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MAY-AUGUST, 1953

No. 2 (18)

22nd ANNUAL REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET.

The Council of the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand (Inc.) has the honour to present its 22nd Annual Report and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st May, 1953.

As a whole, the year has been an active one. The attendances at meetings at Wellington and the Branches has been maintained, the standard of papers given at meetings and of the "Journal" has remained as high as ever, there has been a slight increase in membership despite a considerable number of resignations, and, where time has been available, members have been generous in activities of the Society outside the regular meetings. It is also pleasing to note that where papers by members have broken new ground mention has been made in the recognised bibliography which has world-wide circulation, *Numismatic Literature*. These summaries of papers have been not infrequent, and are in themselves, a pleasing recognition of the work of the Society. It is also gratifying to note that New Zealand numismatics are well represented in the issues of the "Journal." The "Journal" continues to be the principal feature of our activities, and the interest shown in its contents by numismatists in various parts of the world is evidence that the Society is fulfilling its objects worthily, and continuing to make good use of the annual subsidy for the continuation of which the thanks of the Society are once more here gratefully recorded.

It was with great pleasure that members learned in March that His Excellency, the Governor-General had consented to become Patron of the Society. A tradition which the Society prizes most highly and which was begun at the inception of the Society is thus most fittingly maintained.

The new reign has naturally aroused a general public interest in the new coinage. The Committee appointed to consider designs for the New Zealand Crown piece included one representative of the Society. Mr. M. Hornblow was appointed to the task, and the Society is grateful to him for his work on the Committee, on which, from previous experience and from his knowledge of the subject, he was eminently fitted to serve. Members are grateful to him for the full information he gave, and have good reason to be satisfied with the Committee's final decision.

The Society has lost two members of great distinction by the deaths of Sir Thomas Hunter and Mr. P. Watts Rule. The latter,

in particular, was one of our most eminent numismatists and a collector inspired above all by a love of beauty. In losing him the Society has suffered one of the severest blows it has had to sustain in the course of its history.

One pleasing feature in the outside activities of the Society has been the arrangement of displays for the general public in the various centres. Thanks to the interest of members, displays have been arranged, or are being arranged, at various museums, and special displays have from time to time been arranged elsewhere. The Society records its gratitude to members who have made this activity possible. In addition, the Greek coins at Otago Museum are being catalogued by a former member of the Society, and displays of the contents of the Society's Library have aroused interest in that side of the work. The making of an inventory of the various holdings of the Society will be a lengthy task that will take up considerable time. It is hoped that Messrs. Ferguson and Freeman will soon be able to go ahead with this task and earn the further gratitude of the Society, as they have earned the gratitude of the Society and the authorities of the Dominion Museum for the most efficient way in which they indexed its large and interesting collection of coins.

It is a pleasure to record that the Society has by general consent, done everything possible to give the Branches the fullest possible representation in its activities and to foster the work of these Branches. The records of the year's work show an unabated interest and vigour at the Auckland and Canterbury Branches. The Society records its pleasure and gratitude, and its good wishes for future activities.

The Society also records its most grateful thanks to the Hon. Editor for the way in which he has maintained the high standard of the Society's Journal. The amount of work involved is immense, and has been performed with great energy and skill and with a real flair for the task. Apart from the thanks of the Society, the Editor has reason for gratification in the increased interest shown in the publication overseas.

The Society has again to record with the deepest gratitude, its thanks to Mr. Taylor and his staff at the Turnbull Library for their kindness, courtesy and co-operation in allowing the Society to meet in such appropriate and delightful surroundings as the Library. Everything has been done to make the meetings run smoothly and successfully.

In particular, the President wishes to thank all members of the Society for their continued co-operation, and in particular, the members of the Council and officers in Wellington and the Branches. Special gratitude is due to Messrs. Freeman, Tether and Hornblow who during the year have done the Society's most arduous work most enthusiastically and most efficiently. It has been a real pleasure to work harmoniously with such pleasant and courteous colleagues.

For the Council of the Society.

H. A. MURRAY, President.

PROOF SET OF NEW COINS.

Proof sets of New Zealand coins from the crown piece to the half-penny will be distributed in December to coincide with the Royal visit. Of the 7,000 proof sets ordered, 3,600 sets will come to the Dominion, and the balance will be distributed from London to people in other parts of the world who have placed and paid for orders. The crown piece (not proof) will be circulated through the banks about the same time.

MEDALS FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN.

The 402,477 children attending State and private schools in the Dominion are to receive an attractive medallion as a gift from the Government to commemorate the visit of Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh.

In a joint statement the Minister of Internal Affairs, the Hon. Mr. Bodkin, and the Minister of Education, the Hon. Mr. Algie, stated that the medallion would be a very handsome one, which should be cherished by the children as a happy and worthwhile reminder of a great event.

The Government is to be congratulated in thus marking an important event in the lives of our children. Former visits by members of the Royal family have been similarly marked, but unfortunately the quality of the metal used on those occasions, usually aluminium, has left much to be desired.

In view of the large number of medals to be issued special dies will have to be made. It is to be hoped that the design will be symbolic of New Zealand and not be a standard design applying to all parts of the Commonwealth. The numbers justify a true New Zealand medal.

THIRTY TONS OF MEDALS UNCLAIMED.

Fewer than 60,000 of the 300,000 men and women entitled to war service medals have applied for them stated the Minister of Defence recently. This is considered by some people to be due to the fact that the medals are not engraved with the names of persons entitled to them, and to the official requirement that ex-servicemen must apply for the medals.

THE MARGARET CONDLIFFE MEMORIAL MEDAL.

The Margaret Condliffe Memorial Prize was established in 1945 in memory of Margaret Condliffe by gifts from her son, Professor J. B. Condliffe, D.Sc., Professor of Economics in the University of California, a graduate of Canterbury College, and Professor of Economics there from 1920 to 1926; and from Mrs. Condliffe. It is awarded by the Council of Canterbury University College, on the recommendation of the Professorial Board, to any resident of New Zealand, for "creative achievement of marked distinction in letters, the fine arts, or the service of humanity." No application for the prize is necessary, and the frequency and form of the award are determined by circumstances. The prize consists of a bronze medal inscribed with the name of the recipient; and the College desires that, whenever possible, the award of the prize shall be the occasion of a public ceremony with an address by the recipient under the title: "Condliffe Memorial Lecture."

The medal was designed by Mr. F. A. Shurrock of the School of Art, Canterbury University College. The dies were engraved, and the medals struck, by Moller & Young, Christchurch, New Zealand. The medal bears on the obverse a human figure or *tiki* in low relief, and the words: Margaret Condliffe Memorial Award. On the reverse is a border of Maori rafter pattern and the words: Canterbury University College.

The first award was made on 26th April, 1949, to Sir James Hight, K.B.E., C.M.G., M.A., Litt.D., and the medal was presented at the annual Degree Day ceremony in May of that year.

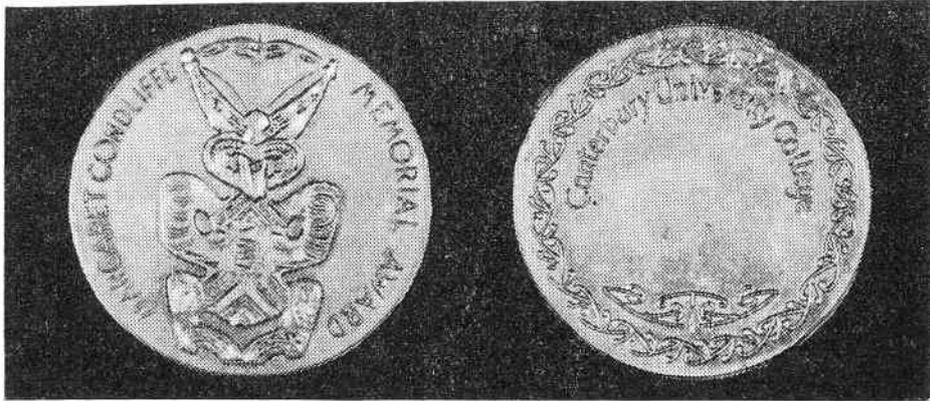
The second award was made on 24th November, 1952, to Dr. J. C. Beaglehole, M.A. (N.Z.), Ph.D. (London), Senior Research Fellow and Lecturer in Colonial History at Victoria University College, Wellington, New Zealand.

Citation accompanying the award of the Margaret Condliffe Memorial Medal to Dr. J. C. Beaglehole:—

"Among New Zealanders of his own generation, Dr. Beaglehole is not less a pioneer than those older pioneers whose exploits he as an historian has loved to celebrate. Like the work of the men they describe, his writings on the European discoverer of New Zealand, on those other explorers who followed his wake into the Pacific and on our first Governor have laid foundations and have been creative acts of national consequence. These, together with his histories of his country, his university and his college, form a body of historical literature distinguished for its learning, its enthusiasm and its vivacity of thought and language. Whether writing poetry or history, whether chiding bad music or encouraging good printing, whether editing historical records or campaigning to have them preserved and cared for, Dr. Beaglehole has set lively words to work for a

consistent cause—to awaken among his countrymen a sane awareness of their national character and a sense of piety towards their past.”

(Approved by the Council of Canterbury University College, 24th November, 1952.)



MAORI RELIEF CARVING.

(Summary of an address to the Canterbury Branch by Dr. R. S. Duff.)

The conventionalised human figure or *tiki* on the obverse of the Margaret Condliffe Memorial Medal closely resembles human figures carved on the threshold board of a Maori storehouse (*pataka*) from Rotoiti in the Auckland Museum (see W. J. Phillipps, *Maori Houses and Food Stores* (1952), fig. 91) which alternate with profile figures of the bird-headed monster (*manaia*). In these human figures anatomical proportions are ignored. The arms are flexed with the fingers interlocking over the abdomen. The legs are flexed and at the base turn in to the mid-line. The head is large, the eyes are elliptical and set at an angle with the pupil indicated, the nose is snub; the mouth is large and the tongue protrudes in the customary gesture of defiance. The main figure is decorated with subsidiary motifs, e.g., the double spirals on the shoulder of the Condliffe *tiki*.

Wood carving among the Maoris shows an enormous development as compared with that of other Polynesian peoples. This is in part due to the climate—storehouses were needed, as there was only one crop in the year in New Zealand—and houses had to keep out the cold, and so were solid structures with large surfaces that could be decorated. It is also due in part to the abundance of suitable timber in New Zealand. Sketches of the murder of Tasman's boat-crew in 1642 show that at that early date the Maoris used the old type of small, shallow canoe, combined with a second hull for stability. Later canoes were of the enormous, single, dug-out type, using the larger New Zealand trees to produce a long, wide, stable hull with an area of top-board which invited decoration; and similar decoration was possible for stern-post and prow.

A typical decoration at the prow of a war canoe, consisting of figurehead, splash-board and a median vertical board connecting the two, shows that the mass of decoration is composed of relatively few elements, notably, the human figure, the bird-headed monster (*manaia*), and curvilinear motifs, especially the double spiral. The same components are seen in the carvings on the door-posts, lintels, barge boards and threshold boards of meeting-houses and storehouses. Indeed, according to Archey, every motif in Maori art is derived from the human figure. The beak-like head of the *manaia* developed from the profile of the human head, and the double spiral from the interlocking mouths of *manaia* figures. No trace is found of figures based on birds, dogs, fish, trees, flowers; the lizard appears rarely; the whale commonly on the barge boards of storehouses. The human figure predominates as a motif, in long horizontal designs such as threshold boards often arranged alternately in full face and profile, in vertical designs such as door-posts with one figure standing on the head of another. Interlocking loops formed from lips, tongue, limbs, fill the space round the main figures, which are themselves decorated with spirals.

A complete series can be traced from figures carved in the round (e.g., the figure of an ancestor on the apex of a gable) to figures in very low relief (e.g., on a threshold board), showing more and more stylisation as the relief becomes shallower and the proportions of the figure alter; but throughout the rendering of the human figure is conventional, e.g., only three fingers are shown (what sometimes appears to be a fourth is a thumb). Various reasons have been popularly suggested for this number, e.g., that an early artist had lost two of his fingers in an accident; but it seems clear that Maori art was not representational, but conventional, from a very early date, and that accurate detail was deliberately ignored in the hands as elsewhere. Figures carved after European contacts (shown by the carving of names across the chest in missionary-taught capitals) show an attempt to reproduce a European realistic rendering, and in these a thumb and four fingers are found.

The term *tiki* is applied properly to any carved human figure. Ornaments made in human form from greenstone were called *hei tiki*, *hei* meaning to tie round the neck. To conform more readily to the shape of a greenstone pebble and to avoid unnecessary labour in carving the hard greenstone, the design of the *hei tiki* frequently differed from the *tiki* of wood-carving in having the head inclined sideways and the hands resting on the horizontal thighs (compare the design on the reverse of the New Zealand halfpenny). This type of *hei tiki*, with the head inclined sideways, is the one popularly referred to today as the "*tiki*," which is considered to be a lucky charm for the wearer.



A tiki, with flanking manaia, from the Rotoiti storehouse (title-page drawing, Dominion Museum Monographs, Nos. 1-6), and tiki on New Zealand halfpenny.

WILLI FELS, C.M.G., 1858-1946.

We have received permission from Otago Museum to reprint two tributes to Willi Fels. The poem is by Charles Brasch, grandson of Willi Fels. The prose tribute is by H. D. Skinner whom Willi Fels made first Keeper of the anthropological collection at Otago Museum.

In Memory of WILLI FELS

*Shaping in a garden for fifty seasons
The strong slow lives of plants, the rare and homely,
Into an order sought by the imagination,*

A precinct green and calm

*Where climates, continents, civilizations mingled
And for a leaf-framed listening Apollo
The bellbird lingered over its flawless phrases,*

He watched a distracted world

*And studied in all things to draw men and peoples
Together, that each should learn the others' ripest
Wisest creations, and, by beauty persuaded,*

Cold envy, false fear forget.

*O not that human folly, inhuman hatred,
Be covered up, or discounted, or forgiven;
But that in each the best be discerned as truest,*

The final expressive form

*In which it is most itself, and speaks most clearly
To those who would hear, as he, the quick and eager,
Everywhere sought and heard. Yet he was never*

One to delight alone.

*But loved to take others with him into the shining
Kingdom of joy, where understanding transfigures
The meanest features, and strangers are strangers no longer,
For all life breathes as one.*

*Yes, of the long lineage of the reconcilers
He came; and while his kind continues, calmly
And quietly active, earth shall not lack sweetness,
Nor the human cause be lost.*

Charles Brasch

Willi Fels was born on April 17, 1858, at Halle, Germany, and died at "Manono," Dunedin, on June 29, 1946. His family was Jewish, and though in early life he ceased communion with Jewry he remained deeply interested in religious thought, in later years avowing an attitude similar to that of Sir Francis Young-husband. At school he was keenly interested in history and in the classical languages, hoping for a University career in those fields, but he followed his father's wishes and entered commerce. He would relate with pride how, aged eighteen, he managed a small plant for making woollen cloth, directing the staff and himself capable of carrying through every step in manufacture, from stoking and raising steam to finishing the cloth. Though his activities were thus successfully directed into another field, throughout his life his reading remained predominantly historical and classical. A visitor to his room a few days before his death found him listening to Greek poetry read to him in translation by his grandson.

When he was twenty-three years old he met his cousin Sara, eldest daughter of Bendix Hallenstein, who was then visiting Europe with his family. Bendix Hallenstein, brother of Willi Fels' mother, strongly liberal in politics, left Germany for England in 1851, emigrated to Victoria in 1857, and there married Mary Mountain, native of Thurlby in Lincolnshire, who on the death of her parents and the dispersal world-wide of her seven brothers had mapped for herself a new life in Australia. In 1863, Bendix Hallenstein with his wife and young family left Melbourne for Invercargill, and soon after moved to Queenstown where he built the Brunswick Flourmill and bought land at Speargrass Flat, naming his new home there "Thurlby." He was elected Mayor of Queenstown several times, and he represented Lakes constituency in the Provincial Council at Dunedin and Wakatipu in the House of Representatives at Wellington. In 1873 he brought his wife and four daughters to Dunedin to live, retiring from municipal, provincial, and national politics, but thereafter playing a notable part in the commercial life of New Zealand. With his two brothers, he founded the New Zealand Clothing Factory, known in later years as Hallenstein Brothers. Bendix Hallenstein and his wife returned from Europe by way of the Mediterranean and Egypt, securing at Thebes a mummy dating from the 19th Dynasty which was presented, together with other important material, to the Otago Museum, where it has been a source of interest to innumerable visitors for more than sixty years.

Willi Fels and Sara Hallenstein were married at Pymont, Germany, in 1881, coming to New Zealand in 1888. In Dunedin Willi Fels joined the head office of Hallenstein Brothers. His duties included keeping touch with district staffs and this gave him a wide and thorough knowledge of the lesser towns of New Zealand as well as the four cities. From these journeys he brought back to his garden in Dunedin scores of native ferns and shrubs. Many of these had personal associations which he delighted to recall, for example the beech tree from Queenstown

which he planted to commemorate the birth of his youngest child Harold, and which developed into as fine a beech tree as ever graced a garden. He made a host of friends among New Zealanders and overseas visitors, to whom he displayed a delightful hospitality. Among the latter was Dr. Wilhelm Solf, then Governor of German Samoa, who suggested the name "Manono" for his home in London Street because it implied the same quality of durability present in the name "Fels," the German word for "rock."

The family holidays were generally spent in Western Otago. Willi Fels was short of stature but strongly built and he keenly enjoyed tramping and minor mountaineering. Thus he became intimately acquainted with the region about Lakes Manapouri, Te Anau, and Wakatipu. The Helena Falls and the Emily Pass are named after two of his daughters. In 1901-02, he took his family to Europe, and on his return rebuilt in brick the house in which he lived until his death in 1946. He visited Europe some half dozen times, including in his travels Italy, Sicily, Spain, Greece, and Crete as well as the more northerly countries of Western Europe.

Following the outbreak of war in 1914 his only son Harold volunteered for service in the New Zealand Artillery. He fell in action at the Battle of Broodsiende, before Passchendale, on October 4, 1917.

Willi Fels had been a collector since boyhood, his taste being systematized along the lines of stamps and coins. In the early 'nineties he began to collect Maori and Oceanic material. About ten years later his collection of Oriental arms was begun. In later life he disposed of his stamp collection and concentrated on Greek and Roman coins and on Papal coins and medals, at the same time making a small but choice collection of plaques and medals by contemporary European die-makers. On the side of ceramics the earlier period of Wedgwood was illustrated in his collection by some three hundred pieces and there were a few pieces from the older German factories. Glass was sparingly but choicely represented. His Tibetan collection was small but choice, numbering some sixty pieces, among them some collected by Younghusband. And there were objects of merit from Persia, India, Burma, and Japan. His library was principally historical, but he collected books by the earlier Italian printers as well as first editions of some contemporary English writers. The coin collection had always been his principal joy and in the closing years of his life he spent much time at "Manono" and later at the Museum arranging and cataloguing more than five thousand coins, each having its tough paper tray on which inscriptions, dates and descriptions were recorded, coins and holders being arranged in serried ranks on wooden trays in cabinets. The Greek coins numbering something short of a thousand were those he most loved, and the occasional visitors to whom he showed them with enthusiasm and with a wealth of historical allusion, were fortunate indeed.

Interested from the beginning in the arts and crafts, his judgment, trained by a lifetime of collecting, has never been surpassed in this country. Familiar with European museums and galleries and with the dealers' shops in London, Paris, Vienna, Rome, and Cairo, he set himself to master also the technique of surface collecting on Maori sites on the Otago beaches. Many a sunny day was spent at Little Papanui, Murdering Beach, and Long Beach. At the last of these he often pointed to a sheltered kowhai-shaded terrace as the ideal site for a summer cottage.

After his son Harold's death he decided that his collection should be given to the community. He had always been interested in the natural sciences, being long a member of the Field Club and for fifty years of the Otago Branch of the Royal Society of New Zealand, serving on its council as Treasurer and as Vice-President, and numbering among personal friends such members as F. R. Chapman, Augustus Hamilton, George Fenwick, W. B. Benham, F.R.S., and in later years John E. Holloway, F.R.S. It was therefore natural that he should choose the Otago Museum as the home of his gifts to the community. His first step was to find a keeper for the Department of Anthropology, which he was virtually creating. Having provided finance and made the appointment, he founded a new fund the income of which was to be used for the purchase of picked pieces for exhibition in the Museum Galleries. He then began the orderly handing over of his own collections, ethnographic material and Oriental arms coming first. The need for new galleries in the Museum was evident at once, and he cheerfully undertook the task of collecting funds for them. With the aid of a Government grant of £25,000, a sum of £56,000 was secured. Building and furnishing the new wing cost £30,000 and the balance was paid into capital, income from which was used for maintenance. In recognition of his contributions to the new building, on the opening day, October 15, 1930, it was named the Willi Fels Wing. He was Chairman of the Museum Committee and of the Association of Friends of the Museum from their inception till his death. In 1938 His Majesty honoured him with the bestowal of the C.M.G.

In 1890 Willi Fels became a naturalised British subject. Both by family tradition and by individual choice he was a political liberal, as is indicated by his friendship with Solf. He had succeeded Bendix Hallenstein as German Vice-Consul in Dunedin but resigned office some years before the outbreak of the first world war. He was a keen and enthusiastic member of the League of Nations Union and was deeply interested in all aspects of Pacific affairs. Having lost his son and a nephew in the first world war, he watched the rise of Nazi power with acute apprehension. During his last visit to Europe he refused to enter Germany, but went to Denmark and Sweden. In Stockholm he was the guest of Professor de Geer, world-famous pioneer in geochronology with whom after his return to Dunedin he was in correspondence until war regulations intervened.

In the Museum he was keenly interested, critical, genial, making a point of meeting and knowing every member of the staff. He had an instinctive appreciation of quality in Museum material and he gave no quarter to mediocrity in quality or in method of display. Tireless industry, conspicuous feature of his business success, was apparent also in his collections, each of them meticulously catalogued in neat handwriting. Every piece was described, measured, localized, and many were sketched. How much this lightened the task of the Museum staff will be realized when the list of his gifts is read. Most important of all was the careful localization of every piece in his extensive and important Maori collection. In this case his care will leave its permanent mark on all research work in Maori material culture.

At home in his garden he worked early and late. He watched growth and flowering with eager delight and he knew where every plant had come from: a gentian from the hills above Florence, a cyclamen from the ruins of the Greek theatre at Taormina; this fern from the Routeburn or that from the roadside on the summit of Mount Messenger. Enthusiasts never left his garden empty-handed and his generous giving has enriched countless other Dunedin gardens. One likes best to remember him in the happy setting of his own home, presiding at his table with courtly hospitality, entertaining some small boy—he was always at his best with children—discussing art and literature or looking through his treasures with interested guests and friends.

GIFTS TO OTAGO MUSEUM.

Gifts of money amounting to upwards of £25,000.

Gifts of:—

- Maori material numbering one thousand pieces.
- Ethnographic material other than Maori, eight hundred pieces.
- Oriental arms, two hundred pieces.
- Coins numbering five thousand four hundred.
- Wedgwood wares, three hundred pieces.
- Japanese sword-guards and sword fittings, fifty pieces.
- Tibetan pieces, fifty.
- European metal plaquettes, one hundred.

To these should be added a considerable number of other pieces, Asiatic and European, of high merit. In addition there is an ever-growing list of fine pieces purchased by the Fels Fund. Of greater value than these concrete gifts was the enthusiasm which inspired all his relations with the museum.

GIFTS TO OTAGO UNIVERSITY LIBRARY.

Mr. Fels gave to the Otago University Library a valuable collection of approximately four hundred volumes. These include some fine examples of illuminated mediaeval manuscripts, and several incunabula and other early examples of printing, some of them from the press of Aldus of Venice. Other volumes in the collection are a number by and about Swinburne, including some of the rare first editions; and several handsomely illustrated art books.

**THE VICISSITUDES OF PHRAATES IV, KING OF
PARTHIA, RECONSTRUCTED BY THE AID OF THE
TETRADRACHMS MINTED BY HIM.**

(Extract from the Review *Numismatica*, No. 1-6, January-December, 1949, by Professor B. Simonetta, of Florence. Translated by Professor H. A. Murray, M.A., F.R.N.S., N.Z., Wellington.)

(Note: The Greek terms used in this paper have been represented by the nearest corresponding letters of the English alphabet.)

Justin gives a description of the Parthians (Bk. XLI) as a people of "fickle and seditious character, deceitful and insolent"; "always harassed by internal struggles or struggles with the foreigners; silent, readier to act than to speak; full of lust, abstemious in food." If these were the characteristics of the mass of the population, they certainly all appear personified in one of their most famous kings, Phraates IV, to judge by the statements about him handed down to us by the ancient historians. Statements, moreover, which are rather fragmentary, so that it is necessary to patch together all that we are told by Flavius Josephus, Justin, Dio Cassius, and to put together the brief notes which Horace and Plutarch have left us about him, to succeed in tracing an outline, but only in summary form, of what must have been his life and reign.

When Orodes lost his son Pacorus (already marked out by him for succession to the throne), slain at the end of a campaign which up to then had gone favourably for him, a campaign carried on in Judaea against Herod and the Roman legions of Ventidius, he designated as his successor Phraates, choosing him out from the thirty sons by his many concubines. But Phraates, when only just marked out for the succession, "*statim*—says Justin—*quasi nollet mori patrem interfecit fratres quoque omnes triginta trucidat!*" (Immediately, as though unwilling to die, killed his father, and slaughtered all his thirty brothers as well.) Not satisfied with the murder of his father and of so many brothers, a few years later he also murdered a young son of his own: then, after the defeat of Mark Antony who had waged war with sixteen legions, he became still more insolent and tyrannical, was driven out by his own people and forced to seek refuge with the Scythians. Justin also relates that during the exile of Phraates, the Parthians chose for their sovereign Tiridates, who, suspecting that the Scythians were moving against Parthia to put Phraates back on the throne, fled to Augustus, who was at that time waging war in Spain, and took with him a son of Phraates as hostage. Phraates, meanwhile having recovered his own kingdom, sent an embassy to Augustus demanding of him the restitution of his son, and the handing over of Tiridates. Augustus, who at the moment did not want to take sides openly with either of the two contestants, restored his son to Phraates, but retained Tiridates. Then, when he had finished the war in Spain, he proceeded in person to Syria, and put such fear into Phraates, that

he sent back unasked the Roman prisoners and standards captured by the Parthians at the time of the wars against Crassus and Antony, and actually gave sons and grandsons of his own as hostages.

So much for Justin's description of the first part of the reign of Phraates IV (BK. XLII); the second part, however, has been told by Flavius Josephus (BK. XVIII). When Phraates already had legitimate sons, he took as concubine an Italian slave girl called Musa. (In Flavius Josephus the reading is THERMOUSA, but this is evidently a case of an error for THEA MOUSA.) She had been given to him by Augustus with other presents. After keeping her as concubine for some time, charmed by her beauty, and after having a son by her, Phraataces, he made her his legitimate wife and tried to please her in every way. She took advantage of this. She was eager to see her own son succeed to the throne, and persuaded Phraates to hand over to Rome the other sons as hostages. Thus Phraataces grew up alone at his fathers' court, until in complot with his mother (with whom he was rumoured to have had carnal relations) he murdered his father and succeeded him on the throne. Phraates had seized the throne by the murder of his father; Phraates fell thus, murdered in his turn by his own son. The account of this king by Justin and Flavius Josephus may be enough to give us an outline portrait, but it is impossible for us to date with certainty any of the major events which they record. On this question we have, however, more important data from Dio Cassius. These data, in fact, enable us to put at the time of the consulship of Appius Claudius Pulcher and Caius Norbanus Flaccus (38 B.C.) the death of Pacorus, and during the consulship of M. Vipsanius Agrippa and Lucius Caninius Gallus (37 B.C.) the ascent of the throne by Phraates IV. Of this ascent Dio (Bk. XLIX) gives us an account which is not very different from that of Justin: Orodes, "worn out by old age and by the tragedy of Pacorus, entrusted, during his own lifetime, the sovereignty to the eldest of the sons who remained to him, Phraates. On obtaining it, he became the most wicked of mankind: he treacherously murdered his brothers, who were sons of a daughter of Antiochus, because their courage and the nobility of their mother made them superior to himself, and he murdered Orodes himself, whom he despised; thereafter he brought about the death of the most noble citizens as well and did other acts of terror, so that many of the most influential persons left him, some retiring elsewhere, others to Antony, and among the latter was also Monaeses." Antony trusted greatly in the support of this man and declared war on the Parthians. But he was betrayed by Monaeses: he failed in his attempt to deceive the Parthians by pretending to be willing to make peace on condition that they restored the prisoners and the standards taken from Crassus, and he then turned against the king of the Medes, who had given help to the Parthians, and laid siege to their capital, Praaspa.

The siege proved long and exhausting. He was deserted by the king of Armenia. He had upon his shoulders the joint burden of Parthians and Medes. He was deceived by Phraates, who pretended to be inclined for peace on condition that Antony retreated with his army, and then attacked him instead during the retreat. The retreat became a rout. All this occurred under the consuls L. Gellius Poplicola and M. Cocceius Nerva, in 36 B.C. But immediately in the following year (the detail is not without significance for the better illumination of the character of Phraates) the king of the Medes sought the friendship of Antony because of his resentment against Phraates on account of the smallness of the booty received and the absence of the award of any honour.

It is Dio (LI) who tells us that in the consulship of Caesar Octavian for the fourth time and of M. Licinius Crassus (30 B.C.) Tiridates was defeated by Phraates and took refuge in Syria: Octavian allowed him to remain there, but handed over to Rome the son of Phraates whom Tiridates had brought with him as a hostage. He also relates (LIII) in the consulship of Octavian for the eleventh time and of Calpurnius Piso (23 B.C.) that when Tiridates in person and ambassadors of Phraates had come to Rome about their dispute, Augustus made them appear before the Senate, and later, when he was entrusted with the settlement of the dispute, he did not give up Tiridates to Phraates, but restored his son to the latter, on condition that he received in exchange the prisoners and the standards lost by Crassus and Antony.

And here the version of Dio differs somewhat from that given us by Justin about these same events. He, in fact, puts the flight of Tiridates with the son of Phraates at the time of the war waged by Octavian in Spain—about 26-25 B.C. The restoration of the son of Phraates, seems, from the way it has been described by Justin, to have certainly taken place in the same year. But according to Dio, the son of Phraates was handed over to the Romans by the fugitive Tiridates in 30 B.C., and the struggle between Tiridates and Phraates was prolonged at least to 23 B.C., the year in which Octavian restored his son to Phraates. Dio, however, agrees with Justin in the record of the date of the restoration of the standards and prisoners by Phraates to the Romans, a restoration promised in 23 B.C., on the occasion of the visit of Augustus to Syria.

For a better outline of the portrait of Phraates a note of Plutarch's is interesting. This historian gives us, in fact, in his life of Antony, a long and vivid description of Antony's campaign against the Parthians, and of his perilous retreat; a description even richer in details than that which Dio gives us of the same campaign (and in some points, however, not in agreement with Dio's).

In describing one of the fiercest attacks which the Roman legions had to withstand, Plutarch writes that the attacking Parthian cavalry is said to have amounted to certainly 40,000 men,

for the king, "who never took part personally in any battle"! had even sent those men whom he ordinarily kept always close to himself.

Finally, the statements of Horace which refer to this struggle between Phraates and Tiridates may be of some help in reconstructing its phases.

Odes I, 26—*Quid Tiridatem terreat unice securus.*

Odes II, 2—*Redditum Cyri solio Phraaten.*

Dissidens plebi numero beatorum.

Eximit uirtus.

Odes III, 8—*Medus infestus sibi luctuosus.*

Dissidet armis.

Statements which make us vividly see a Tiridates terrified by the fear of losing his kingdom and perhaps even his life, a Phraates restored to the throne, but far from being at peace, and finally a Parthian people ("Medus" stands here definitely for Parthian) temporarily quelled. But these statements, which certainly were actual events at the time of writing, we cannot date precisely. The first three books of the Odes must have been published in 23 B.C., and written between 30 and 23 B.C. The dates therefore would correspond, at least approximately, with those already given for these events. It may be said that after 23 B.C. the reign of Phraates must have developed peacefully until his murder by Phraataces, because the ancient historians make no statement about wars against the Parthians or about internal struggles during this period. But a passage of Flavius Josephus leaves us very perplexed on this point. This author, in fact, speaking of the quarrel between Herod and his son, records incidentally (XVI) how a friend of Alexander, son of Herod, under stress of torture, declared that Alexander had written to Rome accusing his father of having a close alliance "with Mithridates, king of the Parthians," against the Romans. This episode must have occurred about 7 B.C.; hence it would be necessary to deduce that at this period either Phraates was again an exile of some sort, and that his realm was temporarily usurped by a Mithridates, or, at the very least, that Parthia was at the time divided between two kings mutually opposed, as it was in some phases of the struggle between Phraates and Tiridates.

We should be inclined to maintain that such statement by Josephus must be accepted as worthy of attention, because it does not appear very likely that he could commit the gross mistake of blundering in his record of the name of a Parthian king who had had close relations with Judaea at a time so near to that when he himself wrote his histories: all the more so if it is considered that this is the same Josephus who, two books later, tells us in detail of the vicissitudes of Phraates with Musa and Phraataces.

This is all that the ancient authors have left us about Phraates IV; not much perhaps, if we consider that this very eventful reign lasted about 35 years, and that during all this period his relations with Rome were quite close: but it is really

an outstanding enough collection of facts if it is compared with the extreme dearth of information recorded about Parthian sovereigns, and about the entire history of the Parthian people in general. This history has the characteristic of being singularly vague and fragmentary, in manifest contrast with the great power which these people proved quickly able to attain, a power so great as to cause Justin to write that the Parthians ruled in the east "*uelut diuisione orbis cum Romanis facta*" (as if the world had been divided between them and the Romans) and that "*a Romanis quoque trinis bellis per maximos duces florentissimis temporibus lacessiti, soli ex omnibus gentibus non solum pares, sed uerum etiam uictores fuere!*" (attacked by the Romans also in three wars by their greatest leaders at the time of their greatest prosperity, alone of all nations they were not only a match, but indeed the victors as well!).

In a long series of Arsacid kings which appears, as it were, veiled in a dense mist which shrouds them in an atmosphere of mystery and a kind of legend, the figure of Phraates IV is perhaps the only one which we can succeed in seeing tolerably plainly both in his actions and in his character. Josephus, Plutarch, Justin, Dio give us a lively portrait of him in versions which, though they do not agree in some particulars, are all agreed in depicting him as a warlike and cunning monarch, ready to send forward his own ranks to the attack, shooting arrows whilst riding at the gallop on swift horses, but still more ready to delude the enemy by fraud and treachery. Paramount, proud, avaricious: fierce enough not to hesitate to murder his father, his brothers and a son, merely to satisfy his unbridled ambition, and at the same time a foolish instrument in the hands of a concubine.

(To be continued)

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Subscriptions for the year 1953-54, 10/-, are now due and are payable to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. C. J. Freeman, 10 Washington Ave., Brooklyn, Wellington. Please add exchange to cheques.

Messrs. Spink & Son Ltd., 5 King Street, St. James's, London, write expressing appreciation of Archdeacon G. H. Gavin's paper, "Numismatics for Beginners," in which he states that he received considerable help from the first two or three numbers of the *Numismatic Circular*. He thought they were now unprocurable. Messrs. Spink & Son advises that they still have a few bound copies from the commencement in 1893, and these are available to our members at £1 each.



LEGEND FOR THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

1. Tetradrachm of Phraates IV (September 37 B.C.). Under the throne the year E·S, in the exergue the month UPER.
2. Tetradrachm of Phraates IV (August 33 B.C.). Under the throne the year TH·S, in the exergue the month GOR. Not in the *B.M. Cat.*
3. Tetradrachm of Phraates IV (28 B.C.). Date lacking; but the king's beard of medium length permits of dating the coin with certainty.
4. Tetradrachm of Phraates IV (March 26 B.C.). Under the throne the year EPS, in the exergue the month XANDI. Not in the *B.M. Cat.*
5. Tetradrachm of Phraates IV (November 23 B.C.). In the exergue the year THPS and the month LPSA.
6. Tetradrachm of Phraates IV (not dated). Variety of *B.M. Cat.* 52: under the throne A instead of L; in the exergue the month [AR]TEPI.
7. Tetradrachm of Phraataces (September 2 B.C.). In the field the year IT, in the exergue the month [U]PERBER.
8. Tetradrachm of Phraataces and Musa (August 3 A.D.). Behind the king's head the year DIT, behind the queen's head the month GOR.
9. Drachm of Phraataces and Musa.
10. Drachm of Phraataces and Musa.

TRADESMEN'S TOKENS OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

By E. J. MORRIS.

(Read before the Auckland Branch, 1st October, 1952.)

From a numismatic point of view the reign of George III is one of the most interesting in English history. The excellent paper by Mr. Price on "The Regal Copper Coinage of George III," told us that the first half-pennies and farthings of the reign were issued in 1770, ten years after George's accession, and were struck in most of the following years until 1775. After this period of unusual activity the Mint closed down on copper coinage until 1797 when the famous "Cartwheel" coins were issued. Although struck by Boulton & Watt, of Soho, Birmingham, they were a regal issue, and marked the reawakening of the Government to the needs of the people for small change.

During this "short" recess of twenty-two years however, tradesmen's tokens made their appearance, and it is with these issues that my paper deals tonight. The eighteenth century token came into use for the same reason that necessitated the introduction of its predecessor in the seventeenth century—the need for small change. The full consequences of the dearth of copper coin on the everyday life of the people of those far off days is difficult to appreciate in these modern times when bright new coins make their appearance every year. However, when it is realized that in addition to its scarcity, much of the copper that remained in circulation in the year 1787 was worn thin beyond recognition, and over fifty per cent of it was counterfeit, we should have little difficulty in understanding why, in spite of their being illegal, these tokens were at once popular and were accepted as a regular medium of exchange in most parts of the country.

The first of these tokens to make their appearance were the handsome "Anglesey Pennies" of the Parys Mines Co., issued in 1787, from copper obtained from their own mines, and struck at Soho by the famous manufacturer Matthew Boulton. Two years earlier Boulton had collaborated with James Watt, the inventor of the steam-engine to instal a steam-driven coinage-press at his foundry, and with this new machinery he executed a large order of copper coins for the East India Company. The tokens were issued in large quantities. The Parys Mines Co. is stated to have issued at least 250 tons of pennies, and 50 tons of halfpennies. Undoubtedly this was due to the mechanical improvements which Boulton and Watt had so recently perfected, and there is also little doubt that the excellence of the average token struck by the new method had a considerable bearing on the Government's ultimate decision to give Boulton and Watt the contract for striking the regal coinage of 1797.

The great majority of the tokens issued between 1787 and 1794 represented a genuine attempt by the issuers to relieve the shortage of small change, but by the commencement of 1795 it had

become quite a "racket" to manufacture tokens, and huge quantities were issued, some repayable and others not repayable.

Tokens can be divided into five main classes.

1.—THE GENUINE TRADESMEN'S TOKENS.—These are usually of good weight, and nearly always bear the name of the issuer on the edge (sometimes on the face). Next to "Anglesey" the tokens of John Wilkinson, an ironmaster of the Midlands, are considered to be the most numerous in variety. However, all over the British Isles traders issued well struck tokens of good weight. A few of the best known issuers were Roe & Co. of Macclesfield, Robert Reynolds & Co. of Coventry, Jonathan Garton & Co. of Hull, and the Birmingham Mining & Copper Co. of Birmingham. In nearly every case these tokens were counterfeited on light-weight flans with incorrect edges.

2.—FORGERIES.—When the tokens had become well established, forgers who had hitherto been counterfeiting the regal copper coinage soon perceived that tokens could be made to yield a fat profit, and they also avoided the risk of becoming acquainted with the jail. The forger usually selected types which had been issued in great numbers, and had an extensive circulation. It is for this reason that there are many counterfeits of the genuine, Anglesey, Macclesfield, and Wilkinson tokens.

3.—ADVERTISING TOKENS.—We find tokens bearing no expressed value, but giving the name, address and nature of the trade or business of the issuer. These were issued mainly for advertising purposes, though they were frequently accepted as change.

4.—TOKENS STRUCK FOR SALE TO COLLECTORS.—These are bogus pieces, usually with fictitious names. People impressed with the beauty of the early tokens commenced to form collections. Judging by the large number of contemporary publications, token collecting among the gentry must have been on a fairly large scale. This encouraged dealers and others to make tokens not intended for general circulation but merely to fill collectors' cabinets. These tokens are mostly of superior workmanship, and often depict subjects of popular or unusual interest. During 1796 one coin dealer went as far as to issue a "Token Collectors' Half-penny." This depicted on the obverse a collector seated at a table spread with tokens, behind him an old man putting on his head a fool's cap. On the reverse is the legend "Asses running for Half-pence," and depicts two boys riding a race on asses. The edge reading is: "Any sum given for scarce original impressions." The dealer must have had a poor "impression" of his customers!

5.—GENERAL CIRCULATION TOKENS.—These include "mules" and false-edge tokens. Apparently after a tradesman's order for tokens had been executed the dies remained in the hands of the token manufacturer. With dozens of different dies to hand it was an easy matter for him to create a large number of "varieties" by mixing (or muling) them. In this way and by using "wrong

edges" the most impossible combinations of obverse and reverse and edge readings came into existence. These tokens were sold by the makers to anyone who would purchase them, and when put into circulation showed a very good profit and no future liability to the buyer. Even Class I, the genuine good weight tokens, showed a profit to the issuer. The circulation value per ton was £214 13s 4d, and the manufacturer's price was £150 0s 0d. This gave a clear profit of £64 13s 4d.

The reason why so many tokens are found in extremely fine condition today is that they were collected, from the start, as a fashionable hobby. These tokens were issued within about a decade, and were soon afterwards demonetized. In the opinion of many collectors no collection of English copper coins is complete unless it contains one or two of these interesting and fascinating specimens, and they have indeed earned a place with their regal brothers, if only for the service they gave to the people of the British Isles, in the closing years of the eighteenth century.

REFERENCES.

- Eighteenth Century Tradesmen's Tokens.* C. W. Peck.
Eighteenth Century Tokens. T. Hill.
Coin Collecting. Milne, Sutherland and Thompson.
Seaby's Bulletins.

LATER ROMAN OCCUPATION OF COLCHESTER.

Read at Wellington by Mr. Eric Horwood.

II.

Following the destruction of the original Roman colony by the uprising of Queen Boudicca and her native Britons, prestige demanded that the settlement be re-built, and the layout within the walls is largely that of the town today. The walls enclose an area of 108 acres, and are $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles in circumference with rounded corners, they have a thickness of nearly 9 feet at the base tapering to 3 feet at parapet height and from 12 to 18 feet high according to ground level. Much of the walls still stand in a good state of preservation. The main gateway, the Balkerne Gate, or the London entrance to the town, is of great interest as it is the largest and best preserved Roman gateway in Britain, being 107 feet wide and composed of dual carriageways 18 feet wide, with an arched footway on either side and flanked by a guard house at either end.

Remains of pottery at the foundations gives date of construction at between 70-96 A.D. though remains in other parts of the walls suggest a later period and the date is open to speculation.

Colchester was well endowed with temples and besides the important Temple of the Emperor, others have been unearthed to Mithra—the Persian god of light—in the Hollytrees meadow,

another at Sheepen Road whose dedication is unknown, and a third large one about two miles south-west of the town; the two latter ones were surrounded by stone walls enclosing a considerable area and the last, though more isolated, is on a site of previous earthworks and a great ditch in which the find of a coin of Cunobeline would indicate that the area saw pre-Roman occupation.

Native gods and religious beliefs were fused with those of the Romans and among finds on plaques, tombstones and an altar are tributes to Mars-Comulos, who gives his name to the Colony; Mars-Medicus, Silvanus-Calliriod, and the three Sulevan Mother Goddesses.

Only two religions were suppressed, Druidism—owing to its use of human sacrifice, and—spasmodically—Christianity, which finally overcome all opposition when acknowledged by Constantine the Great in 311 A.D.

Much of the information available as to the life of the town is not only due to pottery remains but is also reconstructed by various finds of coins, which, by their numbers, give a guide to the changing development of the town as will be seen by the following facts: There are a total of 218 coins recorded as found in the colony, of Vespasian (79 A.D.) and these indicate the increase in trade and security that was felt following the extension of Roman conquest into Scotland, as they are the largest number found up until the middle of the third century.

Colchester, among other towns, continued to flourish with increasing security, and in the second century, large houses—many of scarce stone and with mosaic floors, central heating and painted decoration on the walls—were built for important officials and successful business men, often outside the town walls.

Inflationary troubles in the third century followed a decline in prosperity and coins of Tetricus, 268-273 A.D., number 451, and were almost worthless. This compares with 10 coins of Vespasian only five years earlier.

Diocletian (284-305) tried to save the situation by issuing new and valid coinage but other factors were creeping into the picture to defeat his object. These were piratical raids by Saxons which gradually became more disruptive to trade and produced inflationary tendencies.

In an attempt to counteract these raids a Roman official (known as "Count of the Saxon Shores") was appointed to take charge of the fleet and shore defences. First person to hold this post was Carausius but he took advantage of his position and mobility of forces under his command to defy the Emperors Diocletian and Maximian and set himself up as Emperor of Britain, equal to the other two.

Coins were issued by him, some bearing mint mark "C," claimed as struck at Colchester but this claim can equally be made by Clausentum (Southampton). Carausius was murdered by his close associate Allectus in 293 and he then claimed succession, but

though Diocletian had recognised Carausius he decided to reclaim allegiance of Britain and sent Constantius to do so and this he eventually achieved.

In connection with the campaign of Constantius, local history and legend comes into the picture to conflict in some details, and very largely in dates, with officially accepted history.

According to local legend, the ruler of what is now Essex and Hertford was Coel (so well remembered in nursery rhyme) who had a daughter Helen, and she it was who married Constantius near the end of his campaign and following the raising of a siege on Kaircoel or Coel's town (Colchester).

Eventually she bore him a son, Constantine, who duly became Emperor and the first Roman Emperor to embrace Christianity, while his mother's reputed finding of the true Cross is perpetuated in the arms of the town of which she remains the patron saint.

The first half of the fourth century appears to have offered better conditions in Britain than on the Continent and both public and private enterprises attracted skilled workmen from Gaul, while primary produce was exported in quantity. Coins of Constantine and his successors are numerous.

Gradually, however, Britain was assailed in greater strength and from all sides, so that by 368 almost all of it was over-run, and Theodosius was sent to restore the position. He wintered in London and the records imply that everywhere North of the Thames was either occupied or besieged by barbarian enemy. In the following year, Theodosius re-occupied the Province which carried on until 395. What happened in that year is not known, but no more Roman coins entered Britain, and none of a later date have been dug up at Colchester or elsewhere. The end of Roman Colchester is shrouded in the mists of unrecorded history.

There are some small, ill-made bronze coins of apparently local issue, poor copies of those issued by Constantian Emperors and it has been estimated that Roman influence lingered on until about 430 A.D.

The town was not wiped out completely, although there is definite evidence of fire and destruction in different parts; certainly a large part survived, and life was carried on under new rulers by those who remained after the initial onslaught of the Saxons.

MEDALS—A LINK WITH BRITISH HISTORY.

By CAPTAIN G. T. STAGG, R.N.Z.A.

The *Oxford Dictionary* gives the definition of a medal as "a coin-like metal disc with device made in commemoration of an occasion and given to those associated with it by presence, service, special distinction." Whilst the *Oxford Dictionary* is the recognised authority on the English language, this rather bald statement of facts does not do justice to such noble and worthy insignia. Medals are the marks of

appreciation given by reigning monarchs, governments, or public-spirited citizens and organisations to individuals for acts of bravery, fortitude, or service to a cause in either war or peace, and generally they carry the personal rank and name as a witness.

There is a dignity and respect, or even a reverence, attached to medals awarded for bravery and campaigns in arms, which is not usually accorded to antiques in general. They have been earned, to quote a Churchillian phrase, by "Blood, sweat and tears," and by the number of posthumous awards, in many cases by death itself. Thus there are more reasons for collecting them than just a "collecting mania," as each is linked with history, and provides an interesting and absorbing method of building up a storehouse of knowledge about the nations of the world.

The origin of medals can be traced to antiquity. They were awarded to the victorious by the Greeks and Romans, and were also bestowed by the Mandarins of China as far back as the year A.D. 10. The oldest known specimen in existence is a gold medal in the French National Collection, awarded to Taticus, a Roman general who became Emperor in A.D. 228. The father of the modern medal was a fifteenth century Italian, Antonio Pisaro. The chief medallist to the King at the time of Waterloo was also an Italian named Benedetto Pistrucci, renowned for his St. George and the Dragon, as depicted on the British sovereign and half-sovereign.

The British Orders of Knighthood date from 1348, when King Edward III instituted the Most Noble Order of the Garter; intended to be a restoration of King Arthur's Round Table. However, these knightly insignia cannot be classed as medals in the accepted sense of the word, as apart from the fact that their institution may be linked with an historical event, their subsequent bestowal down the years is not reflected in the insignia themselves, and any link that they may have with contemporary history is lost.

The earliest British decorations and medals were awarded to high-ranking naval officers, the first being a star and badge presented by Queen Elizabeth to Sir Walter Raleigh on his return from his memorable voyage round the world in 1575. There are in existence three different medals awarded by Queen Elizabeth, the exact reason for which is in some doubt. They are known as the "Ark in Flood Medal" and the "Baytree Medals." These medals are allegorical, the former depicting an ark on turbulent waters, and represents Lord Howard's flagship, the *Ark Royal*, and the latter two depicting a solitary bay-tree growing on an island, Great Britain, over which a violent electrical storm is raging. Some authorities say that the Ark in Flood medal was for the defeat of the Spanish Armada, and the Baytree medals were general awards for naval achievements, and others say that all three were for the defeat of the Armada. However, as James I also issued an Ark in Flood medal, and nothing on the medals gives an indication of the purpose for which they were bestowed, their origin may forever remain in doubt. One point on which all authorities agree, is that they were awarded only to high-ranking naval officers. The majority of these medals were of gold; some of silver and a few of copper were issued, almost all being fitted with loops for the attachment of chains, so that they could be worn suspended round the neck.

These first medals were oval in shape, and set a fashion which continued for nearly a hundred years. The first circular medal was issued by Charles II for the wars against the Dutch from 1665 to 1667. Although oval medals went out of vogue for a long time, they were reintroduced towards the end of the nineteenth century, with the

institution of the Volunteer Decoration. Present day oval medals are confined to the Distinguished Flying Medal, Air Force Medal and the volunteer decorations and long service medals.

The first military award was a medal designed by Thomas Rawlins in accordance with instructions issued by Charles I in 1643, and bestowed upon Robert Welch for saving a standard from falling into the hands of Oliver Cromwell's troops at the Battle of Edge Hill the previous year. Charles had been a witness to Welch's valour, and issued orders that a badge be struck for rewarding any future acts of this nature. Called the "Forlorn Hope" from the wording used in the official order, this decoration was struck in silver, and would appear to be the forerunner of our modern decorations for bravery in the field. The order laid down that it could not be bought, sold, or worn by any unauthorised person and also required the Royal Mint to maintain a roll of the recipients. It is not known if any Forlorn Hope medals were issued; no roll of recipients has ever been discovered, and no known medal can be identified as one from the description laid down at the time of its institution.

After the Battle of Dunbar in 1650, Oliver Cromwell issued an oval medal to all Commonwealth troops taking part, the officers receiving it in gold, and the men in silver. Some were struck in bronze, but there is no record of the issue of any to individuals in this metal. The designing of this medal was placed in the hands of Thomas Simon, the celebrated engraver, who depicted Cromwell in armour on the obverse, but in spite of a characteristically modest request from Cromwell that his effigy should not appear on the medal, he was overruled by the House of Commons. As only gold medals are found with loops for suspension, and the silver are without loops, it is presumed that only the officers wore these medals as decorations.

Simon also designed the four medals struck by Parliament to commemorate Blake's great victory over the Dutch in 1653. Three of the medals were awarded only to officers, Blake and General Monk receiving theirs with chains valued at £300 each, others awarded to subordinate admirals had chains valued at £100 each, certain captains received medals with chains valued at £40 each and some medals were awarded without chains to selected junior officers. The fourth medal was of silver, and was awarded to those members of Blake's flagship, the *Triumph*, who, when the vessel caught fire, did not panic like the majority of the crew and jump overboard, but stayed on and saved the ship.

The reigns of Charles II, James II, William and Mary, and Queen Anne all added to the quota of medals of the Navy, the issues being restricted to individual officers only. The great battles of Blenheim, Ramillies, Oudenarde and Malplaquet stir the imagination with the far-reaching effects that they had on our history, but strange to relate, no medals were awarded for these victories, not even to the Duke of Marlborough. Perhaps it was these examples of unrewarded service that prompted Alexander Pope to write:—

"Oh! When shall Britain conscious of her claim,
Stand emulous of Greek and Roman fame,
In living medals see her wars enrolled,
And vanquished realms supply recording gold."

The first medal to be worn from a ribbon and the ribbon officially described, was that granted by George II for the Battle of Culloden in 1746. This medal which was granted to senior officers only, is unusual in that although given by the sovereign, it bears the bust of the Duke of Cumberland on the obverse.

It will be noticed that up to now the rank and file had had a very lean time as regards medals, the only ones issued to them being those granted by the Commonwealth Parliament. Although the sovereign was supposed to be the fountain of all honour, the various monarchs of Britain appeared to be disinclined to follow the custom pertaining on the Continent, and made no effort to bestow honour upon those who bore the brunt of Britain's battles. It was left to others to give a lead to the State and make good this deficiency, but in spite of numerous private awards it almost was a hundred years later before a reigning monarch firmly established decorations and campaign medals as we know them today.

Generals Picton and Eliott each issued medals at their own expense to the troops under their command for the heroic defence of Gibraltar during the four years siege from 1779 to 1783. Mr. Alexander Davison, Lord Nelson's prize agent issued a medal at his own expense to all who fought at the Battle of the Nile in 1798. They were struck in gold, silver, bronze-gilt and bronze at the Soho foundry of M. Boulton, and distributed according to rank. After the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805, Mr. Boulton, no doubt inspired by Davison's patriotic action, was granted permission to issue a medal for the last of Nelson's battles. Both these medals were circular in shape and nearly two inches in diameter, and when issued had no means of suspension, but many of the recipients fitted rings or loops so that they could be worn. The Trafalgar Medal, in silver, was issued to officers, and the men received ones made of pewter. When the issue was made on board ship to the crew of the *Royal Sovereign* almost all of the men threw their medals overboard, thinking that it was an insulting reward for so severe a battle. Between 1799 and 1809 the East India Company issued a number of medals to British and native troops engaged in various actions in India while protecting and expanding the Company's trading activities, but permission to wear these medals was not granted until 1852.

Some of the bloodiest battles and sieges that the world has known were fought during the six years of the Peninsular Wars but once again only the high-ranking officers were decorated, being awarded glazed gold medals for the major battles. The reverse of these medals bore the name of the battle for which it was issued and the order covering the award stated that the medals which would have been conferred upon officers who had fallen or died, should be deposited with the relatives as a token of respect for the memory of the deceased. When the holder of a medal was engaged in another battle for which a medal was granted, he received a large gold clasp for attaching to the ribbon of his earlier medal. This is the first occasion on which bars, as we have now come to call them, were issued to obviate the distribution of a large number of medals for a lengthy campaign. It was also decreed that where an officer already held two clasps and became due for a third, he could substitute his medal for a gold Maltese cross, the arms of which would bear the names of the four actions in which the officer had been engaged, and that further clasps would be issued for additional actions.

The Battle of Waterloo brought the Peninsular War to a close, and when Napoleon surrendered on board H.M.S. *Bellerophon* he was received by a Captain's detachment of Royal Marines. After acknowledging the salute, he inspected the men, remarked that they were fine and well appointed, and questioned whether any among them had seen service. Upon being told that nearly all of them had seen much



CROWN PIECES FROM THE JAMIESON COLLECTION.

Specimens from this collection, which includes 2,500 crowns issued in all countries during the last 400 years, were exhibited in Auckland during the Coronation. *Above:* Pattern crown or 60s piece James VII of Scotland (II of England); *Centre:* crown of George IV of England; *Below:* Crown or 60s piece of Charles I, Scotland, by Briot.

service, he exclaimed "What; and no marks of merit?" The officer in command explained that it was not customary to confer medals except upon officers of the highest rank to which Napoleon replied: "Such is not the way to excite or cherish the military virtues."

At the suggestion of the Duke of Wellington a medal was conferred upon everyone present at Waterloo, but the old order of rank distinction prevailed at first, silver medals being struck for the officers and copper ones for the men. However, it was found that the officers' medals were too large and unwieldy, and it was agreed that the specimen copper medals had a despicable appearance and almost all were consigned to the melting pot. A new silver medal, 1.4-inches in diameter was struck, and for the first time in British history, everyone present at an engagement, irrespective of rank, received identical medals. This medal was also the first of the long line of silver medals of the "five shilling piece type," with the name and regiment of the recipient indented on the edge. When issued the medals had a large steel ring for attaching the ribbon but most of the recipients had ornamental silver clasps substituted for the steel rings. The obverse bears the laureated head of the Prince Regent, and on the reverse is a figure of a Victory with wings outspread and seated upon a pedestal, beneath which is a plinth bearing the name "Waterloo." The word "Wellington" appears above the figure of Victory to perpetuate the Iron Duke's part in the battle and the date "June 18, 1815" is in the exergue. It was engraved by T. Wyon, as were also the Peninsula gold medals and crosses, and these awards saw the commencement of the Wyon family's long association with the Royal Mint, lasting until 1908, during which period six members of this great family of engravers designed over sixty obverses and reverses used on medals struck there.

The peaceful reign of William IV afforded no occasion for the presentation of campaign medals but it is to this monarch that we owe the Army and Navy Long Service and Good Conduct medals. From his reign the private orders of merit and good conduct were practically done away with and the old maxim restored, that "the king is the fountain of all honour."

(To be Continued)

EXHIBITION OF COINS, AUCKLAND.

The display of coins at the Auckland Memorial Museum by Mr. M. A. Jamieson during the Coronation period was so successful, and attracted so much interest among numismatists and the general public that Dr. Archey has asked Mr. M. A. Jamieson to arrange further displays. It is now proposed that another display be arranged at the Museum about October in which two separate types of crown-sized coins for each of 104 different issuing countries will be displayed. Maps will show the position of the issuing countries. Mr. Jamieson, who is a Vice-President of the Society, hopes to attend the November meeting at Wellington, and to display some of his most interesting crown-sized specimens.

PAPER CENTS USED BY NEW ZEALAND FORCES.**Issued in New Caledonia.**

During the Second World War New Zealand and American Forces were comrades in arms in New Caledonia, a French possession in the north Tasman Sea, between Australia and New Zealand. Here they built up forces to defeat the Japanese coming down from the north.

The indigenous money was French, but the American paper dollar reigned supreme. New Zealand and Australian currency had limited circulation. New Zealand forces were paid in dollars, and each dollar saved and sent to New Zealand brought a premium of 1s 1d, as the dollar then stood at 6s 1d in New Zealand money.

Road houses and recreation centres for troops were constructed at various points in New Caledonia. This was done mainly with the aid of patriotic funds, and the centres were administered by the Y.M.C.A. and similar institutions. Notable among these were the Taom Road House (inland from Ouaco) in the north, and, following south, another at Nepoui Valley, at Bourail, and also there was a Base Hospital at Dumbea.

During a shortage of small currency the New Zealand Y.M.C.A. at Taom Road House issued paper money for the use of troops. Mr. E. D. Willis of Upper Queen Street, Auckland, who served with the New Zealand Forces there, brought back four specimens—two of which are now in the collection of Mr. H. Robinson, and the other two in the possession of the writer, as gifts from Mr. Willis.

Presumably the "notes of necessity" were made thus: Several inscriptions were typed on one duplicating sheet, then enclosed by ruled lines approximately $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches by 2 inches, and after drawing or ruling further, the sheet was duplicated on brown, white and cream duplicating paper, then cut with scissors and issued. No number or signature appears on the one cent notes. They bear the typed inscription in centre ONE CENT separated by the figure one in a circle, and above is TAOM RIVER, and below ROAD HOUSE.

The five cent note (white) is a little more elaborate, bearing in centre, small-scale drawing of five swimmers, two in pool swimming to right, one in process of diving, one with arms back, about to dive, and one seated, looking on. Above is REDEEMABLE AT TAOM RIVER ROAD HOUSE ONLY, and below dots for signatures opposite the words PRESIDENT and SECRETARY.

Presumably a mess or Committee controlled the Road House. At base is a date which ends with 1943. All notes are duplicated in black.

The writer would appreciate details and specimens of these and other similar issues used by New Zealand Forces, for record purposes, and for completing sets for Museums.

There was another card issue at the Helavo Seaplane Base, and another paper issue in New Caledonia by New Zealand Divisional Signallers.—A.S.

GOLD SEVEN SHILLING PIECE.

When one looks at the coinage structure of England under King George III, one is tempted to wonder whether gold was then more plentiful than silver. There were then circulating guineas, half, third and quarter guineas, and from 1817, sovereigns and half-sovereigns.

Silver coinage was scarce and worn. No silver half-crowns were issued for the first fifty-six years, and no crown pieces were issued for the first fifty-eight years of the reign of George III, and even then the crown pieces were issued for the years 1818 to 1820 only.

Spanish silver pieces of eight—mostly captured from Spanish ships en route from the New World to the Old—were counter-stamped with a hall-mark to validate them as crown pieces in England, and in desperation the Bank of England, in 1804, over-stamped pieces-of-eight with an overall inscription (the King's portrait on the obverse, and a design of Britannia in an oval with the legend BANK OF ENGLAND FIVE SHILLING DOLLAR 1804, on the reverse).

At that time banknotes were not in common use, and gold and silver coins possessed inherent values which were maintained, as far as possible, on a fixed ratio.

The popularity of the third guinea may have been due to a shortage of five-shilling pieces. The gold seven shilling piece persisted from 1797 to 1813.

TRIAL OF THE PYX.

The *Students' Digest* states that once every year, during the first week of March, the Trial of the Pyx is held. Certain specimens of the coins of the realm are taken to Goldsmiths' Hall, London. There, on behalf of the Goldsmiths' Company, tests are made to ensure that the British coinage is kept up to the standard laid down by law.

This trial was formerly made in the Chapel of Pyx, in Westminster Abbey, where the King's boxes of treasure were stored and the standards of the coins were kept. The word Pyx, from the Greek, means casket, and is the name of the box kept at the Royal Mint for specimen gold and silver coins which are to be tested at the annual Trial of the Pyx.

The hall-mark with which British people are familiar is the mark stamped on gold and silver articles after they have been tested and assayed. Presumably it was given this name because originally this was done at the Goldsmiths' Hall, London. Now it is also done at Government Assay Offices.

A leopard's head shows that the test was done in London. Birmingham has an anchor; Chester a sword between three wheat sheaves; Sheffield a crown; Edinburgh a castle; Glasgow a tree and a salmon with a ring in its mouth; and Dublin a figure of Hibernia.

It would seem that this test, originally applied to precious metals in coins, is no longer necessary to prove what we already know and accept, that our coinage is now thoroughly debased as to intrinsic precious metals, and is now purely a token coinage.

Australian Societies.—In the *South Australian Numismatic Journal*, Vol. 4, No. 1, Mr. J. Hunt Deacon, F.R.N.S., commences a valuable record of Australian Commonwealth coins.

Reports of the Numismatic Association of Victoria indicate that suggestions have been made for a commemorative coin for the Royal Visit, 1954, but no finality appears to have been reached.

Reports of the Australian Numismatic Society show that about 770 million silver coins, and about 620 million bronze coins, circulate in the Commonwealth. In the United Kingdom a comparison of the estimated number of coins issued less withdrawals between 1938 and 1951, shows that the once unpopular threepence is gaining in popularity following the introduction of the twelve-sided nickel-brass piece. The number increased from 60 million to 450 million, but the number of smaller silver circular threepences increased by 4 million only to 92 million. There have been wild fluctuations in the public demand for pennies during recent years which the London *Times* describes as an unsolved monetary mystery.

BOOK REVIEW.

Bibliography of Indian Coins, Part II (Muhammadan and later series), compiled by Dr. C. R. Singhal, Asst. Secretary and Treasurer, The Numismatic Society of India, Bombay, 1952. £1 Europe, and 3 Dollars U.S.A. Foreword by Dr. V. S. Agrawala of Benares Hindu University.

This well-executed work of 220 pages continues the bibliography covered in Part I, and reviewed in our Vol. 6, No. 2, p. 57. It discloses a surprisingly large amount of literature available to the student, but indicates that much work has yet to be done. The author gives the main points of information and new material published in the various contributions listed, and provides, in essence, a summary of Muslim numismatics during the past half century.

The sifting of this large amount of literature, and the writing of summaries, or the listing of the fields covered, obviously involved a great amount of work on the part of the author, who was assisted by his son in the preparation of valuable indices. The result will be of lasting renown to the author, and of benefit to research workers on India.

One section deals with the East India Company which, incidentally, enjoyed trading rights covering New Zealand. The Company rupees were current in New Zealand until 1849.

The arrangement of the work is in chronological and dynastic sequence, and covers 26 dynasties and series of Muslim coins. It gives a full bibliography of the mediaeval coinage of India.

In his foreword Dr. Agrawala pays a tribute to English and other research workers for the quality and quantity of their work in the past and he expresses the hope that Indian scholars will carry forward these studies with the aid of the valuable material deposited with Museum authorities. He rightly points out that Museum authorities themselves have a special responsibility in assisting with this work.

—A.S.

NOTES OF MEETINGS.

WELLINGTON.

Minutes of the 163rd General Meeting held on 25th May, 1953.

Present: Professor Murray (in the Chair), Mrs. Inkersell, Capt. Stagg, Messrs. Ferguson, Hornblow, Berry, Tether, Chetwynd, Martin, Freeman, de Rouffignac and Horwood and Professor Manton.

News of the death of Mr. P. Watts Rule was received with profound regret, and all present stood in silence as a mark of respect.

Professor Murray welcomed Professor Manton of Dunedin to the meeting.

Apologies: Apologies were received from Mrs. Kalfas, Mrs. Berry and Mr. Tandy.

New Members: The following were elected to membership:—

Mr. J. P. Barbarich of Auckland.

Mr. G. Kraagenhof of Handerwyk, Holland.

Mr. E. C. Price of Christchurch.

Mr. G. W. Morris of Fish Hoek, South Africa.

Accounts: The following accounts were passed for payment:—

Spink & Sons Ltd. (annual subscription), 10/- stg.

North Shore Agencies (typing—Journal), £1/10/-.

Wilson & Horton (photographs—Journal), £4/1/8.

Publications Received: *Monete e Medaglie*, March, 1953.

Correspondence: International Numismatic Congress re publications. The despatch of specimen Journals by air mail was approved.

General: Mr. Hornblow gave a further report on the committee's work in respect of the new coinage.

It was unanimously agreed that suitable greeting be sent to the Rev. D. C. Bates on the occasion of his eighty-fifth birthday.

Papers: Capt. Stagg gave a most interesting address on "Medals—A Link with British History," illustrating his talk with numerous exhibits and lantern pictures.

The meeting then terminated with supper.

Minutes of the 22nd Annual General Meeting held on 29th June, 1953.

Professor H. A. Murray occupied the chair.

Annual Report: The Hon. Secretary read the Annual Report for the year ended 31st May, 1953. Moved by Mr. Freeman and seconded by Mr. Ferguson that the report be adopted—Carried.

Annual Accounts: The Hon. Treasurer read the Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st May, 1953. Moved by Mr. Tether and seconded by Mr. Ferguson that the Balance Sheet and Accounts be adopted subject to audit—Carried.

Election of Officers: The following Officers were elected for the year 1953-54:—

President: Professor H. A. Murray.

Vice-Presidents: Messrs. M. A. Jamieson, L. J. Dale, M. H. Hornblow and S. R. McCallum.

Hon. Secretary: Mr. P. D. Tether.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. C. J. Freeman.

Hon. Editor: Mr. A. Sutherland.

Hon. Auditor: Mr. W. Chetwynd.

Council: Messrs. W. D. Ferguson, H. Martin, E. Horwood, J. Berry and Capt. G. T. Stagg.

There followed a short discussion on the election of Fellows.

Publications Received:—

Journals of Numismatic Association of Victoria, May and June, 1953.

A. H. Baldwin & Sons Ltd. Catalogue of Orders, Decorations and Medals. January, 1953.

Catalogue from Jules Florange and Cie.

Muenzen and Medaillen. A.G. Lists 122 and 123.

Spink & Son Ltd. *Numismatic Circular* for April, 1953.

Catalogue of Australian Numismatic Society Library.

Australian Numismatic Society Minutes for 157th, 158th, 160th Meetings.

New Members Elected: The following new members were elected:—

Mr. F. R. Wheeler, New Plymouth.

Mr. R. B. Harris, New Plymouth.

Miss E. A. Bowie, Auckland.

Resignation: The resignation of Mr. G. H. Norman was accepted with regret.

Correspondence Received: Letters were received from:—

Mr. H. Mattingly advised that he would be pleased to act as the Society's Representative at the International Numismatic Congress to be held in Paris in July.

Sir John Hanham reporting on the National Numismatic Congress. (He advised that a specimen of the New Zealand Cross was exhibited.) American Numismatic Association re slides and films.

The meeting then terminated with supper.

Minutes of the 164th General Meeting held on Monday, 27th July, 1953.

Present: Professor Murray, Mrs. Inkersell, Capt. Stagg, Messrs. Hornblow, Freeman, Ferguson, Tether, Horwood and Leask.

New Members: The following were admitted to the Society:—

Mr. G. E. Hearn of London—Life Member.

Mr. B. S. Berry of Wellington—Ordinary Member.

The name of Mr. C. H. West of Australia was deleted from the Membership Roll as his present whereabouts are unknown.

Publications Received:—

Numismatic Literature. No. 23, April, 1953.

Reports to be discussed at the International Numismatic Congress.

Numismatic Association of Victoria—Journal for July, 1953.

South Australian Numismatic Journals—January and April, 1953.

Spink & Son. *Numismatic Circulars*—May and June, 1953.

Catalogue from Hans M. F. Schulman.

Italia Numismatica—April, 1953.

L'Occasione—Series E, No. 3.

Catalogue from G. E. Hearn.

Accounts: The following accounts were passed for payment:—

M.H. Photo Engraving Co.—£12/2/-.

B. Snowden (photographing coins)—£1/15/-.

General: There was a short discussion on medals struck by private societies and similar institutions, and it was the opinion of the meeting that such medals should not be made generally available for collectors as this would tend to lessen the value of the medal in the eyes of the recipients.

Mr. Horwood gave an interesting paper on "The Life of Rahere"—the founder of St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

Minutes of the 165th General Meeting held on 31st August, 1953.

Present: Professor Murray (in the Chair), Mrs. Inkersell, Capt. Stagg, Messrs. Hornblow, Sutherland, Freeman, B. Berry, Tether, Martin, Chetwynd, Ferguson, de Rouffignac, Leask and Horwood.

Accounts: An account for £76 14s 1d from Thos. Avery & Sons Ltd. was passed for payment.

Copies of the audited Balance Sheet were tabled for inspection.

Publications Received:—

Two copies of *Numario Hispanico*, Vol. 1, from Rafael De Balbin Lucas.

Journal of the Numismatic Association of Victoria—August, 1953.

Journal of the Numismatic Society of India—Vol. XIV, Parts I and II.

Spink & Son Ltd., *Numismatic Circular*—July, 1953.

Monete e Medaglie—June, 1953.

Guiseppe De Falco, *Numismatica*—List No. 21.

Italia Numismatica—May, 1953.

Munzen und Medaillen—Lists Nos. 124 and 125.

Minutes of the 163rd and 164th Meetings of the Australian Numismatic Society.

New Members Elected:—

Mr. Carey, c/o Dominion Museum, Wellington.

Mr. A. I. M. Linelly, 144 Great South Rd., Otahuhu, Auckland.

Correspondence Received: Auckland Branch nominating Mr. R. Sellars as a Council Member; Mr. S. Bjorkman (Sweden) wishing to exchange coins; International Numismatic Congress acknowledging copies of the Journal for display.

General: Decided to ask Thos. Avery & Sons Ltd. for a pull of the Membership Roll for revision in view of recent complaints of non-receipt of Journals.

Decided that the appointment of Fellows be discussed at the October meeting and that the Chairman of the Branches be advised accordingly.

Papers: Professor Murray read his translation of Prof. Simonetta's paper on Parthian Coinage entitled "Concerning Arsacid Coins with the Satrap's Cap."

Mr. Freeman read Dr. H. D. Skinner's "Memoir of Willi Fels."

Mr. Horwood read a letter from St. Bartholomew's Hospital confirming that no medal had been issued to commemorate Rahere. The letter described the medals issued annually to Doctors for work in special spheres.

AUCKLAND.**The 43rd General Meeting of the Auckland Branch held on Wednesday, 6th May, 1953.**

Present: Mr. J. Roberts (in the Chair), Messrs. C. Geary, L. Norager, R. Sellars, L. Levene, B. Forster, A. Robinson, T. Southern, E. Robson, C. Menzies, M. Lynch, R. Reeves, N. Solomon, E. Morris; and Misses P. Roberts and J. Anschutz.

General: A film, "The Mint," was shown in the premises of Messrs. Robinson Bros. The lack of a sound track detracted somewhat from the enjoyment of the film, but it was agreed by members that it was most interesting.

All members contributed five minute talks on "How I Became Interested in Numismatics." These were greatly enjoyed by all and the evening passed swiftly.

Exhibits: Mr. Sellars exhibited some crown-sized coins of the 18th century, and Mr. Morris a 1953 Canadian set, Dollar to Cent, of Elizabeth II.

The 5th Annual and 44th General Meeting held on Wednesday, 3rd June, 1953.

Present: Mr. Roberts (in the Chair), Messrs. Sutherland, Attwood, Southern, Sellars, Lynch, Solomon, Geary, Robinson, Lisson, Morris and Misses Roberts and Anschutz. The Chairman extended a welcome to two visitors, Miss O. Newbury and Master W. Nairn.

The Chairman's report and the current balance sheet were read and received.

Election of Officers: The meeting elected the following officers for the ensuing year:—

Chairman: Mr. R. Sellars.

Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. Robinson.

Executive: Mr. N. Solomon, Mr. J. Roberts.

Auditor: Mr. T. Southern.

Secretary-Treasurer: Mr. E. Morris.

A vote of thanks was extended to Mr. Roberts, on the motion of Mr. Sutherland, seconded by Mr. Attwood, for the interest shown by him during his term as Chairman of the Branch.

Mr. Sutherland spoke of the many accomplishments of the late Mr. P. Watts-Rule of Timaru, a Fellow of the Society. On the motion of Mr. Sutherland, seconded by Mr. Attwood, the Secretary was instructed to convey to Mrs. Norris of Christchurch, daughter of the late member, the sympathy of Auckland Branch members.

Members were advised that subscriptions for the year 1953-54 were now due. Reference was made to the display at the Museum of a collection of various articles relating to previous Coronations. These include 96 Crown or similar sized silver pieces of the British Empire, from 1551 to 1953. Also cased official medals struck at the Royal Mint for Coronations and Jubilees, and cased sets of gold coins.

Minutes of the 45th General Meeting held on 1st July, 1953.

Present: Mr. R. Sellars (in the Chair), Messrs. T. Attwood, A. Robinson, M. Lynch, B. Forster, J. Roberts, C. Geary, C. Menzies, A. Sutherland, T. Southern, N. Solomon, D. Atkinson, E. Morris, and Miss J. Anschutz. The Chairman extended a welcome to Misses Roberts and O. Newbury, and Messrs. Barbarich, Strang and Tocker.

General: A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. J. Roberts for his untiring efforts in securing new members, and his work for the good of the Branch in general.

Supper arrangements were discussed, and members were unanimous in voting for the continuation of this very pleasant part of the evening. No hard and fast rule has been decided upon as yet for the providing of supper.

The Chairman's table plaque has been brought up-to-date with the engraving of the names of previous Chairmen of the Branch. All members were pleased with the very handsome appearance of the plaque, and a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Robinson for having the engraving done.

The Chairman asked members to bring their latest acquisitions to meetings to exhibit as this has proved to be popular.

Mr. Southern suggested that the Royal visit would be an appropriate time for a display of coins on similar lines to the display put on by the Branch in May, 1950. The recent display at the Auckland War Memorial Museum, arranged by Dr. Gilbert Archey and our fellow member, Mr. M. A. Jamieson, was very attractive, and proved very popular.

The paper for the evening, prepared and read by Mr. R. Sellars, was entitled "Historical Associations of Coins—Ancient Series." It covered the period 400 B.C. to 377 A.D., and mentioned many famous and infamous men of history represented on coins. The paper was followed with close interest, and was received with acclamation.

Minutes of the 46th General Meeting held on Wednesday, 5th August, 1953.

Present: Mr. R. Sellars (in the Chair), Messrs. Levene, Geary, Attwood, Lisson, Sutherland, Forster, Menzies, Robinson, Roberts, Morris, and Misses P. Roberts and J. Anschutz. The Chairman extended a welcome to Mr. Hulse.

General Business: Copies of the Minutes of the 22nd Annual General Meeting and the 22nd Annual Report were received from the Society in Wellington.

The Secretary was instructed to write to Messrs. B. A. Seaby Ltd., London, in reference to the purchase of plastic cases similar to those being issued with the Crown and type sets of the coinage of Elizabeth II.

Among coins on display during the evening were a set of Irish "Gun Money"—crown to sixpence, six shilling and thirty pence silver tokens of the Bank of Ireland, and a set of porcelain coins issued in Germany during the 1920's.

Mr. Attwood read a short paper intended primarily for junior members and he was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

CANTERBURY.

Minutes of the 30th Meeting of the Canterbury Branch held on Thursday, 5th March, 1953.

Present (10): Miss M. K. Steven (in the Chair), Messrs. L. J. Dale, D. Hasler, T. F. L. Johnson; Master W. Mottram; Messrs. L. Morel, Peter Olorenshaw, W. Salter, J. Sutherland, N. Thomas.

Friends of the Canterbury Museum: Decided that £2 subscription due to the Association of Friends of the Canterbury Museum be passed for payment.

Mr. Hasler gave a talk about Military Notes, P.O.W. Notes, and P.O.W. Tokens. He illustrated his brief remarks with a good number of notes from many different countries which had been engaged in war. His remarks and displays of P.O.W. notes were unusually interesting, as also were the P.O.W. Tokens. The fine display he showed represented mostly specimens given to him by his father, and some kindly lent by Messrs. Dale, Sutherland and Salter. After his talk questions were asked and answered among the members.

Mr. Dale then gave us a colourful and artistic display of Service Medals (World War II) and explained the various points about them and the stars, the coloured ribbons and what they were supposed to represent, and even the colours caused a certain amount of humour.

Both Mr. Hasler and Mr. Dale were sincerely thanked for their kind efforts in helping to make an interesting evening. Thanks were also expressed to the committee responsible for the loan of the medals which Mr. Dale had so nicely arranged for exhibit.

A short discussion brought the meeting to a close at 9.20 p.m.

Minutes of the 31st General Meeting held on Thursday, 21st May, 1953.

Present: Miss Steven (in the Chair), Miss Lange, Messrs. Dale, Hasler, Mitchell, Sutherland, Master Bruce Middleton, Dr. Duff, Mr. C. Graham (Franz Josef) and two visitors. Owing to the absence of Mr. Salter, from illness, Miss Lange acted as Secretary.



The late Mr. P. Watts Rule.

Death of Mr. P. W. Rule: The following resolution was carried, members standing in silence: "That the Canterbury Branch of the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand records its sorrow at the death of Mr. P. Watts Rule, who for more than four years, as fellow-collector, member and speaker, helped this Society by his learning, his patient zeal and his enthusiasm, through the written and the spoken word and through his lively and friendly presence; and that all members join in expressing their deepest sympathy to his daughter, Mrs. Norris."

Dr. Duff asked to be associated with the resolution, and mentioned Mr. Rule's influence in founding the South Canterbury Museum.

General:—

(1) Mr. Dale reported that Mr. Berry had agreed to address the August meeting, the subject and the exact date to be confirmed later.

(2) It was decided to invite Mr. G. Manning, Town Tutor of the Adult Education Dept., to speak to the November meeting on decimal coinage.

(3) The President reported that Mr. Salter had attended the public meeting arranged by the Royal Society to inaugurate Museum Week, and had presented the Branch's donation of £20 towards the Museum Building Fund.

(4) The meeting wished Mr. Dale a happy holiday in Australia, and asked him to convey greetings to numismatists he might meet there.

Miss Steven showed the Margaret Condliffe Memorial Medal, which was designed by Mr. F. A. Shurrock, of Christchurch. The dies were engraved and the medal struck by Moller & Young, also of Christchurch.

Dr. Duff then spoke on "Maori relief carving," illustrating his lecture with some thirty lantern slides, and providing an informed background as an aid to appreciation of the conventionalised human figure or tiki on the obverse of the medal.

Mr. Dale thanked Dr. Duff for his lecture, and the meeting concluded at 10 p.m.

Minutes of 32nd General Meeting held on 18th August, 1953.

Present: Miss M. K. Steven (in the Chair), Messrs. Dale, Hasler, Morel, Salter, Sutherland, Crew, Hurst and Orlonshaw.

Regret was expressed at the absence of Mr. James Berry who, it was hoped, would be able to address a meeting early in 1954.

Mr. Salter showed a coin cabinet such as is suitable for the average collector, and exhibited coins from South Africa, South and Central American States, also from Mauritius and West Indian Islands, and he spoke on some of those countries.

Mr. Morel showed modern Swedish coins.

Mr. Dale thanked the speakers and the meeting concluded at 9.15 p.m.



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