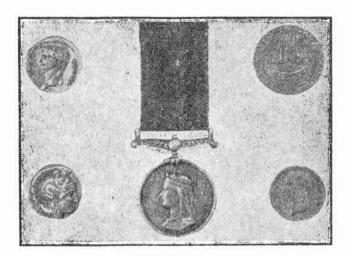
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