

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

Vol. 9



No. 2 (26)
September, 1956
March, 1957

NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

PROCEEDINGS OF
ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND
INCORPORATED

INDEX TO No. 26

BARTER AND GOLD: Logan Campbell and Kawau (A. Sutherland)	52
BALANCE SHEET (C. J. Freeman)	60
BRITANNIA: Mintmaster's Daughter	70
COINS, Mountaineering memento left on Mitre Peak	64
New Zealand Crown Pieces, and Type List	62
Origin and Study of (R. Sellars)	49
"Quiz" (H. Hughan)	72
Uses and Abuses (Miss M. Lister) (cont.)	61
COINING WORDS (Dr. Mario Pei)	51
COROMANDEL TRADING STATION est. by American (A. Sutherland)	59
CURRENCY COPPER TOKENS Centennial of Auckland and Dunedin issues	56
DECIMAL COINAGE	63
INSURING COINS	57
MEETING NOTES	82
MEMBERSHIP ROLL, ADDITIONS	84
MEMBERS, Wellington photo	85
NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF N.Z., 25th Anniversary Review	53
PAPER MONEY, WAR (Gift by I. Baird)	83
PAPER MONEY, FitzRoy Debenture sold	64
PARTHIAN COINS (Prof. Simonetta) Translated by Prof. H. A. Murray	65
ROMAN REPUBLICAN FAMILY—CAELII (T. Carney)	73
ROMAN COINS, Uncommon (D. Elliott Smith) (illustrated)	71
TOKENS copper currency, first in N.Z.	56

Issued gratis to members

NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

Reports, foolscap size, were issued from 1931 to 1947, and these were bound in three volumes and indexed. The first *printed* reports appeared in 1947.

LIST OF ISSUES

Volume	Date	Part	Consecutive Number (from 17 shown on cover)
1	1931-36	Cyclostyled reports bound in three volumes, foolscap size, and indexed.	
2	1936-41		
3	1941-47		
		Part	Consecutive Number
4	1947	1	4*
4	1947	2	5
4	1948	3	6
4	1948	4	7
5	1948	1	8
5	1949	2	9
5	1949	3	10
5	1949-50	4	11
6	1950	1	12
6	1950-51	2	13
6	1951-52	3	14
6	1952	4	15
6	1952	5	16
7	1953	1	17
7	1953	2	18
7	1953	3	19
7	1954	4	20
8	1954	1	21
8	1955	2	22
8	1955	3	23
8	1955	4	24
9	1956	1	25
9	1956-57	2	26

* First printed issue of *N.Z. Numismatic Journal*

NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

of

ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY
OF NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED
G.P.O. BOX 23, WELLINGTON, N.Z.

VOL. 9

SEPTEMBER, 1956—MARCH, 1957

Introduction to Numismatics—Coins

Read to the Wellesley Philatelic Society (Inc.)

By MR. R. SELLARS, Auckland.

Preamble

Man has been aptly described as a "collecting" animal. From time immemorial he has progressed through life accumulating particular classes of objects which have captured his interest. The cave man's choice was probably limited to clubs, flints and skins, but we have a much wider range from which to make our selection, such as works of art paintings, sculpture, ancient porcelain—or "period" furniture, books, shells and and timepieces, to name but a few "collectable" items.

Although not everybody collects coins, most people have a few stored away somewhere—in a dented old tin, perhaps, or a scrubby canvas bag, relegated to a corner of a cupboard. They may lie there for a long time undisturbed and slowly gathering dust. Then comes a day when their owner suddenly remembers his hoard and brings it forth from its hidingplace. Jingling the pieces together, he speculates curiously on their possible value. He probably knows nothing whatever about coins, but if they are very worn, diffusing (in his imagination) an aura of great antiquity and respectability, he may conceive that in them he has the wherewithal to acquire a nice, new motor car. That, however, is most unlikely. Occasionally one reads of the discovery of coin-hoards, but these are seldom as momentous as the "Mayfair find" or the sheet of U.S.A. air-mail stamps with the 'plane mistakenly inverted. It should be borne in mind, too, that coins stored in damp places, or buried for long periods, are certain to have deteriorated considerably, and, when ultimately retrieved, may prove to be worth very little.

Origin of Coins

"How did coins originate and when were they first used?" There was a time when there were no coins, and simple trading transactions were carried on by barter. The man who fashioned axes from flint needed clothing to protect himself against the rigours of winter, so he established contact with one whose occupation consisted of slaying animals and converting their pelts into garments. For this dual purpose he needed the craftsman's implements. Thus, each man was able to satisfy his own requirements by providing for the wants of the other. As time progressed, however, and man's ideas of

values matured, the advantages to be derived from the use of a common medium of exchange became apparent. The first such media to be adopted were, not coins, but weights. About 2,700 years ago the Greeks commenced using iron rods or spits, of uniform size and weight, a bundle of six such pieces combining to form their recognized unit of exchange. This was called a drachm, and when, in due course weights were superseded by coins, the drachm became the unit of Greek coinage. As such it has persisted ever since, the drachma of today being only a slight modification of the venerable drachm. The early Saxons used corn as their initial medium of exchange, twenty-four grains of corn equalling one pennyweight. This weight was in time replaced by the silver penny—or “sterling”, as it was then called. Similarly, the Chinese tael was originally a unit of weight, but today it is a coin, having a face value of one and a-half Chinese dollars.

Coins were circulated in Greece about the seventh century B.C., and perhaps even earlier in China. At first only one side of the coin was stamped—the obverse. The side left blank was the reverse. In time, however, designs were impressed on both sides of the coin, and, when Hellenic culture was at its zenith (around 400 B.C.) some of the most beautiful coins of all time were produced.

Portraiture on coins was introduced by the Greeks during the third century B.C., and some exquisite pieces resulted. The Romans followed this practice, and it is largely due to the excellence of the portraits engraved on their coins that the ancient series are so popular with numismatists. England was very late in the field in this respect, her first “portrait” coins appearing during the reign of Henry VII (1485—1509).

Methods of Making Coins

Broadly speaking, coins are either cast or struck. For the first method two separate moulds are required for a single coin. The obverse design—in negative—appears on the inner surface of one of these vessels, and the reverse on the other. Molten metal is poured into the moulds and left to cool. When removed, each portion has its appropriate design and when these two pieces are joined together the coin is complete. This method is simple and, for certain types, effective enough. The system more generally adopted for minting money, however, is, and always has been, by striking.

Until about the sixteenth century coins were struck by hand. The striking apparatus originally consisted of a crude type of anvil and a hammer. The design for uniface coins was impressed on the anvil, the planchet or blank of the coin-to-be was placed in position over the design and then received some heavy blows from the hammer, wielded by a brawny workman. At first it was as simple as that. Later, when it was decided to use both sides of the coin, the second design was stamped on a metallic punch, the planchet placed over the impression on the anvil and under that on the punch, and the workman completed the operation as before.

In the beginning, designs were very simple, consisting merely of primitive outlines of objects and immature repre-

sentations of animals. With the passing of time, however, the coin-designers gradually improved the standard of their work, and introduced legends and value-markings which served to identify the pieces. The engraving of designs on coin dies was now becoming a most complicated process, resulting in the use of numerous punches. In certain cases the engraving of a single letter would involve two punching operations. The back of the letter "O", for instance, would be formed by a punch containing the letter "C". In order to complete the letter "O" the "C" punch would again be used, this time in reverse. After a certain amount of usage dies cracked or wore out and had to be replaced. In view of the multiplicity of punches required for this purpose, and the fact that die-makers were not infallible, exact reproduction was virtually impossible. We should therefore not be surprised at the large number of minor variations which appear on old and mediæval coins.

During the reign of Elizabeth I (1558—1603) English coins were struck by machinery for the first time, some splendid silver pieces being thus produced. However, the working classes feared that the use of machinery in any form would be prejudicial to their interests and should be strongly discouraged. They therefore raised so great an outcry against what they termed a threat against the existence of the manual worker that this revolutionary method fell temporarily into abeyance. When Charles II was King of England (1660—1685) it was again brought into operation, and from that time to the present day our coinage has been manufactured by machinery. Coins to-day are mass-produced, and come to us initially in almost perfect condition.

Coining Words

The Story of Language, by Dr. Mario Pei (Unwins), should interest every seeker after knowledge.

"The original basis of English," he says, "is Anglo-Saxon, the language of the Germanic or Teutonic branch of the Indo-European. Yet a straight vocabulary count from the dictionary will show that barely forty per cent. of the English words are of Anglo-Saxon origin. The rest are borrowed primarily from French, Latin and Greek. *The Anglo-Saxon element in English comprises a large number of extremely high-frequency words.*"

He points out that Argentina means "silver land" [presumably from *argentum*]; Andes means "copper" in the tongue of the Incas; Australia was originally named "Austrialia del Espiritu Santo" in honour of the Austrian-born King Philip III of Spain. Solomon Islands were so named "because their discoverer, Mendana, created the legend that they yielded gold for King Solomon's temple—itself somewhat legendary." Java is the Malay "Jawa" (millet); Caledonia the "land of the Gaels, from the Gaelic "Gaedeldoine". New Caledonia was named by Captain Cook because it resembled Scotland. Pakistan means "pak", pure, and "stan", country; Popocatepetl, the fascinating mountain name in Mexico, is Aztec for "smoke mountain".

Barter and Gold

By ALLAN SUTHERLAND

"How many dollars for the blanket?" asked Chief Kawau of Dr. Logan Campbell, at Motukorea Island, one fine day in 1840. So saying, Kawau untied the corner of his rather grubby scarlet blanket cape, and sixty golden sovereigns glinted in the sun. He carried his money just as the schoolchild carries pocket-money—tied in the corner of a handkerchief; but this was big business—part payment for the site of Auckland—and Campbell's first clue that Auckland land had been sold to the Government.

Logan Campbell wished to purchase pigs on the hoof, also potatoes and maize, and Kawau wanted to buy trade goods that were displayed by Logan Campbell.

Kawau placed his *tapu* marks on some of the goods he wanted; a twig, a pebble, or a piece of flax indicated which articles he would like, but the "payment" had to be fixed.

As the gold lay on the blanket, Kawau said: "What is the good of money to the Maori? I cannot put it on my back and wear it, or in my pipe and smoke it, but very good is gold for the white man."

Logan Campbell replied, "What is the good of gold to a hungry man? Pigs and potatoes can be grown and eaten, but not gold." And so the *korero* continued until a compromise was reached: half in gold in hand (30 sovereigns) and half in pigs on foot, at 10s a head.

Thus the seller of the site of Auckland, who lived at Kaipara Harbour and had a village at Orakei, disposed of some of the gold he had received when he visited Kororareka to sign the *pukapuka* (deed or book) for *utu* (payment). In his "trade talk" he converted the sovereigns to "dollars" in terms of the current coin of his time.

At that time Kawau was a barefooted chief, and Logan Campbell wore moleskin trousers and bush shirt. Campbell's costume was in marked contrast with his garb when, more than 50 years later, he stood in mayoral robes, not many miles from Motukorea (now Brown's Island) and handed to a representative of the people of Auckland the deed of Cornwall Park and One Tree Hill. The future King George V and Queen Mary were observers.

After another half century an ex-Mayor of Auckland, Sir Ernest Davis, presented to the City of Auckland the deed to Brown's Island, which in turn he had purchased for £6,000, and for which Brown and Campbell had paid, in 1840, to Kanini, Katikati and Ngatai, chiefs at Waiomo, two guns, ten blankets, two coats, four 25lb casks of gunpowder, four pieces of print, twelve shirts and four pairs of trousers.

Our Society — 1931-56

The year 1956 marks the 25th anniversary of the foundation of our society, first named The New Zealand Numismatic Society. The collection of numismatic works in the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, inspired the formation of the society—to help individual numismatists to increase their knowledge and their collections, and to secure a deeper enjoyment from a fascinating pursuit.

FOUNDATION

After advertising in the four chief centres for the co-operation of other numismatists, Allan Sutherland called the inaugural meeting in Wellington. He became the first hon. secretary—a post he held for 15 years. Rev. D. C. Bates, retired Government Meteorologist, became the first president. Other foundation members were: Sir John Hanham, Bt., A.D.C. to the Governor-General, who became a vice-president; Dr. (later Sir James) Elliott, who later served as president; Mrs. D. C. Bates; Miss U. Tewesley, numismatist, Dominion Museum; E. Gilbertson; S. P. Ward; H. H. Asher, who became hon. treasurer; H. R. Ford; Max Hugo, all of Wellington; J. C. Entrican (Auckland) and E. K. Cameron (Hawera), both elected vice-presidents; O. Harding (Springston); Willi Fels (Dunedin); and C. Gilbertson (Invercargill). Johannes C. Andersen, librarian of the Alexander Turnbull Library (who later served as president), actively assisted the foundation members, and without his help the society would not have made such good progress.

ATTRACTIVE SETTING

The inaugural meeting was held on July 20, 1931, at the Alexander Turnbull Library, a fitting birthplace, for here it was that Alexander Turnbull kept his own collection of coins and numismatic books, a hitherto little-known facet of his many interests. From the outset the library has been regarded as the home of the society, with the consent of the authorities and the help of C. R. H. Taylor, the present librarian, and his accomplished staff.

Wellington members have been able to continue their studies in this attractive setting—New Zealand's most valued specialist library. For convenience, the reference books and coin-collection of the society have been lodged on "semi-permanent" loan with the library authorities, and this helps to keep the library collection of numismatic publications up to date. The Gilbertson Memorial collection of Greek original and electrotype coins has been used occasionally by university professors to stimulate students' interest.

VICE-REGAL PATRON

Shortly after the society was formed, Lord Bledisloe, Governor-General, was a guest speaker. In accordance with custom, we waited until the society was well established before asking him to become our first patron. He readily consented, and he is still our honorary life patron. On several occasions

later Lord Bledisloe was our guest speaker, and, with Lady Bledisloe and members' wives, the attractive setting of the Alexander Turnbull Library gave to such gatherings a grace and a brilliance that would be hard to recapture. Successive Governors General have acted as patron.

NEW ZEALAND'S OWN COINS

It was fortunate that the society was well established in 1933, when New Zealand adopted her own distinctive coins in place of the Imperial coins that had served as legal currency for the previous 93 years.

The Commonwealth of Australia adopted distinctive coins in 1910, and many found their way to New Zealand. During the economic depression of the 1930's the exchange rates varied between British Commonwealth countries, and the trickle of Australian coins to New Zealand became a flood. These coins were smuggled into New Zealand, and Imperial coins were smuggled out, to gain a good profit both ways. This illegal traffic forced the New Zealand Government to adopt its own coins and bank notes. Professor Rankine Brown, then president, and Allan Sutherland, then hon. secretary, were appointed by the Government in 1933 to a committee of selection for designs of the new currency. Earlier A. Sutherland sat on the Coinage Committee, 1933, to consider decimal coinage and the minting of new coins. The operation of Gresham's law, and the immediate need for new coins of New Zealand design to fill the vacuum created by the disappearance of sterling money for private profit, resulted in the decimal coinage proposal being put aside for a more appropriate time.

From time to time the Government enlisted the honorary assistance of members of the society in coinage or medal matters. These advisers also included Sir James Elliott, Johannes Andersen, M. Hornblow, James Berry, P. Watts-Rule (Timaru) and L. J. Dale (Christchurch).

Among the many good friends of the society—too numerous to particularise—was Sir Joseph Heenan, Under-secretary of the Department of Internal Affairs, who encouraged officers in an application for the coveted inclusion of "Royal" as a prefix to the society's name. In 1947 Sir Bernard Freyberg, later Lord Freyberg, Governor-General, advised us that His Majesty the King had acceded to our request.

INCORPORATION AND FELLOWSHIPS

The incorporation of the society took place in 1948, aided by our long-time hon. auditor, M. Chetwynd, and our hon. solicitor, J. Craigmyle (Wanganui). Provision for fellowships

Of the ten vice-presidents elected at the first annual meeting, only three survive—Dr. (now Sir James) Elliott, Wellington, Ven. Archdeacon G. H. Gavin, New Plymouth, and E. K. Cameron, Hawera. Vice-presidents in 1936 included S. R. McCallum, Wanganui, Johannes C. Andersen, and J. Robertson, Invercargill; seven other vice-presidents have died in the 20 years that have elapsed.

New Fellows of the Society are in course of election, and an up-to-date list will be printed in a future issue.

was included in the incorporated rules, and this honour has been sparingly conferred.

MEDALS

The society has issued two historic medals—one, in 1935, bearing the portrait of Lord Bledisloe, to mark his association with New Zealand as an outstanding Governor-General and in gratitude for the earlier gift to the State of the Waitangi estate and house by the Lady and Lord Bledisloe. The second marked New Zealand's centennial, in 1940, and the Government subsidised the issue.

CO-OPERATION WITH GOVERNMENT

Over the past quarter of a century the society has co-operated with the Department of Internal Affairs, the Treasury and the Reserve Bank of New Zealand in securing the best designs to commemorate historic events by coins or medals, and the Government in turn has helped the society by a small subsidy towards printing the *New Zealand Numismatic Journal*, commenced in 1947, to preserve in permanent form summaries of original papers, and particularly those dealing with the history of New Zealand and Polynesia generally.

BRANCHES

In 1947 the Canterbury Branch was formed, and the driving force was L. J. Dale, who was elected chairman. Other chairmen were Miss M. K. Steven and James Sutherland. Miss Shirley A. Lange was the first hon. secretary; D. Hasler, W. Salter and E. C. Price followed in that office. The Canterbury Branch owes a great deal to the interest of Dr. Roger Duff, the director of Canterbury Museum, where meetings are held. Close co-operation has always been the rule, as it has been with Dr. Gilbert Archey, Auckland, Dr. Falla, Wellington, and Dr. Skinner, Dunedin.

In 1949 the Auckland Branch was formed. The first meeting was convened by Asher Robinson. Allan Sutherland presided, and J. C. Entrican was elected first chairman, but he did not actually preside over any meetings. The first effective chairman was T. W. Attwood, followed by R. Sellars, J. P. Roberts, Asher Robinson and E. J. Morris. The first secretary-treasurer, E. W. Robson, was followed by E. J. Morris and Julian A. Brook. The hon. treasurer is B. Forster.

PARENT BODY, WELLINGTON

Nine presidents have held office, as follows: Col. Rev. D. C. Bates, Professor J. Rankine Brown, Sir James Elliott, Johannes C. Andersen, Allan Sutherland, William D. Ferguson, Maxwell H. Hornblow, Professor H. A. Murray, Captain G. T. Stagg.

Vice-presidents at present are: L. J. Dale (Christchurch), H. Hughan (Carterton), H. B. Martin (Wellington) and R. Sellars (Auckland).

Acting hon. secretaries were R. C. Cooper in 1935, G. C. Sherwood in 1937, and M. H. Hornblow in 1938-9, and Mr. S. P. Ward was acting hon. treasurer in 1935.

The officer who has held office for the longest period is W.

Chetwynd, appointed hon. auditor in 1938 and still occupying that post of trust. Earlier holders of that office: E. G. Pilcher, J. W. M. Smith and S. P. Ward.

Hon. treasurers have been: H. H. Asher, F. K. Lowe, R. C. Cooper, G. C. Sherwood, Hassell B. Martin, P. D. Tether and C. J. Freeman (in office). Hon. secretaries: Allan Sutherland, James Berry, Miss E. Emerson, Miss W. Berry, M. Weston and P. D. Tether (in office). Hon. assistant secretaries: M. H. Hornblow, M. Weston and C. J. Freeman (in office). Hon. editor from 1947 to 1957: Allan Sutherland (in office).

FUTURE

In 25 years our society has made good progress. We have achieved much, but we cannot rest on our laurels. We must go forward to greater progress by increasing our membership roll and stimulating the interest of individual members. Educational values should come before collectors' values. It is only by keeping the educational side of our studies to the fore that we can make a worthy contribution to the advancement of cultural studies in New Zealand.

Currency Token Centennial

In 1857, during a shortage of official pennies and half-pennies, traders in New Zealand commenced the issue of a series of copper currency tokens.

The first issue was made in 1857 by M. Somerville, "wholesale family grocer, city mart", Auckland, which then stood at the corner of Queen and Shortland Streets.

In Dunedin, then the financial centre of New Zealand, tokens were issued by A. S. Wilson, Medical Hall, whose shop in 1857 was near the Bank of New Zealand.

In 1857, too, tokens were issued by Professor Holloway, London, whose pills and pennies helped New Zealand colonists for many years.

To mark the centennial of the first issue of New Zealand tokens, Mr. H. Robinson, Auckland, has suggested that the Auckland Branch should issue a medal, and the proposal is now under consideration.

During a 25-year period a Baltimore financier, Louis Eliasburg, assembled every one of the separately dated coins ever issued by the various American mints. Not even the Federal Mint can duplicate his collection. Experts value his collection at more than 1,000,000 dollars.—Submitted by D. Rubb.

How to Insure Your Coins

"Most numismatists lavish as much care on their collections as they do on their wives. The collection represents hours of steady work, buying, selling and swapping ability, in addition to a financial investment built up over a long period." states J. E. Borhek. Detroit, Mich., an insurance expert and resident manager of the Employers' Group Insurance Companies in that city. He adds that, in spite of the care taken, many valuable collections have been lost, destroyed or stolen, and, although you cannot insure your time or the sentimental value, you can protect your financial investment. These remarks apply only to private collections, and not to those of dealers. There might be some slight differences in some States, as all insurance is subject to the regulations of the State involved.

Practically everyone insures personal property against loss by fire. This type of policy is, however, worthless when applied to a coin collection, inasmuch as money is not insured under standard fire policy. Many persons today protect their personal property with theft policies or the new so-called package policies, such as the hometown form or comprehensive dwelling policy. These policies provide a limited amount for protection on money, including numismatic property, with the usual limit of 100 dollars unless specially increased. They are therefore unsatisfactory except for insuring the very low-valued collection.

There is, however, an inland marine form specifically designed for insuring coin collections on a so-called "all risk" basis anywhere in the world. It is designed to insure rare and current coins, medals, paper money, bank notes, tokens and other numismatic property, including albums, containers, frames, cards and display cabinets used in connection with any collection, and may insure coins in the collector's custody or control, as well as those owned by him.

While this type of policy insures against all risk of loss or damage, it contains some exclusions and conditions. It does not insure against fading, creasing, denting, scratching, tearing, wear, dampness and damage through handling or manufacture.

Mysterious disappearance of an individual coin is not insured unless it is mounted in a volume and the entire page also is lost. This exclusion would not apply if the coin is specifically scheduled for a definite amount in the policy. Property is not covered in the custody of a transportation company, except shipments by railway express or armoured car, and mail shipments must be by registered mail or insured parcel post. Ordinary theft of coins from an unattended motor

car would not be covered. This additional protection may be obtained by paying five per cent. additional for the insurance. Risks of war may not be covered.

As this policy insures coins anywhere in the world, you are protected whether or not they are destroyed by fire in your house, stolen from an exhibition at a convention, or damaged in an automobile accident en route. You are at least buying peace of mind if you never have a loss.

The policy will reimburse you up to the actual cash market value of the coins at the time of loss, in the limit of not exceeding 250 dollars on any coin or other individual article, or any pair, strip, block, series sheet, frame, card or the like. This method of settlement would apply if you do not specifically schedule individual coins or sets, but merely purchase a blanket amount of insurance to apply on your entire collection. If you own scarce coins or series mounted in frames, boards or cards, exceeding 250 dollars in value, they should be specifically listed with a valuation placed on each piece. Then the insurance would make good the loss or damage up to but not exceeding the amount specified.

It is important that you insure your collection for the full cash market value at all times, as otherwise, in the event of the partial loss of a set or of coins not individually insured, you would not receive full reimbursement. If you insured a set of coins worth 1,000 dollars for 500 dollars only and one coin worth 100 dollars was stolen you could collect only 50 dollars, because of failure to insure fully.

Many may have felt that it would be too expensive to obtain special insurance on a collection. Fortunately numismatists as a class are considered careful people; thus, even though money is highly susceptible to loss by fire or theft, the rates charged are substantially lower than you would pay for insuring such things as jewellery or furs under similar "all risk" coverage. The current annual rates (January, 1957) are 65 cents per 100 dollars for the first 5,000 dollars, 40 cents per 100 dollars for the next 10,000 dollars, and 25 cents per 100 dollars for all over 15,000 dollars. The minimum premium in any event is 10 dollars per year. Your insurance should be purchased for a three-year term, as it is possible to save one-half an annual premium by so doing. If you keep at least 75 per cent. of the collection in a fireproof safe or vault with a combination lock when not actually in use or on exhibition, a reduction of 10 per cent is allowed on the premium.

Your first step in obtaining this insurance should be to inventory your complete collection and place a fair unexaggerated market value on the coins. This should not be difficult, except in the case of extremely rare and unique pieces, where-

Coromandel Trading Station

Whanganui Island, Coromandel Harbour, was a famous trading centre before Auckland existed. An American, William "Big" Webster, also known as King Wepiha to the Maoris, established an island pig pen to save fences, on the inner side of the island, which was also known as Herekino, Purser's or Mannion's. Webster was probably the first major trader south of the Bay of Islands. His *whare hoko* or trading house here was a magnet to Maoris, who came in canoes to trade in pigs, potatoes, kumara for tobacco, blankets, muskets, powder, spirits and bright baubles.

At Kauaeranga, near Thames, another shore trading station flourished where Webster held kauri logs in booms, as a kind of "till" from which he floated rafts of timber to anchored ships in exchange for manufactured goods and food.

Maoris and whites tarried while trading, and Webster built a bunkhouse and rented bunks at a dollar a night. The silver dollars of America and Spain were then current. Dr. Logan Compbell stayed here in 1840, and he was impressed by the wealth of Sydney "land sharks", who often tossed for sovereigns, and when one fell into the thatched roof they did not bother to look for it.

Webster bought much land from the Maoris, and from 1834 until 1840, when British sovereignty came, he had acquired about 500,000 acres. He had a Maori wife, whose family adopted him and exacted tribute from the store as need arose. This gave Webster protection, at a price.

From 1840 until he died in Baltimore in 1897 Webster fought to prove his titles to New Zealand land, and his American widow pressed her claims afterwards before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations in Washington. Eventually arbitrators in 1925 ruled that the claims were not valid, and thus ended the longest land-claim hearings New Zealand had known.

Webster claimed, with justification, that he was the pioneer of civilisation near the Auckland area that was later to become the capital of the country.—A. Sutherland.

HOW TO INSURE YOUR COINS

(continued from page 58)

in it would be advisable to get expert opinion before insuring. The inventory and insurance should be maintained up to date at all times in order to establish claims properly, if necessary, and thereby receive a satisfactory settlement.—*Numismatist*, p. 17, Jan., 1957.

ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND (INCORPORATED).
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED MAY 31, 1956.

RECEIPTS			PAYMENTS		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance, 31/5/55	168	8 1	By Journal Expenses—		
Subscriptions	77	4 2	Printing	107	0 0
Government Grant	100	0 0	Blocks, etc.	33	9 9
Advertising	15	0 0	Mailing	10	15 0
Refund Blocks, etc.	23	0 4	Postage	5	7 5
Sale of Journals	6	4 0	Exchange	4	3
Cash Received for Suppers	5	8 0			
			Income Tax	156	16 5
			Company Fees	1	5 1
			Bank Fees	10	0 0
			Bank Fees	1	0 0
			Rent	1	10 0
			<i>Numismatic Circular</i>	1	10 0
			Stamps	5	2 11
			Supper	10	0 0
			Balance	227	0 2
	£395	4 7		£395	4 7

BALANCE SHEET AS AT MAY 31, 1956.

LIABILITIES			ASSETS		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Accumulated Funds—			Post Office Savings Bank*	339	0 6
Balance, 31/5/55	589	12 6	Bank of New Zealand	125	5 8
Composite Sub. A/c	33	2 7	National Savings†	118	15 6
Medal Trust A/c	3	9 0	Cash in Hand	101	14 6
Excess Receipts over Expenditure	58	12 1			
	£684	16 2		£684	16 2

* Composite Subscription Trust Account: Interest, £7 18s 7d; Cr. £339 0s 6d.

† Medal Trust Account: Interest, £3 9s; Cr., £118 15s 6d.

W. CHETWYND, Hon. Auditor.

CHAS. J. FREEMAN, Hon. Treasurer.

Uses and Abuses of Coins—II

By MISS MAUD LISTER

(“Seaby’s Coin and Medal Bulletin, 1949”—by permission)
(*Concluded*)

Coins are frequently used in connection with games. We all know that in cricket the captains toss for choice of innings; pennies are used on “pin tables”, and there is a popular game known as “Shove-ha’penny”. My dictionary also mentions “Chuck Farthing”.

Pennies particularly are put to many uses. Most cigarette lighters are made to be unscrewed with a penny, and tins of all sorts are made with a “flange” to be operated with a penny. Pennies are used to keep closed the eyes of a dead person, and the old Greeks used to place a coin known as an obolos beneath the tongue of a corpse, to pay old Charon his fee for ferrying the soul across the River Styx. From this old practice it would appear that the ancients credited the beings of the other world with knowing the value of money, whereas it is rather surprising to learn that in some of the Indian states a quite valueless token is made specially for use as a temple offering, the gods in such case being apparently unable to distinguish between these pieces and real money. It is real coin that people, to this day, throw into “wishing wells” in the hope that this will bring their wishes to fulfilment.

In Lancashire it was believed that a child’s character could be foretold with a coin. A farthing or a ha’penny was placed in the hand of a newborn baby. If the infant grasped the coin it was taken as an indication that it would grow up to be thrifty and careful in the expenditure of money; if the coin lay on the little palm without being grasped, the child would have the opposite character; if, however, the baby, possibly in some spasm, appeared to throw away the money, or let it fall to the ground, it was certain to be a terrible spendthrift.

A charm to cure epilepsy was to wear a ring made from a piece of silver given in the church offertory; or thirty pence were to be begged from thirty poor widows, which pence were then given to a clergyman in exchange for a half-crown from the Communion offertory. The piece was pierced and worn round the neck on a ribbon. A sufferer from fits was to wear a ring made from sixpences which had been begged from six young bachelors. (Strange to say, this cure applied only to unmarried women. Possibly the married women had no time to have fits, or perhaps nobody bothered if they did; or maybe it was not so easy for them to get the sixpences from the young bachelors.)

To ensure a gipsy telling you a “good” fortune, it was necessary to “cross her palm with silver”. I wonder what kind of a fortune she would predict nowadays if her palm were “crossed” with cupro-nickel? We still put a shilling in the Christmas pudding to betoken a prosperous twelve months

for the finder. We turn over our money when we first catch sight of the new moon, and we can often see market women spit on the first money they take, but I do not think many of us now believe that a witch can be shot only with a bullet made from a silver coin.

Mr. Hughan's accountant, who copied the above, adds: Other strange uses area half-crown placed in the preserving-pan when boiling jam. The coin keeps moving about the bottom of the pan and (allegedly) prevents the boiling jam from burning on the bottom.

In the days when duelling pistols were carried in the waistcoat pockets of the traveller the lead bullets which he made himself with a bullet-mould contained a minute portion of silver clipped from the edge of a threepenny piece, a tiny clipping being added to the molten lead just before casting. Probably the silver did not melt, but was discarded with the dross; the ritual had been performed and good shooting was assured. An instance where a coin changes hands, but not for the settlement of a debt, is when a knife is given as a gift. The recipient, to "avoid cutting a friendship", will hand the giver a penny in mock payment.

Mr. Hughan adds: No mention has been made of the "double-header". That's an abuse, but what a use—if you don't get caught!

New Zealand Coins

A type list of New Zealand coins from 1933 to 1953 has been published on page 66 of the report of the Australian Numismatic Society by Mr. K. J. Irons. These are, for King George V, Nos. 1 to 6; King George VI, Nos. 7 to 27; and for Queen Elizabeth II, Nos. 28 to 35, all inclusive.

★ ★ ★

Correction

On page 31 of *Journal* No. 25: The set of New Zealand coins offered did not include the 1954 coins. The rarest coins of recent years are the halfpennies of 1954 and 1955. The 1954 penny mentioned is not a rare coin.

★ ★ ★

Waitangi Crowns

Fewer than a-quarter of the total number of 1,128 N.Z. crown pieces issued in 1935 were proof specimens (364, in sets).

Occasionally sets are divided, and a high price is paid for proof crowns from such sets. This has given a false value to other 1935 crown pieces in uncirculated condition only.

Sir,

Re *Journal* Vol. 8 No. 3 (23), on page 94 an inquiry is made as to what became of the other 19 New Zealand crowns, proofs, dated 1949. The answer is that the so-called "proof" crown pieces were issued from the Royal Mint, London. Having had three of them pass through my hands, I would point out that these pieces are not on highly polished flans; they are the ordinary issue, carefully struck. I, myself, could not call them proofs.

Yours, etc.,

G. E. HEARN,
37 Turney Road,
London, S.E.21.

Decimal Coinage

Decimal coinage is to be seriously studied by a 12-man representative committee set up by the Government. This was stated in a letter to the society from the Minister of Finance, the Hon. J. T. Watts. The Society was asked to submit the name of a representative, and of a deputy, to sit on the committee.

The society has nominated Mr. Allan Sutherland, F.R.N.S., N.Z., honorary editor of the *Journal*, and Captain G. T. Stagg, president of the society, as the deputy representative.

The widely representative committee will consist of representatives of the following:

The Treasury (chairman)
 Department of Industries and Commerce.
 New Zealand Society of Accountants
 New Zealand Manufacturers' Federation
 New Zealand Retailers' Federation
 Associated Chambers of Commerce of New Zealand
 Associated Banks of New Zealand
 Reserve Bank of New Zealand
 Federated Farmers of New Zealand
 New Zealand Federation of Labour
 The Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand, Inc.
 New Zealand Employers' Federation.

★ ★ ★

DECIMAL COINAGE

Sir,

Discussions on decimal coinage show that there is growing support for the adoption of an upper unit of account of 8s 4d equal to 100 pence. This would not involve any change in the value of coins in use today.

A decimalised pound of 1,000 cents, instead of 960 farthings as now, would mean three decimal places, and that would be a nuisance. A decimalised florin divided into 100 cents would give us coins that were too low in value.

A middle value is needed, and the 8s 4d offers an interesting approach. This "double dollar", to use a temporary name for want of a better one, could be provided by way of a note, and the present 10s and £1 notes could be called in. The halfpenny could be abolished, for no one bothers to pick up a halfpenny in the dust these days.

The present £5 notes would be equal to 12 "double dollars", and the £10 notes equal to 24 "double dollars" in the new currency, and, when these notes were worn out, they could be replaced with notes in steps of ten. We should then decimalise weights and measures.

I am, etc..

SIMPLE ARITHMETIC.

[This scheme, in part, was discussed in 1952 by the Hon. C. Bowden, Associate Minister of Finance, who proposed that some new decimal coins be circulated, in addition to the existing denominations. The convenience of working in tens, he thought, would eventually drive out fractional

coins, and thus facilitate a "painless" change-over later on. The following range of coins was described on p. 116 of our *Journal*, Vol. 6, No. 4: Kiwi (new) 8s 4d = 100 pence; half-kiwi (new) 4s 2d = 50 pence; new coin 3s 4d = 40 pence; existing coin 2s 6d = 30 pence; quarter-kiwi 2s 1d = 25 pence; new coin 10d = 10 pence; new coin 5d = 5 pence; existing coin 1d = 1 penny. Two 8s 4d notes and one 3s 4d coin would equal £1. Six 3s 4d coins would equal £1. Three 10d pieces would equal 2s 6d, and the lower denominations would fit into the pattern smoothly. Why not use the "Zeal" or "Zeala"—part of the name "Zealand"—for the proposed 8s 4d unit of value?

★ ★ ★

Decimal Coinage Supported

The annual conference of the Associated Chambers of Commerce of New Zealand, at Invercargill, in April, reaffirmed its support for decimal coinage for New Zealand. Earlier its president went further and advocated the complete change to decimal weights and measures.

Two Halfpennies on Mitre Peak

The use of a sixpence to catch a mackerel, and other abuses of coins mentioned by Miss Lister, have encouraged Mr. Bernard Teague, Wairoa, to recall the use of pennies or halfpennies to make "spoons" with which to catch trout. He writes to Mr. H. Hughan:

Although perhaps not counting as "abuse", the Maori children jumping [from a bridge into the water] for coins thrown in by tourists at Rotorua is interesting. But perhaps a most interesting abuse is the leaving of coins on the summit of a mountain to serve as a record of a climb.

My friend, Edgar R. Williams, of Christchurch, told me that he had left a token and two halfpennies on the summit of Mitre Peak in Milford Sound when he had climbed it about twenty-five years before. He wanted me to go with him on his second climb, but I could not get away; he took another mate and made his second climb 27 years after the first.

This year's *N.Z. Alpine Journal* gives an historical survey of the climbs of Mitre Peak. J. R. Murrell (killed in 1914-18 war) and Edgar Williams climbed Mitre Peak on March 1, 1914. On the summit they found the cairn made by J. R. Dennistoun, who made the first ascent. He had left his handkerchief. Williams and Murrell left a whisky token and two halfpennies in a small bottle. These were still there when D. E. Cooper and T. Barfoot made the sixth ascent, on February 7, 1955.

When Williams and I were in the Karangarua Valley in 1935 we were caught by very bad weather, and spent some days under an overhanging rock. We left in a tin some mint copies of the Chamber of Commerce commemorative postage stamps with the record of our stay. These later became very valuable, but ours are probably still there.

★ ★ ★

FitzRoy Debenture

History books tell us that Governor FitzRoy's debentures, issued in 1844 as currency, were worthless; but one debenture for ten shillings, issued in Auckland and found as a bookmark, was sold at Bethune's auction last year for fifteen guineas.

Notes on Parthian Numismatics

By PROFESSOR B. SIMONETTA (Florence) (Translated by Professor H. A. Murray).

The gaps and uncertainties which continually appear when we try to reconstruct the history of the Parthian kings do not grow less when we come to their decline and fall.

We can state with certainty that Vologeses V ascended the throne in 208/09 A.D., because there exists tetradrachms (Petrowicz 170.15) of Vologeses IV, his father, dated 518 (= 207/08) and perhaps 519 (Petrowicz, 170.16), and tetradrachms of Vologeses V actually dated 519 (Wroth, 241.1). About 213, while Vologeses V was fighting with Caracalla for Ostoeue and for Armenia, his brother, Artabanus V (who seems to have assumed control of Media), must have risen against him. It is certain that in 216 Artabanus V had extended his power over Mesopotamia (although Vologeses V continued to coin money in Seleucia), and in that year Caracalla, when at Antioch, gave orders to ask in marriage the daughter of Artabanus, perhaps with the object of uniting the two great empires or of creating a *casus belli*.

According to the account of Herodian (who, although contemporaneous, is not always an historian worthy of attention), Artabanus in the end consented to the marriage, and the Emperor was received with his following at the Parthian court; but, during the festivities, the Romans rushed on the Parthians and killed many of them. Artabanus himself escaped for the time being by flight; but, according to Dio, Artabanus refused to permit the marriage of his daughter, and Caracalla attacked in reprisal. However this may be, it is a fact that Caracalla devastated a large part of Media, took the city of Arbela, and despoiled the tombs of the Parthian kings. Artabanus withdrew to the mountains to gather fresh forces, and Caracalla reported his victory to the Senate. In commemoration, coins were struck with the inscription VIC(TORIA) PART(HICA) MAX(IMA).

But by the spring of 217 Artabanus invaded the Roman territories in Mesopotamia, and Caracalla fell, murdered by one of his own officials while he was on the way from Edessa to Carrhae. He was succeeded by Macrinus; he was defeated in a big battle which lasted three days, and he obtained peace by sending money and gifts to Artabanus and the Parthian chieftains. In 219 Macrinus was defeated, and subsequently captured and put to death by the followers of Elagabalus. His ten-year-old son, Diadumenianus, was ordered to seek refuge with Artabanus, and also was captured and killed.

In spite of Artabanus's victory over Macrinus, the kingdom of Parthia, which had been bled white by wars against the Romans and harassed by internal conflicts, sank rapidly to its end. The final blow must have been dealt by the Sassanids, who ruled in Persidia as vassals of the Parthians. The revolt broke out about 220, and was the work of Artaxerxes (Ardashir). Debevoise (*Political History of Parthia*, p. 269)

thus sums up the opinion currently accepted on the manner of the fall of the kingdom of Parthia: Vologeses V "was evidently killed in the fighting, for his last coins are dated 222/223. Artabanus V was defeated and killed about 227, and all his territory, including Media, fell into the hands of Ardashir. The remaining Parthian forces fled to the mountains, where Artabanus' son Artavasdes continued the struggle for some years. Eventually captured, he was executed in Ctesiphon."

Vologeses V minted (apart from undated drachms, which, however, bear the inscription *Volgasi Malka*, and bronze coins) an uninterrupted series of tetradrachms dated from 208/209 to 222/23, and it is this sudden interruption in this year which has led to the view that the date must also be that of his death. Artabanus V minted only drachms (with the inscription *Hartabi Malka*) and undated bronze coins; Artavasdes minted drachms (with the inscription *Artavazi Malka*), and bronze coins which are very rare and are not dated. To Artavasdes has been attributed also a tetradrachm dated 539 (= 228/29), probably minted in Seleucia.

It appears that numismatics constitute for this period not only one of the most important historical sources, but also, in view of the uncertainty of what the ancients have written on the subject, also one of the sources most worthy of attention. The coins are, in fact, the only evidence that gives us precise and indisputable dates, portraits (admittedly barbaric in style and therefore crude, but, at the same time, characteristic) and names. Has the numismatic evidence ever been really collected and analysed with the attention and caution demanded by its historical value? To us it appears that this has not been done, and we shall see just how a re-examination of such evidence ought to lead us to conclusions very different from those accepted up to the present.

The first fact that prompted us to this re-examination was a tetradrachm in our collection belonging indubitably to Vologeses V and dated 539 (= 228/29) (see fig. 1). If Vologeses minted in Seleucia in that year, the date 222/223 as that of his death is completely meaningless. But in 228/29 Artavasdes also must have minted in Seleucia—the contemporaneous minting of tetradrachms by two different rulers is nothing exceptional in Parthia; but, to say the least, it appeared a strange thing in the very year when the kingdom was in its death agonies. Our task must be, therefore, above all, to clear up this point.

The tetradrachm dated 228/29, and attributed to Artavasdes, was described by Longperier in 1853; and the attribution to Artavasdes of this tetradrachm was based by this authority on the fact that Artavasdes is represented, on the drachms which bear his name, with a rather short forked beard ("barbe fourchue"), this last a unique phenomenon in the portraiture of the Parthian kings. According to Longperier, the portrait on the tetradrachm also has a rather short forked beard, and therefore it can be no other than the portrait of Artavasdes,

In fact, Longperier himself had already described this tetradrachm (Descript des Med. du Cab. Magnocour), attributing it to Vologeses; and only on this second occasion, relying on the shape of the beard, he maintained that it must be attributed to Artavasdes instead. It seems indeed strange that, thanks only to this second description given by Longperier of a tetradrachm of which only this single example was known, the death of Vologeses has been accepted for 222/23 and the date 228/29 as one of the reign of Artavasdes. There was no interest, to say the least, in tracing the tetradrachm illustrated by Longperier, and of examining the description which he provided. All the more strange the attitude of *all* subsequent authorities, if one reflects that Longperier also reported that the coin, acquired by M. Rollin, then passed to the Bibliotheque



Fig. 1



Fig. 2

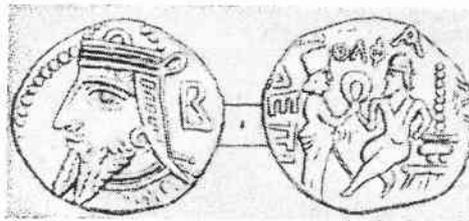


Fig. 3



Fig. 4



Fig. 5



Fig. 6

Fig. 1—Tetradrachm of Vologeses V, dated THLPH (= 228/29 A.D.). Own collection.

Fig. 2—Tetradrachm of Vologeses V attributed by Longperier to Artavasdes, dated THLPH (= 228/29 A.D.). Cabinet des Medailles.

Fig. 3 — Sketch of the foregoing made by Longperier.

Fig. 4—Tetradrachm of Vologeses V, dated GKPH (= 212/13 A.D.). Own collection.

Fig. 5 — Drachm of Artabanus V.

Fig. 6—Drachm of Artavasdes.

Imperiale; which goes to show that it must have been actually in the Cabinet des Medailles.

In fact, a careful examination of the collection of Parthian coins in the Cabinet des Medailles proved that it was not difficult for us to trace the tetradrachm in question, and we give here a photograph of it (1) beside the sketch made by Longperier a century ago (see figs. 2 and 3). It is easy to be convinced, on examination, that this tetradrachm is entirely similar to the one in our collection, and that the portrait on both is not that of Artavasdas but that of Vologeses V. His characteristics are absolutely unmistakable; the simple comparison with a tetradrachm dated 523 (212/13), and therefore indisputably of Vologeses V (see fig. 4) will be sufficient to remove any doubt whatever. The mistake made by Longperier is the result of a crushing of the flan, which gives the erroneous impression that the beard is "divisee en fourche" (forked).

With the assistance of our tetradrachm and of the one illustrated by Longperier it is therefore demonstrated that Vologeses V was still reigning in 227/28, and that there do not exist tetradrachms minted by Artavasdes.

How, then, is the history of the last years of the Parthian kingdom to be reconstructed? The ancient historians tell us that, until about 213-215, the Romans were at war with Vologeses V; starting from 216 we find them at war with Artabanus V, who in the interval had rebelled against his brother and had installed himself in Mesopotamia. But Vologeses continued to mint undisturbed in Seleucia until 222/23, a fact which makes us think that a peaceable *modus vivendi* must have been established quickly between the two brothers, either by the subdivision of the vast kingdom between themselves or by Artabanus's remaining as a vassal king of Vologeses (the fact that Artabanus never coined tetradrachms might tell in favour of this second hypothesis). Only in this way can we understand also the freedom of action which Artabanus enjoyed against the Romans, hardly admissible if he was at the same time engaged in struggles with his brother. On the other hand, the fact that Artabanus was installed in the districts of the Parthian kingdom which bordered the Roman empire gives us the reason why the historians speak only of him and no longer of Vologeses after 216.

However, Vologeses was the first who had to suffer the attacks of Artaxerxes, and in 222/23 he was defeated, driven from Seleucia, *but not killed*. Thus his issues of tetradrachms cease, and Artabanus remained to struggle against Artaxerxes.

We must suppose that Vologeses retreated to the mountainous regions of the interior until Artabanus was decisively defeated in three successive battles in 226 (the date is precisely given us by Agathias), and Artaxerxes set himself to attack

(1) It has been reproduced from a cast, which was very kindly presented to us by Dr. A. Guillou, of the Cabinet des Medailles.

the sons of Artabanus in Armenia, where they had taken refuge with some Medes.

But, Dio relates, Artaxerxes was there to be defeated: according to some, put to flight; according to others, simply compelled to withdraw to find fresh forces. We must suppose that this happened in 227, and the reappearance of tetradrachms of Vologeses dated 227/28 serves to show how he immediately profited by the discomfiture of Artaxerxes in Armenia by descending again to the plains and occupying Seleucia. An ephemeral occupation, as is shown also by the very rarity of the tetradrachms minted on this occasion, and ended by the final disappearance of Vologeses.

As for Artavasdes, it is generally held that he was one of the sons of Artabanus V, who continued for some time the struggle against the new Sassanid king; and therefore his reign must be dated as beginning in 226/27, and as lasting for an indefinite number of years. It is possible that this Artavasdes is the same who, about 260, was king of Armenia, and urged Sapor, son and successor of Artaxerxes, to restore the emperor Valerian to freedom (he had been taken prisoner by this Sapor and treated worse than a slave), because it is not stated that the son of Artabanus V slain at Ctesiphon by Artaxerxes (cf. Msiha Zkha) was necessarily Artavasdes, but we have no date to give precise facts. If we go by the ancient historians, it would then have to be a question of two different kings, who were cousins: the former was probably a son of Artabanus, the latter would have been son of an Arsaces, king of Armenia, and brother of Artabanus.

In conclusion, the dates of the reigns of Vologeses V, Artabanus V and of Artavasdes must be established as follows:

Vologeses V: 208/09—228/29.

Artabanus V: 213/14—226/27.

Artavasdes: 226/27—(?).

"Mark Newby" or "St. Patrick" Halfpence of New Jersey

In November, 1681, Mark Newby, of Dublin, Ireland, brought some halfpenny and farthing coins to New Jersey. These pieces are believed to have been struck in Dublin three years earlier. There were many varieties, and some were struck in silver and gold. The obverse shows the legend *Floreat Rex* (May the King Prosper) and King David playing the harp. On the reverse, St. Patrick is shown with arms outstretched as if driving away serpents. Above him is the legend *Quiescat Plebs* (May the People Be Quiet). The New Jersey General Assembly sanctioned these coins in May, 1682, and they were widely circulated. The halfpenny pieces became known as "Mark Newby" or "St. Patrick" halfpence. A specimen was displayed by Mr. Douglas Rubb at an Auckland Branch meeting.

CORRESPONDENTS WANTED

Correspondents on numismatics wanted by 19-year-old Ian Grant, 1 Niddrie Marischal Grove, Edinburgh 9, Scotland.

Uncommon Roman Coins

By D. ELLIOTT SMITH (Sydney)

The illustrations to this article are made from rubbings inked in with indian ink. Many are from poor specimens, with the result that often both inscriptions and details are incomplete. The following are all from first brass—that is sestertii, originally $2\frac{1}{2}$ asses, but, during the period dealt with, 4 asses.

(a) A coin of Tiberius (14—37 A.D.). Obv.: The letters S.C. mean “Senatus Consulto”, or “with the authority of the Senate”. Around is inscribed *TI CAESAR DIVI AUG F AUGUST P M T R POT XXXVIII* (translated as Tiberius Cæsar son of the divine Augustus chief priest, and with tribunicial power for the 38th time). Rev.: A view of the Temple of Concord, which was renovated by the Emperor; the roof is adorned with statues, and there are two more on pedestals on either side of the steps and another inside.

1. Marcus Aurelius (161—180). Commemorates the death of his predecessor and his elevation to divine honours. Rev.: The word *CONSECRATIO* and the device of a four-tiered funeral pyre.

2. Antoninus Pius (138—161). Rev.: The wolf suckling the twins, Romulus and Remus, thus referring to the founding of Rome. An arc above the wolf indicates a cave.

3. Faustina II, wife of Marcus Aurelius, contrasted sharply with him in moral standards. Rev.: The words *MATRI MAGNI* and the normal S.C. The great mother referred to is Cybele. Wearing a turreted headdress, she sits on a throne, holding a typanum. The heads of two lions appear at her feet. Cybele was an Asiatic goddess and a later form of Astarte.

4. Commodus (180—192). Rev.: Cybele is riding side-saddle on a lion. Inscription: *MATER DEVM CNSERV AVG COS*, etc.

5. Commodus again. Rev.: Inscription *FORTUNA MANENTI*, and the device shows the goddess Fortune seated on a throne, holding a *cornucopia* (horn of plenty) and the bridle of a horse whose head is pulled back. The meaning of the device is not obvious, but nowadays it would be taken as a horse-racing irregularly.

6. Septimus Severus (193—211). Obv.: A bust in armour. Rev.: Words *ADVENTI AVG FELICISSIMO*. The Emperor, his hand raised in salutation, sits on a horse to right. An armoured soldier leads the horse.

7. Philip I (244—249). The Emperor, with his arm raised in greeting and holding a spear, is advancing to right on horseback.

8. Another coin of Philip I. Rev.: Words *AETERNITAS AVG*. The Emperor, mounted on an elephant advancing to left, holds a goad, or maybe a spear.



UNCOMMON ROMAN COINS DESCRIBED ON PAGE 70

Numismatic Quiz

(Conducted by H. Hughan, at Christchurch meeting, Nov., 1954.)

What is the country of issue of the Maria Theresa Thaler, and when was it first issued?

Originally in Austria in 1780, but many places since.

On what English coins do the heads of a King and Queen face each other?

Philip and Mary (1554—58). •

What is a Portcullis design? On what recent coin has it appeared?

A design of the protective metal grill type gate used at the entrances of castles. On the 1953 English threepences.

When was New Zealand coinage first issued?

Silver 1933; bronze 1940.

How many crowns have New Zealand and Australia issued, and on what dates?

New Zealand: Three: 1935, 1949, 1953. Australia: Two: 1937, 1938.

What was the last silver dollar issued by the U.S.A.?

1936.

What was the error in design on the first Kruger coinage?

Double-shaft waggon instead of single-shaft.

When was the first coinage issued, and where?

7th century B.C.; in Lydia, in Asia Minor.

Why do the inscriptions on the edge of crowns, etc., sometimes read upside down in relation to the head side?

The edge wording is usually applied before the coin is struck.

What is the money value of brass Chinese cash?

Originally about 100 to a penny and the rate varied according to the month.

What are the approximate sterling exchange values of: (a) Rupee; (q) U.S.A. dollar; (c) Australian florin?

Rupee, 2/-; U.S.A. dollar, 7/1; Australian florin, 1/8.

What is the value of the following?

A Tickey = Kruger 3d. A Jack = brass card counter. A Tray Bit = 3d. A Zack = 6d. A Deena = 1/-.

Is it true that 1920 pennies are worth £8?

Yes. Eight times 240.

When were double florins first issued, and for how long?

1887; for five years.

When was gold coinage changed from guinea to sovereign?

During reign of George IV.

What is the reason for two different-size busts on Victoria Jubilee shillings?

The Queen's personal wish for a changed design.

What are the special differences which make a coin a proof?

Proofs are hand-struck, dies polished, examined for perfection of finish, protected in handling.

(To be continued)

Britannia—the Mintmaster's Daughter

The widowed or veiled head of Queen Victoria first appeared in 1893, and two years later the previous type of Britannia was replaced by a beautiful model, after the Greek style, executed by the artist De Saulles, Engraver to the Mint. In this new reverse the ship and lighthouse of the previous type do not appear. The new model of Britannia has a more graceful attitude, the helmet is greatly improved, and there is a commendable alteration in the position of the trident (C. J. V. Weaver). Popular opinion of the time was that the mintmaster's daughter was the model for this Britannia.

Roman Republican Family—Caelii

Read before Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand, Inc.,
Wellington

By Mr. T. CARNEY

This series concerns coins struck by the Roman family of the Caecilii Metelli under the Republic. The discussion will reveal something of the atmosphere of Roman republican political life in general, and of the influence of one particular prominent family. The introductory summary will show the factional background of republican politics coupled with a demonstration of the canalizing effect upon political life of the administrative needs of empire. Then the fluctuations of Matelli's fortunes will be traced, with special reference to the coins struck by them in the course of their political ebbs and flowings.

In Roman political theory the magistracy was held to be an honour and therefore to require independent means (1). Professions in which these independent means could be acquired were restricted, by custom, to land-owning and war. As the assignment of land was a function exercised for the State by the Senate (a body composed of ex-magistrates), from an early period this economically superior body tended to entrench itself upon the State lands. This tendency was accelerated by the *Lex Calpurnia* (of 218 B.C.), which effectually forbade senators from trading. It is difficult to conceive how a dominant group could be forced to legislate against itself, so one must suppose an addition to the obvious aim—that of preventing the same persons from negotiating for the State with overseas powers while simultaneously trading for themselves with those powers. This, most probably, was a conscious desire by office-holders to strengthen their *esprit de corps* by unity of economic interest. Land-owning became the only possible occupation for a man with political ambitions. The result of this, in economic terms, was the hastening of a socially vicious phenomenon. There had always been a tendency within Rome's territories for large estates to grow up at the expense of smallholders. This tendency now became rapidly more marked. As the *latifundia* (or large estates) swallowed up the smallholdings the dispossessed owners flocked to the towns and became destitute. The cleavage between rich and poor became more marked, sowing the seeds of class war.

There was little hard cash available. Interest on loans was high, and required ample securities, and these took one form—land. However, a successful political career, for which lavish funds were essential, speedily gave a chance of a lucrative foreign command or post of provincial administration.

Mortgages could then be paid off and the venture would still show a considerable profit. Clearly, circumstances tended to maintain the political ascendancy of the initially economically superior families. In this way there arose, and was perpetuated, a close circle of privilege, the *nobiles*. A *nobilis* was one whose ancestor held *curule* office. Of this there were three varieties. In ascending order they were: (a) *Curule aedileship*, (b) *praetorship*, and (c) *consulship*. Within the circle of privilege was an inner ring that monopolized the consulship which made a man, in the truest sense, a *nobilis*. Cicero gives this inner ring in C. 50 B.C. as the Metelli, Servilii and Scipiones. There was no opposition from the rest of the group aimed at preventing the sons of families within the charmed circle from attaining the *curule aedileship* or *praetorship*. Likewise, scions of the inner-ring families monopolized the *consulship*. Against an intruder they were ranged in serried mass. It was difficult, but not impossible, to break into the charmed circle. The inner ring was practically closed; there were only fifteen entrants, called *Novi Homines*, in the 300 years 400—100 B.C.

Office, therefore, was restricted to a financial *elite*, which was a caste-like system of privilege, with certain families predominant. At any one time Roman policy and office was dominated by some dozen families. Initially vigorous efforts were demanded of families aspiring to limit the circle of eligibility for consular office. Once such a barrier had been effectually maintained, even for a relatively brief period, by a snowball process their unique grip of the higher executive combined with top-level executive experience, conspired to assist in attempts of such families at monopolization of office for themselves and their sons. As one Roman poet disgustedly remarked: "*Fato fiunt Romai Metelli Consules*" (2).

Such domination was largely through manipulation of social factors. Ties of blood-relationship and so-called "friendship" were at a premium, and were frequently seen tugging the fettered into action in the jousting-grounds of the Roman political arena, the law courts. Here the Roman noble aired his aristocratic feuds, rebuffed aspiring upstarts or defended his class interests. Power required the control of many means of social compulsion. Of these, patronage was the most effective. A Roman noble could use his considerable and often supraconstitutional influence to prosper or defend a client—as a dependant was termed—a guild or ward, a municipality, province or even a foreign despot who sued for his aid. Such a service, termed *officium*, entailed a duty upon the receiver to assist his patron, upon request, and this obligation was always stressed to be the most cogent of bonds. Lack of *fides*—trustworthiness—in this respect would put its displayer apart from any further assistance from any quarter, while arraying the ranks of his erstwhile patron's following in a feud against him that would speedily end his political life amid his lone struggles. A like obligation to assistance was inherent in relationship, the Latin word for which, *necessitas*, is ominously

significant. Again, the obligation is mutual. The senior party to the compact had to ensure the launching of his junior upon political life by procuring him appointment as *aide de camp* on a governor's staff, or a seat upon the board of a magistrate in Rome. If he were not himself the governor or magistrate concerned, he secured his end by recommendation. In either case, the young man paid for his grooming in administration by obliging himself to filial obedience to his superior for the rest of both their political careers. Conversely, his superior contracted a lasting obligation to help him as a son. The resulting nexus of obligations scarcely helped to further disinterested administration.

Trials of ex-magistrates were, as might be expected, frequent. These were, however, conducted with cavalier disregard for the niceties of abstract justice. From 123 B.C., the *equites*, the banking order, controlled the courts, judiciously executing political verdicts where their class interests were concerned, or otherwise voting in compliance with the manipulations of the strongest clique among the *nobiles* of the inner ring. Here, with their fortunes and political careers at stake, the dynasts of the *nobiles* used the *gratia*—influence—which they had so assiduously built up. Political survival was possible only for the *gratiosus* (“man with a pull”). Scaurus, head of the Metelli at their most dominant period, was tried “nearly as many times as Cato” (3), a former faction leader arraigned 44 times. It is possibly bathetic to add that neither was ever convicted. As patrons of Verres, the infamous author of the “three fortunes” dictum (4), when the latter was arraigned for extortion, the Metelli strove to involve the case in legal deferments until one of the family should enter upon his impending consulship, when proceedings would have been prevented from reaching court. To protect Metellus Scipio, Pompey, his son-in-law, summoned the jury to his own home before the case came up for his magisterial direction. The prosecutor, who possibly lacked a sense of humour, threw up his brief at this point. In the organization of opinion of an important court case no holds were barred in the political free-for-all that raged. Ward-bosses and their gangs were used for intimidation. Tame (client) potentates were required to disgorge from their coffers bullion enough to secure the best judges that money could buy; wards, municipalities and provinces were impressed for spontaneous character references: veteran soldiers, who either had been or hoped to be pensioned off by the dynast concerned, flocked to the court under arms, presumably not to give support to the finding of an impartial verdict. These obligations here displayed were hereditary. Nobility required many *clientelae*.

The economic superiority of the ruling class consistently turned to its profit its dealings with the ruled. Even in their struggles for primacy the prominent families within the inner ring overbore the others by the skilful application of their wealth. The struggle for supreme power became more and more a question of money. Appreciating this, Oriental despots

contracted into further kingdoms by contributions to the party funds of dominant nobilis families; conversely, the richer Roman lords purchased the compliance of their fellows by loans to those in difficulties (which meant every one of them). Limitation of families became essential from an early date, as the launching of numerous offspring into their several political careers and their maintenance therein was bound to dissipate the family funds and weaken the resources, both in cash and *clientelae*, of the grandsons; while any failures, of course, lowered the family's political standing (5). The Metelli are an exception here, pressing on by sheer weight of numbers. The old-school-tie system was by now working so efficiently that very little else but birth was required of them, if we are to believe our previously-quoted poet, and a contemporary politician who said of one of them: *Si quintum pareret mater eius, asinum fuisse parituram* (6). But their numbers did involve them in difficulties; in fact, it was the necessity of simultaneously financing the political career of three brothers which drove the Metelli into patronage of the egregious Verres.

There is frequent and well-merited reference to the existence of faction in Roman political life. Factions of inferiors might be built through patronage, but a coalition of equals, known as *amicitia* (which is generally rather naively translated as friendship) was generally entered into by dynastic marriage, a process in which one of the young, ambitious and independent daughters of family X gave—or, rather, in view of the bewildering instability of such contracts, lent—herself as pledge of her family's fides to family Y. You are possibly wondering about Z? Triangular (or even multilateral) attachments were not infrequent, but were not taken seriously by contracting parties to the marriage unless some political motive lay behind them. It was the marriageability of their daughters that kept the collective head of the Metelli above water on more than one occasion (7). *Amicitia* was marked by the practice of the morning visit, by mutual recommendation, by assistance at elections or in the law courts. These were political rather than judiciary in function. Minor considerations of crime, abuse or scandal were not allowed to intrude as the noble lords, in haughty disdain of the various national enemies and organized into their coteries, went about their feuds, with lofty disregard for the needs of the empire to be governed. They became quite rapidly less wielders of office than possessors of a supra-constitutional (not to say downright illegal) power exploited in the interests of their various families. Moreover, the wide powers given to them as State representatives on overseas campaigns, coupled with a life on the level of, and in constant and condescending contact with, foreign kings and the power in the home government which they deployed gave to their way of life and their character an increasingly princely hauteur and absolutism.

Mention of the administrative needs of the empire leads us away from this diverting if unedifying spectacle to an objective consideration of the very real problems which were

being thus indifferently ignored. Basically the administrative problem is twofold (8). First, the machinery of government of the Roman City State was grossly inadequate for her world dominion. With her growing responsibilities to the circle of lands bordering the Mediterranean, Rome was gradually faced by the problems of the efficient wielding of her thus centralized power. Diverse and complicated problems of foreign and international law, of power politics and interstate finance were constantly referred to her. Roman administration was almost wholly oblivious to the then semi-embryonic system of bureau-administration which nowadays provides a State maintaining overseas possessions with a repository of expert opinion, continuity and anonymity of service, representation for the governed, salary-payment for and avenues for promotion in administrative service, combined with official responsibility. Selection of administrative *personelle* was restricted to a small and not specially qualified class, and after commencing by being incapable of disciplining the unruly careerists from this class, the Roman State progressed gradually into a position where these services became essential. Furthermore, when the inevitable needs for large and complex staffing establishments became pressing, the Roman nobiles reacted by a refusal to increase the numbers of magistracies. Had they not done so they could not have maintained their monopoly of office simply because they could not provide nearly enough cadets to stand as candidates for every vacancy. Thus their charmed circle would have been flooded with intruders.

Here the background tension at levels other than the administrative must be briefly outlined. Official corruption had led, in home affairs, to the building up of huge estates by the senatorial class at immense cost in human misery to those dispossessed. Ruthless "squatting" methods were often practised to effect dispossession. Combined with this financial exploitation went a skilfully engineered "gerrymandering" of the electorate. A voting machine rendered the masses politically inarticulate. To explain: voting was by tribe, and a majority of voters within the tribe determined the tribal vote. Each tribe had one vote, irrespective of the number of voters present. There were thirty-five tribes—four in the city and thirty-one in country wards. A considerable number of these country wards were far distant and never heavily represented. The *nobiles*, as landlords there, registered their dependants in them and then maintained these dependants in their town houses. They thus controlled the votes of the outlying tribes through a handful of well-placed dependants, and could win any issue, because these country tribes were in the majority. However, as the dispossessed smallholders streamed into the towns, to increase the mass of human misery and poverty already there, they upset the *nobiles'* grip on the outlying wards. Consequently the political situation from 140 B.C. onwards became more unstable as individuals outside the charmed circle found themselves unfettered by its voting machine and the way was left open for bribery, intimidation

and playing upon the violent hatreds nursed by the masses in their condition of frustration and exploitation.

In fairness it must, however, be said that in the theory and practice of Roman administration the senate as a body was felt to fulfil the needs of this diversification of the administration. The initial competence of this body, at a time when Roman domination was inextensive, blinded the Romans of later generations, engrossed as they were in faction struggles, to its growing inadequacy and incompetence. The problem was not thoroughly appreciated. In spite of that, some solution of its practical manifestations had to be—and, of course, was—found. Initially administrative problems were solved by an increase in the lower magistracies (367, 265, 202 B.C.)—that is to say, the interests of the charmed circle were to some extent sacrificed by the inner ring. But this process could only go to a certain point if the interests of both groups were not to be harmed, as has been suggested, and 202 B.C. was that point. By this time Rome had become a world power of first rank in the centre of a rapidly developing civilization, and, in consequence, continually incurred fresh responsibilities. The increased administrative capacity which followed upon the increase in the number of administrative staff—at all but the top level of seniority—was soon far more than fully engaged in the vast new quantities of business which had to be transacted. A second solution was found in the continuance in duty for a second or more years of *personnel* of the top three grades of seniority. This practice had the advantage of causing no breach in circle or ring and of increasing the prizes open to their member families. It also doubled the numbers of senior administrative staff.

There are obvious disadvantages. To cope with the flood of business, magistrates remained in Rome immersed in judiciary functions for their year of office and went to a post of provincial management for their year's prolongation of term. This meant that provincial administration came more and more to be looked on as the source of reimbursement after a political career. Competition became fiercer and political life more expensive, and, more, every young dynast adept enough at intrigue to place in an election would now at some stage control an army and could involve the State in disaster and calamitous foreign commitments if incapable, or he could use the army as a lever to extort concessions from the home government if able and ambitious. This innovation in administrative machinery, entrusting as it did continuity in office, military power and entire competence in interstate policy to often distant officials, speedily canalized the development of Roman government into absolutism.

A second problem, financial administration, had not been squarely faced. Here again Rome was not well found, and piecemeal adaptation to ever-changing needs resulted in a makeshift organization riddled with intrigue and pressure groups. Collection of State revenues was effected by the

auctioning of permission to collect the various taxes and imports. Bids were tendered by the different syndicates, which controlled the financial capital of Rome, and were composed of various influential magnates and many thousands of small shareholders. In the course of time this class, known as the *equites*, secured various monopolies, financial and judiciary. They were never, however, officially empanelled into a State department, although they were in effect fulfilling such a function. This had a succession of mostly pernicious effects. Stemming from a fundamental failure to acknowledge any responsibility—moral or legal (9)—to the government came a readiness for collective bargaining with the State that was untrammelled by ties of patriotism and an ever-present willingness to exert pressure to secure *Equestrian* interests.

At this juncture a most appalling latent conflict between the groups responsible for over-all administration and those responsible for finance came to the forefront on all levels. The political class, the senators, were essentially large landlords striving to maintain a monopoly of office. Extensions of empire, necessitating expansion of the administration, were vigorously opposed, while the *equites* equally strenuously sought new fields for the remunerative investment of their ever-swelling resources. At home it has been suggested that the senate turned a blind eye to piracy (10), which provided from kidnapped persons a constant stream of slaves to fill the places on the *latifundia* caused by the high death-rate because of brutal methods of management. The depredations of the pirates, however, caused havoc in Mediterranean commerce and crippled the economy of seaboard peoples, thus limiting their capacity to replenish the *equestrian* coffers in tax-returns. Both senators and *equites* were armed for the conflict, the former by command of the legislature of the upper house, the loyalty of its administering officials and a (gradually diminishing) control of the electorate. The latter controlled the ready cash, which was the lifeblood of political life, and also the law courts. The *equites* could thus exert their influence upon a politician at the commencement and conclusion of his political career. The resulting conflicts were fought out before the eyes of an impoverished and hate-filled urban mob, which demanded its price for voting any way on any issue.

One problem, clearly seen, yet incapable of satisfactory solution, was the military executive. Even before she became a world power, Rome found the system of "the great command", *maius imperium*, necessary. To deal with the army of a hostile first-rate power, Rome often had to appoint to a single, continuous command, over an army of exceptional size, in a distant theatre of operations where the control of the home government, ever weak, became quite nebulous. In the interests of efficiency, overriding powers in cases of contact with other provincial governors had to be assigned, coupled with extensive competence in questions of State policy. As Rome developed and her dominion spread, such commands became more frequently necessary and more far afield. The

power of the general in relation to the home government tended to grow. Various circumstances conspired to make this institution the more fatal. The *latifundia* had driven the smallholder from the land, and with him the conscription system perished, to be replaced by volunteer recruitment from the urban mob. In place of a propertied class, the army thus became composed at its lower levels of an unpropertied and resentful proletariat. It became denationalized in enthusiasm, becoming a gainful career to be culminated by demobilization on a smallholding. This meant a policy of expansion and belligerency in foreign affairs, despite the interests of the senatorial class and the separation of the army from the control of the home government. Inevitably, those who failed to provide a centrally responsible financial administration could not finance the demobilization settlement. The task devolved upon the general (11), for recruits were only available to the open-handed, and generals were faced with the problem of effecting almost a minor revolution in disbanding a large army in Italy. The unscrupulous careerist—and there were many—found in this combination a heaven-sent opportunity for furthering his political ambitions.

In this way the conflict between the administration and the classes effectually ensuring finance, fought out under the strain of the overt antagonisms of the lower class, allowed opportunists gradually to build up the powers of the military executive and thus eventually break the restraining oligarchical ties of the inner ring and impose autocracy. It can be argued that failure to deal fully with the administrative and financial needs of world dominion and injudicious organization of the military executive—a failure caused by obsession with factional intrigue—brought about this conclusion. This is the background against which Caecili Metelli family fortunes fluctuated. This provides a spectacle of the boldness and capabilities of a Roman family of the bluest and, on the whole, most politically successful blood, and demonstrates the forces that were working from within to destroy the Roman aristocracy and republic.

(To be continued)

NOTES

- (1) The analysis of the factional background of Roman politics is based on Gelzer (*Die Nobilität der Römischen Republik*, 1912) and Syme (*The Roman Revolution*, 1939—which will be referred to in these notes as Syme R.R.). I am indebted to grants made by the University of London Central Research Committee and the University of New Zealand for making available much of the reading matter that has been the groundwork for this study.
- (2) Pseudo-Asconius, ad Cic. Verr. 1, 10, 29. See also Sallust, B.J. 63, 6 and B.C. 23, 6; 31, 7; 35, 3. Cary (*History of Rome*, p. 313, note 8) perceives the

difficulty in the dating of Naevius which is thus caused, but does not propound a satisfactory solution.

- (3) Valerius Maximus, 3, 7, 8; *Cicero*, pro Fonteio, 17, 38; Bloc, M. Aemilius Scaurus: *Etude sur l'Histoire des Partis au VIIe Siecle de Rome, Melanges d'Histoire Ancienne*, 1909, p. 24.
- (4) This was to the effect that, while others only had to extort one fortune from their respective provinces, he had to extort three—one to pay his debts, one to bribe the jury on his return, and a third to live on for the future. (*Cicero*, in *Verrem*, 1, 14, 40.)
- (5) Alternatively it is argued that only families which were semi-sterile could stay in the rat-race; or that it is a phenomenon of high administration that it lowers the fertility of the man concerned; cf. Last Letter to H. M. Baynes *JRS* 37.1947.152 ff.
- (6) *Cicero*, *De Oratore* 2,267 (Scipio Aemilianus made the remark).
- (7) See the genealogical tree of Metelli appended to Syme, *R.R.*
- (8) The analysis of the administrative and executive problems of the Roman government is based largely upon Marsh, *A History of the Roman World, 146-30 B.C.* (second edit. (revised), 1953), and Marsh, *The Founding of the Roman Empire*, 1927.
- (9) Cf. the sabotaging of merchantmen (previously insured on *equestrian* valuation) when the *equites* in a strong bargaining position in Punic War 2, and Crassus' demand for a rebate of the bid in 63 B.C.
- (10) The attitude of the Roman nobility to kidnapped inhabitants of the *ergastula* can be seen from Last in *C.A.H.*; vol. ix, pp. 153-4.
- (11) Lucullus's troops refused to fight for him any longer, and when he went round from tent to tent begging them not to desert Rome's cause they threw their (empty) purses on the ground at his feet and told him to fight the enemy himself as he alone knew how to profit by the process. Plutarch, *Life of Lucullus*, ch. 25, recounts the incident of the purses; chapters 34-35 are a very cynical summary of the mercenary aims of Roman soldiers of this time.

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the society will be held in Wellington on the last Monday in June (24th). Nominations are invited by the hon. secretary for all offices.

NOTES OF MEETINGS

WELLINGTON

One hundred and ninety-second meeting, held on August 27, 1956. Captain G. Stagg presided. Subjects discussed: Decimal coinage, and the proposed society emblem and lapel badge. Paper: *Coin Design*, by E. Horwood, who exhibited appropriate specimens.

One hundred and ninety-third meeting, held on September 24, 1956. Captain G. Stagg presided. Visitors included: Hon. H. G. R. Mason (M.P.), W. J. Wills (Treasury), Dr. C. J. Adcock (Victoria University College), A. W. Graham (secretary of N.Z. Society of Accountants), and Master Watt (a Wellington College prefect). Captain Stagg reported on the society's decimal coinage petition to Parliament. Paper: *Decimal Coinage*, by W. J. Wills. A brisk and interesting discussion followed.

One hundred and ninety-fourth meeting, held on October 29, 1956. Captain G. Stagg presided. Paper: *Methods of Making Dies*, by J. Berry, who showed examples, including medals of his own design. E. Arlow displayed crown-size coins.

One hundred and ninety-fifth meeting, held on November 26, 1956. Captain G. Stagg presided. Exhibits: A set of internment coins used in N.Z. during World War II, and a specimen commemorative medal issued by the Numismatic Association of Victoria, by H. Hughan; 18 orders from various countries on behalf of I. F. Baird, who presented specimens of paper money to the society.

One hundred and ninety-sixth meeting, held on January 28, 1957. Captain G. Stagg presided. Members discussed coin designs and a proposed 1958 coin commemorating the 25th anniversary of N.Z.'s first issue. C. Freeman read a paper by E. Bryan, of Hawaii, on *Early Moneys Used on Pacific Islands*. Specimens of exchange media were loaned by the Museum. Exhibits: 1940 N.Z. penny and halfpenny, 1930 Australian penny, and 1860 Victorian penny, by H. Hughan.

One hundred and ninety-seventh meeting, held on February 25, 1957. H. Hughan was in the chair. J. Berry was thanked for designing the society's official emblem and lapel badge. The secretary can supply the white metal badge for 2/6, or the sterling silver one for 3/-. It was resolved that January meetings be held in the future. Exhibits: 30 crown-size Papal coins by E. Arlow; a set of U.S. Presidential Medals, by H. Hughan. Paper: *Pay and the Soldier*, by C. Freeman.

One hundred and ninety-eighth meeting, held on March 25, 1957. Captain G. Stagg presided. Council decided to ask the Treasury for a 1958 coin commemorating N.Z.'s first distinctive coinage, in 1933. Other matters discussed: N.Z. Cross, lapel badges, and the *Journal* printing. The Government announced the setting-up of a committee to report on decimal coinage. A. Sutherland was appointed the society's representative, and Captain G. Stagg the deputy representative. W. D. Ferguson talked on numismatic meetings and auctions he had attended recently in England.

CANTERBURY

Forty-eighth meeting, held on September 10, 1956. L. J. Dale presided. Dr. Roger Duff received thanks for his talk, "Pictorial Impressions of China". L. J. Dale reported his attendance at the Parliamentary Select Committee on Decimal Coinage. Paper: *The Victoria Cross, N.Z. Cross and N.Z. (Maori War) Medal*, by K. J. Wyness-Mitchell. Former chairman James Sutherland, who is retiring to Hamilton, received a farewell presentation.

Forty-ninth meeting and annual meeting, held on November 19, 1956. Chairman L. J. Dale reviewed the branch's progress and reported on its finances. The credit balance is £73 10s 1d. A numismatic quiz was held. New officers: Chairman, William Salter; vice-chairmen, A. Barker and F. Straw; secretary-treasurer, E. C. Price; librarian, Miss Steven; auditor, B. H. Tibbs; council representative, W. Salter; committee, L. J. Dale, K. J. Wyness-Mitchell and Bruce Middleton.

Fiftieth meeting, held on February 18, 1957. W. Salter presided. The branch supported a proposed 1958 commemorative coin and new designs for bank notes. Paper: *A Garden of Numismatics*, by W. Salter. A numismatic quiz took place.

AUCKLAND

Seventy-fifth meeting, held on July 4, 1956. E. Morris presided. Harry Hughan (Carterton) was designated as resident representative and deputy member of the council. Thanks were extended to Asher Robinson for his generous gifts to the branch. Paper: *Introduction to Numismatics*, by Roy Sellars. Exhibits: Crown-size coins of the world, by James Roberts; gold coins, by C. Hulse; proof set of Caribbean Federation, by D. Atkinson.

Seventy-sixth meeting, held on August 1, 1956. E. Morris presided. Paper: *The Numismatic Interest in Edward VIII*, by Julian Brook. Exhibits: A 1919 U.S.S.R. 1,000-rouble note, by T. Dimond; an 1806 gold Battle of Maida medal, by James Roberts; 1929 B.N.Z. 10s note; Sarawak coins; British penny-fractions and Isle of Man cartwheel coins, by Julian Brook.

Seventy-seventh meeting, held on September 5, 1956. E. Morris presided. Some 16 members of the Wellesley Philatelic Society were guests, and their president, G. Allely, talked on the *Universal Postal Union*. Exhibits: Scarce and rare coins of the world.

Seventy-eighth meeting, held on October 2, 1956. E. Morris presided. Paper: *Cheap Metals and Methods of Coinage in Western Europe*, by A. Linssen.

Seventy-ninth meeting, held on November 7, 1956. It was decided to recommend the issue in 1958 of a commemorative coin, and proof sets of coins, to mark the 25th anniversary of the first issue of New Zealand coins. Paper: *Irish Coinage*, by E. Morris.

Eightieth meeting, held on December 12, 1956. This took the form of a ladies' evening. E. Morris presided. There was a short quiz session, and an enjoyable social hour followed.

Eighty-first meeting, held on February 6, 1957. E. Morris presided. The branch decided to seek the support of Canterbury Branch for 1958 coin commemorating the 25th anniversary of N.Z.'s first coins.

Eighty-second meeting, held on March 3, 1957. E. Morris presided. Short papers: *The "In God We Trust" Motto*, *U.S. Proof Sets*, *Counterfeit Edward VII Sovereign*, *Victorian Medal*, and *U.S. Colonial Halfpenny*. All exhibited the subject of their talk. Exhibits: Silver and bronze Edward VII Coronation medals, Edward VII Coronation proof set, and 21 lots of modern foreign coins.

War Paper Money

As time goes on, the paper emergency currency used in the South-west Pacific and nearby areas during World War II will become valuable mementoes of the dark days in our lives.

We are indebted to Mr. I. F. Baird for giving a series of paper currency in excellent condition to the Society's collection. These are briefly listed:

1. French Oceania (Papeete, etc.). Eight specimens, including two duplicated.
2. Noumea. Five specimens, one duplicated.
3. General, French Oceania. Seven specimens, one duplicated.
4. United States Armed Forces. Two specimens for use in Philippines: (a) Two pesos, 5½ inches by 2½ inches, issued January, 1943, roneoed in black ink and separately serial-stamped in red numbers, and signed by the Treasurer, and also by the Commanding Officer; (b) twenty centavos for Guiuan, Philippines, issued July 15, 1943, roneoed in black ink, and the stencil signed (before duplicating) by the Mayor, who was a captain, by a judge, who, also, was a captain, and by the treasurer, who was a lieutenant. The note, 5 inches by 2¾ inches, stated that the bearer would be paid "on demand after the period of emergency" by the United States Forces in the Philippines. Signed on back.
5. Fiji. Three paper notes, for one penny, one shilling and two shillings; also three cards, small, for Regal Theatre.
6. Unused and unsigned notes for French Oceania Chamber of Commerce. (Identical.)
7. New Caledonia. Three pairs or six specimens, 50 centimes, 1 franc and 2 francs, issued March 29, 1943. These show the same basic design on back (deer head and Cross of Lorraine), and on front mine machinery (presumably associated with the mineral wealth of New Caledonia—nickel ore).

ROLL OF MEMBERS

The following amendments and additions to March 25, 1957, are notified to the roll published on page 125, *Journal* No. 24:

COMPOSITE LIFE SUBSCRIPTION MEMBERS

- Add* Madden, I. B., Esq., Roslea, 11 Mt. Hobson Rd., Remuera, Auckland.
Amend to Robertson, John, Esq., 147 Catherine St., Invercargill.
Amend to Simmonds, R. F. S., Esq., P.O. Box 644, Wellington.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION MEMBERS

- Add* Alexander, John F., Esq., 323 Bishop Bank Bldg., Honolulu T.H., Hawaii.
Delete Anderson, H. V., Reefton. (Address unknown.)
Delete Armstrong, I. C., Esq., Rotorua (resigned).
Delete Barbarich, J. P., Esq., Auckland (resigned).
Amend to Barton, T., Esq., 6 Braithwaite St., Karori, Wellington.
Add Baxter, Master J., 24 Milford Rd., Milford, Auckland N.2.
Delete Blaiklock, Professor, Auckland (resigned).
Add Caffin, W. P., Box 2802, Auckland.
Add Coghlan, G., Esq., 108 Eden St., Island Bay, Wellington.
Add Congas, C., c/o Numismatic Bank of Malta Ltd., Boston 21, U.S.A.
Add Cresswell, J., Esq., 16 Minto Rd., Remuera, Auckland.
Delete Dobson, J., Esq., 4 Hyde St., Dunedin. (Deceased.)
Add Dockery, Miss A. L., 46 Darlington Rd., Wellington.
Amend to Dimond, Mr. T., 48 Ballance Rd., Waiouru.
Add Grant, I., Esq., 1 Niddrie Marischal Grove, Edinburgh, Scotland.
Amend to Irons, K. J., Esq., 118 Ernest St., Lakemba, N.S.W., Australia.
Add Lein, E., Esq., 995 Aldus St., Bronx 59, New York, U.S.A.
Amend to Linssen, A. S. M., Esq., Flat 3, 500 Great South Rd., Green Lane, Auckland.
Add Major, H. A., Esq., Bank of New South Wales, Whangarei.
Delete Marlow, R. C., Esq., Loco. Railways, New Plymouth. (Address unknown.)
Amend to Mattingly, Dr. H., 9 Missenden Rd., Chesham, Bucks, England.
Add O'Neill, D., Esq., 19 Alexander St., Kingsland, Auckland.
Add Pate, J. R. W., Esq., 150 Holly Road, St. Albans, Christchurch.
Add Perrott, Master M., 34 Cooper St., Karori, Wellington.
Add Perrott, W., Esq., 34 Cooper St., Karori, Wellington.
Delete Rarity, D., Esq., 20 Ruahine St., Wellington (resigned).
Amend to Robinson, H. A., Esq., Box 5149, Auckland.
Add Sharp, A., Esq., 124 Princes St., Invercargill.
Amend to Shaw, Mr. A., c/o Police Station, Mt. Eden, Auckland.
Add Stagg, Miss L. A., 5 Bowes Crescent, Wellington, E.5.
Add Swain, George W., Esq., 200 Oakland Ave., Audubon, New Jersey, U.S.A.
Add Uttley, I., Esq., 292 Main Rd., Karori, Wellington.
Amend to Webster, G. M. S., 17 Hampton Hill Rd., Tawa Flat, Wellington.
Add Wellman, Master P., 38 Stout St., Gisborne.
Amend to Wyness-Mitchell, K. J., Esq., F.R.N.S., P.O. Box 1299, Christchurch.

EXCHANGES

- Amend to* Canadian Numismatic Journal, c/o T. G. Beatty, Esq., 185 Strathcona Ave., Ottawa, Canada.
Add Editor, *The Numismatist*, P.O. Box 3491, Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.
Add Director, Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, Main Library, Praha I, Narodni 5, Czechoslovakia.
Add Secretary, Numario Hispanico Numismatic Institute, Antonio Augustin, c/o Serrano 13, Madrid, Spain.



GROUP AT WELLINGTON MEETING

Some members had gone home when this group was taken after a meeting on 24 September, 1956.

Back row: Messrs Pike, Balmer, Hughan, Sutherland, B. Berry and Graham.
Centre: Dr. Adcock, Messrs Wills, J. Berry, Tether, Hornblow, Freeman, Stagg (president) and Watt.

Seated: Mrs. Rainger, Mrs. J. Berry, Miss Stagg and Hon. H. G. R. Mason.
Photo: M. L. G. Leask.

All contributors of papers or articles are asked to submit their copy double- or triple-spaced.

☆ ☆ ☆

SPECIALTIES

Member Paul R. Eden, Route 4, Box 173, Lynchburg, Virginia, U.S.A., wants a West African sixpence, a Chinese "Province" 7.2 candareens, and Chinese silver 10 cents and Dutch East Indies "Nederl Indie" quarter 6. He specialises in Mexican coins to 1905, and dime size to sixpenny size coins of all countries and all dates, including varieties, patterns, misstrikes, etc.

G. E. HEARN

37 Turney, Road

West Dulwich

London, S.E. 21

England

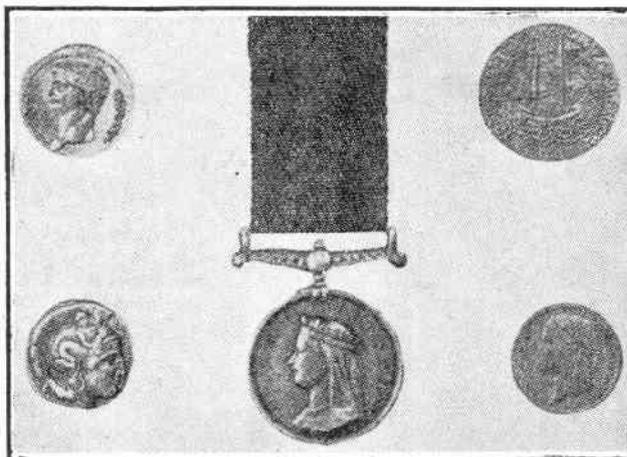


COINS OF THE WORLD

BOUGHT AND SOLD



SPINK & SON LTD.



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

**COINS
TOKENS
DECORATIONS
COMMEMORATIVE and
WAR MEDALS**

and all items of Numismatic interest. We are also Booksellers and Publishers of Numismatic works, and we send out monthly to subscribers "The Numismatic Circular" (founded 1893), a magazine and catalogue for collectors. Annual subscription 10/-.

SPINK & SON LTD.

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

Geo. W. Slade Ltd., Wellington.