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THIRD NEW ZEALAND CROWN PIECE.

The reverse design of the 1953 cupro-nickel crown piece to mark the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth, and her forthcoming tour of New Zealand has been selected, and a first essay has been published. The successful artist was Mr. R. M. Conly, of Dunedin, whose design was selected from twenty others.

The design is the new Royal cypher, modified, surmounting a section of Maori carving of the scroll type often found on the lintel of doorways. The whole is enclosed by four five-pointed stars, representing the Southern Cross, a distinctive feature of the New Zealand ensign, and by the legend NEW ZEALAND CROWN 1953. Mr. M. Hornblow, Vice-President, represented the Society on the Designs Committee.

It is expected that supplies of the crown piece will be available shortly before the opening of the Royal tour in December, and that a quarter of a million pieces will be issued. The Treasury has received about 3,500 applications for proof cased sets of New Zealand coins, 1953.

The uncrowned profile bust of Queen Elizabeth to be used for the obverses of coins of United Kingdom and major British countries, including New Zealand, was designed by 71-year-old Mrs. Mary Gillick. The legend is in a continuous circle, following the style adopted in the 16th and 17th centuries, and this will, of course, reduce the scale of the portrait. A report from Johannesburg states that already a half-penny bearing the new effigy has been struck, and that gold sovereigns will be issued there to commemorate the Coronation.

The Queen will be shown on horseback on the crown piece struck in the United Kingdom to commemorate the Coronation.

The crowned effigy for British Colonial coins has been designed by Mr. Cecil Thomas.

ORIGIN OF THE CROWN PIECE.

It is 402 years since the first crown piece was issued in England by the young King Edward VI (1547-1553), who died of tuberculosis in his youth.

This young king was nine years of age when he ascended the throne. His uncle, Edward Seymour, Duke of Somerset, acted as

his Protector. Humphrey tells us that in the journal which the young king kept, in his own handwriting—and which is still preserved in the British Museum—he made several entries respecting the coinage, showing that he had been taught to “appreciate” the subject.

Edward had inherited the debased coinage of his father, King Henry VIII, whose silver coins contained only one-quarter part of silver. The young king recorded that it was decided to make new coins “somewhat baser” to help the king’s purse. A Latin inscription on the coins (The fear of the Lord is the fountain of life or wisdom) provoked Bishop Latimer to preach in the presence of the king, “I would to God this sentence was always printed in the heart of the king.” “Silver turned into dross” was another shaft before the king, and while some people thought this was a little seditious, Latimer thundered in defence of truth. Perhaps it was Latimer’s boldness that resulted in a decision in 1551 to issue an entirely new coinage, in fine silver, and to follow a continental lead in issuing silver crown and half-crown pieces for the first time. These show the young king on horseback, crowned, and in the armour of the period. So commenced the silver crown piece of England four centuries ago, an historic denomination we are perpetuating this year. We have no Latimer to thunder against cupro-nickel base metal coins. The church plates will take them all. Token coinage is now accepted, and as *The New Zealand Herald* points out, “The Royal image no longer guarantees weight and fineness; a coin is simply a token, like a banknote. It is a useful and necessary token, and should be given as beautiful and significant appearance as contemporary artists can provide.”

COIN AND MEDAL DISPLAYS.

The occasional public display of coins 2,000 years old, and of medals, numismatic books and periodicals serves to remind our people of the historic river of money that flows through each generation, and marks the development of mankind.

Coins and medals reflect the rise and fall of the living standards, of the arts, and the fortunes of the countries of the world. Two thousand years hence New Zealand standards, her arts, and her finances will be reflected in the coins we now handle.

Some interesting displays of coins and medals have been arranged by members of the Society, the most recent being in Wellington where, prior to the first meeting of the year, the Alexander Turnbull Library authorities co-operated in arranging a week-end display of numismatic books, photographs, coins and medals in the corner windows of Bowen House. At this busy corner the Alexander Turnbull Library periodically brings some of its treasures to the notice of the public. Three busy members of the Society gave a good deal of their valuable time to the display, Professor Murray, the President, Mr. C. J. Freeman, the

Hon. Treasurer and Mr. C. R. H. Taylor, Librarian, who, with his staff, gave every assistance possible. The public saw an excellent display of New Zealand and other numismatic publications, several trays of Greek and Roman coins, a number of Elizabethan coins and Coronation Medals, and other historic material. The specimens were withdrawn at night, and replaced by photographs of coins. The exhibition, which publicised the educational work of the Society, was a really good show, and attracted wide public attention.

Only those who have organised such public displays know the great work involved in arranging and labelling coins and medals for displays. The thanks of the Society are due to those who conceived and carried out this fine display.

CANTERBURY MUSEUM.

Continuous numismatic displays in museums serve a valuable educational purpose. In the Canterbury Museum an attractive display of numismatic literature and illustrations may be seen near the entrance, and on an upper floor there is a semi-permanent display showing just a few specially-selected historic coins, from the Greek and Roman period onwards, and each coin is well labelled with the background history given. These few coins are well presented and give windows on history that will be remembered by viewers long after mass exhibitions are forgotten. Dr. Roger Duff, the Director, and Mr. L. J. Dale, Hon. Numismatist, are to be congratulated on this good display. There is a liaison between the Canterbury University College and the Society through Miss M. K. Stevens, the Chairman of the Branch.

AUCKLAND DISPLAY.

In Auckland, too, some time ago, members under the Chairmanship of Mr. T. Attwood, F.R.N.S., N.Z., and Vice-Chairman, Mr. Asher Robinson, and Messrs. Sellars, Price, Southern, Morris, and others, arranged a numismatic display in a large shop-window in Queen Street, and the carefully selected and well-labelled specimens attracted spectators two and three deep for many days.

AUCKLAND WAR MEMORIAL MUSEUM.

During the Coronation period Dr. Gilbert Archey, Director, has arranged with Mr. M. A. Jamieson to make a display of crown-sized coins appropriate to the occasion, and it is understood Mr. Jamieson will also exhibit such items as his own invitation card to the Coronation of King George VI. His crown pieces will cover a period of 400 years and the exhibition will be unique in New Zealand.

DOMINION MUSEUM, WELLINGTON.

Interesting displays have been arranged here, over the years, by the previous Director, Dr. W. R. B. Oliver, often with the assistance of leaders of the Society, and at the present time the Director, Dr. R. A. Falla, is being assisted, also in an honorary

capacity, by Mr. W. D. Ferguson and Mr. C. J. Freeman who are cataloguing specimens. Continuing attractive displays are being made, and one is at present being arranged by Professor Murray, Mr. C. J. Freeman and Capt. Stagg.

OTAGO MUSEUM.

In Dunedin Dr. H. D. Skinner, the retiring Director, has always shown an interest in numismatics which, incidentally, was a twin interest of the Museum's great benefactor, our late lamented friend Willi Fels, who generously donated large sums of money for additions to the Museum, and for the purchase of Maori artifacts to stock it. He also gave his coins and medals to the Museum which already had the Gavin Collection. Professor Manton and his staff at the Otago University are in close touch with the Director, who encourages the use of specimens as an aid to classical education. Miss M. I. Turnbull is engaged on the cataloguing of the Greek coins.

In Wanganui Mr. S. R. McCallum has long been numismatic adviser and friend to the Director of the Sargeant Museum and Art Gallery where a good display of coins may be seen.

Special coin displays serve a valuable purpose, but on account of the work involved they can only be arranged occasionally. In the four main cities the "Big Four" Museum Directors are co-operating freely with the Society—and getting some assistance in return—and it is pleasing to note the fairly close liaison between the Society and the University authorities in most of the main centres.

GOLD AND DOLLARS UNDER BEDS.

Oriental Banking Methods Discouraged.

New Zealand regulations provide that gold and foreign currency must be offered for sale to the Reserve Bank of New Zealand. Even numismatists must declare gold holdings, but they have been granted a "stay of execution." In Auckland in March two Chinese were charged with withholding for sale 1,699 U.S. dollar bills, 13 U.S. 5-dollar gold pieces, 53 sovereigns, and 19 half-sovereigns, in one case, and 2,700 U.S. dollar bills, 41 sovereigns, and 40 half-sovereigns, and about 8½ oz. of gold alloy in the other.

The Chinese kept the money in drawers and in suitcases under their beds, with large amounts of English and New Zealand currency. It was claimed that the money was the life-time savings of both men. They were fined £25 on each of two charges, but were allowed to sell the hoard of foreign currency to the Reserve Bank, as the Magistrate considered that the money had not been wilfully withheld.

Dollar notes were commonly used in New Zealand when United States forces were garrisoned here during World War II. They were then worth 6s 1d N.Z., but are now worth about 7s 2d.

CAPTAIN COOK MEDALS.**Given to Maoris as Evidence of British Rediscovery.**

By ALLAN SUTHERLAND.

The continuing occasional find of medals distributed by Captain Cook to the Maoris during his second visit to New Zealand in 1773 is attracting wide interest among historians and numismatists.

When the writer visited the Canterbury Museum in November Dr. Roger Duff, Director, referred to a Cook Medal, in his Museum, owned by James Jackson, of Te Awaiti, in the Tory Channel, Queen Charlotte Sound. At Te Awaiti a whaling station was founded by Captain Guard in 1827, and is still being used for that purpose. In that year Thoms, a white whaler, lived here with his Maori wife who was a sister of chief Te Rauparaha.

Dr. Duff also referred to a Cook Medal presented to the Marlborough College, Blenheim, and said that another specimen was believed to be owned by a Foxton resident. This conversation resulted in the Principal of the Marlborough College, Mr. H. A. H. Insull, being asked for details, and this inquiry brought to light some old newspaper clippings, and a hand-written letter from the British Museum. These had been presented to the College with the medal.

The medal is not in a very good state of preservation, but I have not seen any bronze or copper Cook Medals in good condition. Presumably this is due, in part, to burial for over a century, and perhaps also to prior rough usage. The average Maori was a good "collector," but he was certainly not a numismatist. Mr. Insull states that he gets a thrill whenever he handles the medal. His reaction is that of a true historian.

When one sees a Cook medal one is tempted to visualise the possible scene at the actual presentation by Captain Cook to a Maori chief, and to wonder how many bronzed necks the medal has adorned, how many skulls have been split over it, and what bloodshed, plunder and fire have preceded its loss or concealment; also what changes, if any, have taken place in the intervening years in the land or seascape near the find.

Truly Captain Cook's wish was fulfilled, that the medals would remain in New Zealand as enduring evidence of British rediscovery, but on present evidence a century elapsed before the first find was reported.

The hand-written letter given to the Marlborough College was sent to a friend of Mr. A. S. Duncan, of The Grove, who then owned the medal, and was minuted to Mr. Duncan. It states:—

BRITISH MUSEUM.

London, W.C.,
12 Sept., 1898.

Dear Sir,

The medal you describe was struck on the occasion of the sailing of Captain Cook in March, 1772, for his second voyage round the world.

There were two ships the *Resolution* and the *Adventure*. He himself was in command of the former.

After visiting New Zealand and passing Cape Horne he returned in July, 1774.

The medals in question are in the British Museum and are of no special value.

Yours faithfully,

BARCLAY V. HEAD,
(Keeper of Coins).

The date of the letter suggests that the following press clipping (source and date unknown) appeared in a New Zealand paper in the early 1890's:—

There is in possession of Mr. A. S. Duncan, of the Grove, a medal, perhaps not intrinsically valuable, but remarkable for the associations connected with it. The medal is composed of copper bronze or some similar material, and was found at Tuna Bay, in the S.W. arm of the Pelorus Sound, by Thomas Henderson. The place where the medal was picked up is an old Maori clearing, and is now occupied by Messrs. Duncan and Sons as a site for a saw-mill. On the obverse of the medal is a profile of George III, the head ornamented with a laurel wreath and around the side are the words, "GEORGE III, KING OF GR. BRITAIN, FRANCE AND IRELAND, ETC." On the reverse are two vessels in relief, showing the full round sterns and high poops of a bygone age. Over one is the name "RESOLUTION," and over the other "ADVENTURE." These names afford a key to the date and occasion of the medal being struck, as they are the names of the two ships with which Captain Cook left England in July, 1772, the *Resolution* being commanded by himself, and the *Adventure* by Captain Furneaux. There is also an inscription on the medal, "SAILED FROM ENGLAND, MARCH, MDCCCLXXII." The date of the month is incorrect, but it is probable that it was intended to despatch the ships in that month, when delays occurred which detained them until July. [Delay was due in part to a decision to carry out extensive alterations to *Resolution*.—Ed.] When Sir George Grey was in Picton Mr. Duncan was speaking to him about the medal, and Sir George informed him that on one visit to this part Captain Cook deposited a number of medals on the Brothers, intending on his return to Ship Cove to distribute them, but on going to remove the medals it was found that the cache had been rifled, and no traces of its contents could be found. The token in possession of Mr. Duncan is one of the very few in the Colony. We have heard of another in possession of a European woman in Queen Charlotte Sound; but with these exceptions it is not known that any of the medals struck in commemoration of Captain Cook's second voyage are in existence. All curious in such matters may inspect the medal at Mr. A. T. Card's, where it will be on view for a few days.

The reference to a discussion on the medal between Sir George Grey and Mr. Duncan at Picton fixes the find at about 1892 or 1893, because Sir George Grey visited England in 1894, and in 1895 resigned from Parliament on account of failing health. He died in England in 1898. His reference to a cache of medals being placed on the Brothers Islands in Cook Strait by Cook, and being rifled by Maoris, is the first I have read of this event. Grey had a wide source of information. From his Kawau Island home he conducted correspondence with Kings, Queens, historians and noted world leaders. James Grattan Gray, Chief Hansard Reporter, of that time, records that as a guest of Sir George at Kawau he was surprised to see the variety and extent of the Premier's correspondence which, incidentally, included many letters from David Livingstone, the noted explorer.

The clipping also shows that a Cook medal was then in the possession of a European woman living in Queen Charlotte Sound. In 1908 the Director of the Dominion Museum, Wellington, stated that four Cook medals had been discovered in the previous 20 years, thus placing the first discovery at about 1888. On 28 February, 1908, the following appeared in the *Marlborough Express*:—

Mr. A. Hamilton, director of the Dominion Museum, has obtained from London, and placed in the museum collection, one of the medals struck for distribution to the natives of the various islands at which Captain Cook touched in his second voyage. Electrotypes of the two sides of the medal have been placed below it so that both sides may be inspected in the case. Mr. Hamilton states that four of these medals have been discovered in various parts of New Zealand during the past 20 years. One, which was shown at the recent Exhibition in Christchurch, was found at the Northern Sounds, one at Murdering Beach, near Dunedin, one, much decayed, at Kartigi, near Moeraki, and the locality where the fourth was found is not recorded.

The following extracts from Foster's account of Cook's voyage are of interest in connection with the medals:—"On Cook's arrival at Dusky Bay, or what is now known as Dusky Sound, in March, 1773," Foster says, "we went in two boats, accompanying him and several of the officers into the cove, where the natives had been first seen. Here we found a double canoe hauled up on the shore, near some old, low huts, about which we saw vestiges of fire-places, some fishing nets, and a few scattered fish. The canoe, which appeared to be old and in bad order, consisted of two troughs, or boats, joined together with sticks, tied across the gunwales with strings of the New Zealand flax plant. Each part consisted of planks sewed together with ropes, made of the flax plant, and had a carved head, coarsely representing a human face, with eyes made of round pieces of ear-shell, which somewhat resembled mother of pearl. This canoe contained two paddles, a basketful of berries of the *Coriaria ruscifolia* Lin, and some fishes; but the natives were not to be seen or heard, which gave us reason to believe that they had retired into the woods. To conciliate their goodwill, we left some medals, looking-glasses, beads, etc., in the canoe, and

embarked again after a short stay." In Foster's account of Cook's voyage in the *Resolution* round the world, under the date June, 1773, he notes that while the ship was anchored in Queen Charlotte Sound the captain and several of the officers went over to Motuaro. He says: "Our people were received with every mark of friendship, and the captain distributed many presents to them. Among these was a number of brass medals, gilt, about 1½ in. in diameter, which had been struck on purpose to be left as a memorial of this voyage among the nations we should meet with; on one side was the head of his present Majesty, with the inscription, George III., King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, etc. On the reverse the representation of two men-of-war, with the names *Resolution* and *Adventure* over them, and in the exergue, 'Sailed from England, MDCCLXXII.' Some of these medals had already been given to the natives of Dusky Bay, and those of Queen Charlotte Sound. In exchange for iron, cloth, and beads, our people collected a great number of arms, tools, dresses, and ornaments, as curiosities among them, they having greater quantities of these things than any New Zealanders we had seen."

On Cook's third and last stay at Queen Charlotte Sound in October, 1774, another opportunity was taken to distribute medals. "For a few pieces of Tahitian cloth, a nail, some medals, and a bit of red baize, we bought a sufficient quantity to supply our whole ship's company, and so far gained the confidence of the natives that they promised to come to the ship the next day."

Another extract presumably from *Standard of Empire*, and dated 30 December, 1908, states:—

There are still in existence some of the medals—one is at the British Museum—which were struck in Cook's honour by the Royal Society, from a design by Lewis Fingo. It is curious to note, by-the-way, that Captain Cook never received the "Copley" gold medal, which was awarded to him by the Royal Society in 1776. He had left England at the time on what proved to be his last voyage, and the medal was handed to Mrs. Cook. It is now in the British Museum.

The *Standard of Empire* cordially supports Sir Joseph Carruthers' suggestion that a statue or other monument should be erected here. "No wonder the omission strikes an Australian statesman as inexcusable. When we think what Australia and New Zealand are, and what they may eventually become, let us not forget that they might have been Dutch or French, but for the sailors who ploughed the trackless and uncharted waters of the Southern Ocean in a 500-ton sailing ship. Nor is it Britain alone that owes him a debt of gratitude . . . His achievements were freely recognised by his foreign contemporaries, for when Great Britain was engaged in hostilities with France and America in 1777, both countries gave orders that their cruisers were not to touch the ships commanded by Captain Cook. Assuredly there must be a monument to him in London, and if England cannot raise the necessary small sum, she can call, with perfect confidence, upon the people of Australia to help her."

Other finds of Cook medals given to Maoris have been reported at Otanarua, at the south bank of the Wairau River,

Marlborough, and at Pelorus Sound. The latter medal was found in a three-legged iron pot, or go-ashore, that was uncovered by an unusually high tide, and is now in the Alexander Turnbull Library.

RECENT FIND.

Since the quest for further information commenced another medal has been found, as reported in a Press Association message of 16 January, 1953:—

“One of the medals distributed to the Maoris by Captain James Cook when he made his second voyage to the Pacific in 1772 was found recently at Ryan’s Beach, near Wickliffe Bay.”

This bay is on the seaward side of Otago Heads. Some years ago another medal was found at Murdering Beach, between the landward arm of the Otago Heads at Purakanui. At Murdering Beach, in 1817, Maoris attacked the brig *Sophia*, and killed three of the crew. Later, in revenge, whalers attacked the Maoris and burnt the Maori settlement there. Another medal was found to the north at Kartigi near the noted one-time whaling centre of Moeraki.

The following appeared in the *Timaru Herald* of 20 January, 1953:—

One of the few known specimens of the medals distributed to the Maoris by Captain James Cook, when he made his second voyage of discovery to the Pacific in 1772, is the property of Mr. P. W. Rule, a Fellow of the Royal Numismatic Society, of Timaru. He bought it many years ago from the well-known Dunedin collector, the late Mr. Willi Fels. The medal, of brass, is in excellent condition and is similar to the find made at Wickliffe Bay, Otago, recently.

Cook’s second expedition to the Pacific began when the two ships *Resolution* and *Adventure* sailed from Plymouth Sound on July 13, 1772. Mr. Joseph Banks had supplied Cook with a number of medals, which he had made by Matthew Boulton, which were to be distributed to chiefs and others on islands to be visited.

Letters and other documents, according to authorities, indicate clearly details concerning the origin of the medals. In a letter dated March 25, 1772, from Boulton and Fothergill to Banks, are the words: “You have the invoice of the gold and silver medals which we forwarded . . .” In another letter of either April 4 or April 7, 1772, reference is made to 100 silver medals to be sent. An invoice was enclosed showing that there were 100 silver medals weighing 145 ounces. Another letter mentioned two gold medals. A letter of April 17, 1772, referred to six more silver medals, the invoice for which was enclosed.

From the correspondence it may be inferred that some medals were specimens for sale or presentation in the Homeland. There were also references to medals of baser metal which were actually intended for distribution to the natives of the islands.

Captain Cook in some of his notes states that the medals

were given to natives in the newly discovered countries as testimonies of "our being the first discoverers."

A report by the Viceroy of Peru, printed in *The Quest and Occupation of Tahiti During the Years 1772-1776*, refers to the distribution of Cook's medals to the natives of Otaheite (Tahiti) and tells of the recovery of two of the medals from natives by the commander of a Spanish frigate who brought them to the Viceroy in 1776. Records show that in later years other medals were obtained from natives.

An account of Cook's voyage states that the medals were provided by the Admiralty as their Lordships caused a number of medals to be struck, one side representing his Majesty and the other two ships. The documents show clearly that the production of the medals was due purely to the enterprise of Joseph Banks.

One of the gold medals is now in the British Museum. One in silver and one in brass are in the Birmingham Assay Museum. Dr. G. Mackaness, of Sydney, has one of the medals in bronze. He purchased it with other medals from a man whose father, grandfather and great grandfather all lived in Cook's own town—Grimsby. Mr. Allan Sutherland, of Auckland, has one of the medals, and there is another in the Turnbull Library. Mr. W. D. Ferguson, of Wellington, has a silver medal.



COOK MEDAL.

One of the few known specimens of the Captain Cook Medal, the property of Mr. P. W. Rule, F.R.N.S., of Timaru.

I am indebted to Dr. H. D. Skinner, Director of the Otago Museum, for drawing my attention to Murray Thomson's account of the find at Murdering Beach in *A Pakeha's Recollections*, and for recalling Dr. R. McNab's reference to finds in his *Murihiku*. Summarised, the specimens found include:—

1. Medal found by Mr. Hood, about 1860? and later owned by Mr. James Jackson, a resident of the north shore of Tory

Channel. The medal was found at "Otanarua," presumably Otanerau Bay, off Pickersgill Island, Queen Charlotte Sound. Dr. McNab states that the find took place "about 50 years ago" where a boat's crew of white men were murdered by the Maoris. (p. 61.) The specimen is now in the Canterbury Museum.

2. Medal found by Mr. T. D. McManaway. This medal has a horseshoe ring attached by a staple, and according to Dr. McNab in his 1909 edition of *Murihiku*, it was found "about 13 years ago" (1896?) at Rams Head, Tawhitinui Reach, Pelorus Sound, apparently buried in a go-shore, or three-legged pot which had been uncovered by an unusually high tide. Now in Alexander Turnbull Library.

3. Medal found by Thomas Henderson about 1893, at Tuna Bay, in the S.W. arm of Pelorus Sound; later owned by Mr. A. S. Duncan, The Grove, and now in Marlborough College.

4. Medal found in the presence of Murray G. Thomson, in 1863, at Murdering Beach (once called Smaill's Bay) about four miles to left of Otago Heads, a spot described by him as an old Maori workshop site where greenstone weapons, implements and ornaments finished and unfinished, have been unearthed from time to time. The medal was bequeathed to the Otago Museum by Murray Thomson.

5. Medal found in 1953 at Ryan's Beach, Otago Heads, at the mouth of a rabbit burrow by Mr. Richard Steele, and now in his collection.

Efforts will be made to secure detail of the Wairau, Kartigi medals, and those in the Watts Rule, Sutherland, Ferguson and Dominion Museum collections.

Apparently no medals have been found in the North Island. Dr. McNab stated that the medals were distributed at Dusky and Queen Charlotte Sounds, and that distribution of the finds along the coast indicated the trade routes, and also that the original holders were probably driven from their old homes by northern invaders.

The Editor will be pleased to receive information from institutions or persons not listed above who have Cook Medals. The place and date of the find and the name of the finder should be given, together with the condition of the medal, also whether it is of copper, brass, or silver. Later it is hoped to make a similar record of other rare New Zealand items of historic and numismatic value.

Although the Cook medals may not have much monetary value, as yet, they are rich in historic value. They go deep into the roots of New Zealand-Pakeha history, and they will ever remain as cherished personal links between the great re-discoverer of New Zealand and those who have inherited the fruits of his work.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE COINS MINTED BY THE FIRST PARTHIAN KINGS.

(Extract from the Review *Numismatica*, No. 4-6, July-December, 1948, by Professor B. Simonetta, of Florence. Translated by Professor H. A. Murray, M.A., F.R.N.S.N.Z., President, and read at Wellington.)

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

The coins minted by the kings of Parthia form a series which extends without a break over about four centuries; and, because of the interest which they arouse from the numismatical and from the historical point of view, they have repeatedly attracted the attention of students. After the *Arsacidarum Imperium, sive regnum Parthorum historia ad fidem numismatum accommodata* of J. Vaillant, published posthumously in 1735, we have the researches of Froelich, Pellerin, Eckhel, Visconti, Lenormant, Bartholomaei, Lindsay, the more recent and better known work of Longpérier (1853), of Prokesch-Osten (1874-1875), of Gardner (1877), of Markoff (1892), of Wroth (1903), of Von Petrowicz (1904), followed by an interesting and learned passage at arms, which went on for some years, in the works of Allotte de la Füye (1905), Howorth (1905, 1906, 1907), Wroth (1905), De Morgan (1912), and finally the monograph of De Morgan (1933).

But however numerous and accurate the studies of all these researchers may be, there are many obscure and controversial points which they have left; and more controversial than all, that which concerns the assignment of the coins which were minted by the first kings of the Parthians, over a stretch of time which is not confined to a few years only, but which embraces more than a century of history, from Arsaces I (250-248 B.C.) to Mithridates I (171-138 B.C.) and perhaps even to the beginning of the reign of Mithridates II (123 B.C.).

There are two reasons why we are faced with these uncertainties: on the one hand there are the historical accounts which we have about this period of the history of the Parthians, often incomplete, inexact, if not flatly contradictory, on the other hand the fact that almost all the kings of the Parthians are recorded on the coins simply with the name of Arsaces, *for they are all called "Arsaces," but as individuals the one is called Orodes, the other Phraates, another something else.* (Already noted by Strabo.)

According to the accepted view, Arsaces I, the founder of the dynasty, left Scythia with his people about 250 B.C., and invaded and seized the region to the south-east of the Caspian Sea, which took the name of Parthia, withdrawing it from the control of Antiochus II Theos. *Then Arsaces the Scythian with some of the Daai, nomads called Parni, who dwelt beside Ochus, attacked the Parthian territory and became master of it.* (Strabo, XI, 9.) But his reign seems to have been quite short, and he was succeeded by his brother, Tiridates I (248-210? B.C.), who put the land in order and built its capital Dara. He conquered Hyrcania, to the

south of the Caspian, and fought successfully against Seleucus II.

He was followed by his son, Arsaces (Artabanus?) (210-191? B.C.) who fought against Antiochus III the Great. Of his successor Phriapatius all that is known comes from Justin: his reign lasted fifteen years: in succession to him came his son Phraates I, who, unlike his father, reigned for a short time, and he was succeeded by his brother Mithridates I (171-138 B.C.). It was in the reign of Mithridates I that the kingdom of the Parthians rose to real historical importance; he seized from Eucratides, king of Bactriana, a part of his territories, occupied Media, and finally conquered the province of Babylonia, with Seleucia on the Tigris, and the Elimaid (Susiana). Demetrius II Nicator, king of Syria, made war on him but ended in defeat and captivity.

Mithridates was followed by his son Phraates II (138-128 B.C.) who fought with varying success against Antiochus VII; then by his uncle, brother of Mithridates, Artabanus I (128-123? B.C.), who died in battle against the Scythians. About this time Himerus was governor of the Babylonian provinces, and is called king of Parthia by Diodorus. In 123 Mithridates II ascended the throne, and the fact that he has been called "the Great," shows his importance in the history of his country.

All the coins minted during this period of the history of the Parthians are generally collected into two large categories, according as the head represented on the obverse of the coin is provided with a long beard and faces the right, or is entirely beardless and faces the left. In the first group we find tetradrachms, drachms, obols and bronze coins; in the second drachms almost exclusively (diobols, obols and bronze coins are very rare); there are absolutely no tetradrachms. The coins of this last group are rough, more or less as the case may be, and have all a barbaric appearance, while those of the first group have the classical appearance of Greek coinage.

But, as we shall see more clearly in what follows, the contrast between these two groups of coins does not lie solely in the style: several other characteristics make them very different from each other; hence the arguments which we shall briefly analyse. Nevertheless the coins of the kings of the Parthians have one characteristic, from Mithridates II until the last kings: they have all the portraits turned to the left, except for one or two rare examples in which the portrait of the king is depicted full face, as in some coins of a king not yet precisely identified, (Mithridates III?) who reigned about 123 (Von Petrowicz) or, much more probably, about 57 B.C. (Wroth, De Morgan), also in some coins of Artabanus III, of Vardanes II, of Osroes, and of Vologaeses IV. In no coin definitely Parthian is the portrait found depicted on the obverse turned to the right. This fact, together with others of less account, will make some unlikely to accept the coins with the bearded portrait turned to the right as part of the Parthian series. On the other hand, on almost every genuinely Parthian coin the portrait of the king is provided with a beard

(the long beard is actually generally maintained to be characteristic of the Parthians) and this fact will make others unlikely to accept the assignment to the Parthian kingdom of those coins on which the portrait is, admittedly, turned to the left, but is without a beard!

The authorities of the 19th century who dealt with these coins were almost all agreed in attributing either the coins of one group or the coins of the other to the first five or six Parthian kings. Except for Prokesch-Osten, who accepted the attribution to the Parthian kings of the coins with the beardless portrait, whilst he attributes to an Arsacid dynasty which reigned in Armenia the group of coins with the bearded portrait turned to the right, they differ among themselves in the attribution of each of the different coins to the individual kings.

But with the beginning of the 20th century the uncertainties increased instead of growing less, and we find authorities who, with a wealth of arguments, strongly maintained (although not always equally strongly founded), assert that the two groups of coins, with or without bearded portrait, should be attributed not only to different kings but also to different realms. Wroth, in his "Catalogue of the Coins of Parthia" (*B.M. Cat.*) had maintained, although with some reserve, that he could attribute to Tiridates I and to Arsaces his son the coins of the type with the portrait turned to the left and beardless, and with the legend: ARSAKOU,* and BASILEOS ARSAKOU; to Phriapatius and to Phraates I similar coins, but with the legend BASILEOS MEGALOU ARSAKOU; to Phriapatius (?) a drachm, of exactly similar minting, but with the legend BASILEOS THEOU ARSAKOU; to Phraates I (?) a drachm like this with the legend BASILEOS MEGALOU ARSAKOU THEOPATOR; to Mithridates I (?) finally, a drachm, still of this type, but with the legend ARSAKOU AUTOKRATOROS. On the other hand, Wroth attributes in a general way "to the period of Mithridates I" the whole series of coins with portrait turned to the right and with a long beard, grouping them in various classes according to the reverse.

But Petrowicz (*Arsaciden Muenzen*, Wien, 1904), in illustrating his own very extensive collection of Parthian coins, maintains that the two different types of coins must be clearly separated from one another; he keeps the assignment to Parthia of the coins of barbaric type, with portrait to the left and beardless, but attributes, under the guidance of the history of Moses of Khoren, to an Arsacid dynasty of Armenia the coins with the portrait turned to the right and with a beard. Von Petrowicz, thinks that the division between Arsacid kings of Parthia and Arsacid kings of Armenia took place on the death of Mithridates I, and, because there are tetradrachms of a supposed Armenian series dated GOR (173-140/39 B.C.) maintains that we must admit that the death of Mithridates I must have happened before

* Although it would perhaps be more correct, in citing these titles, to use the nominative, I believe it preferable to leave them in the genitive, as they are found on the coins.

that date. At the death of Mithridates I the Parthians were not in a position to stop the formation of an independent Arsacid branch in Armenia, because Phraates I must have fought against Antiochus VII and must have defended his kingdom against the perhaps even greater danger of the invasion of the Scythians; but, after the death of Phraates II, his successor found himself confronted with a situation no less difficult: he had to meet at one and the same time the Scythian attacks and seditions within his country. It was only towards the end of the reign of Mithridates II that the Parthian king could interfere in the affairs of Greater Armenia (Gutschmid, *Geschichte Irans*). These coins, concludes Von Petrowicz, attributable to the kings of Armenia, Valarsaces, Arsaces, Artaschès and Artoasdes, on the analogy of their types, styles and legends, form a group which really seems to belong to one country and one dynasty, and which is clearly separated from the contemporaneous Parthian series.

To these conclusions Allotte de la Füye (*Revue Numismatique*, 1905) has raised some objections, especially about the supposed existence of an Arsacid dynasty in Armenia, and about the fact that, if it is true that the "cordone di lana" (English, "fillet border") which surrounds the bearded portrait on the obverse, is not found, as a rule, on Parthian coins, it is no less true that it is found, nevertheless, on some coins definitely Parthian (coins attributed by Von Petrowicz himself to Arsaces II and to Phraates II) so that this detail is not important enough to warrant removal from Parthia of the group of coins with the bearded portrait turned to the right.

Starting from analogies which are presuppositions to those of Von Petrowicz, Howarth (*Num. Chron.*, 1905) arrives at opposite conclusions. Assuming that the coins with the beardless portrait, bearing the name of Arsaces with the title THEOU, MEGALOU, THEOPATOROS, AUTOKRATOROS must have been minted at the time of Mithridates I, because these titles appear both on the Seleucid coinage, and on that of Bactriana just about this period, he states that, as against Wroth, he sees no good reason for assigning to an earlier period the similar coins, bearing the name of Arsaces only, or with the sole addition of BASILEOS. The kingdom of the predecessors of Mithridates I was limited to Parthia only, Hyrcania, and a small corner of Media, to a country, that is to say, far from Bactriana and from the countries ruled by the Seleucids, who had absorbed Greek culture, and in it, as appears probable, money was unknown.

If we attribute the whole series of beardless coins to Mithridates I, he then asks, what are we to think of those with the bearded portrait? The hypothesis that the two types of coins were minted contemporaneously "does not commend itself to me" he writes. According to Howarth we have apparently only two ways out: either all the coins "with beard" are later than Mithridates I, "which seems almost incredible," or the coins "without beard" do not, in fact, belong to Parthia. The great difference between the two types makes this hypothesis "at all



Fig. 2



Fig. 1 (ingr.)



Fig. 1



Fig. 1 (ingr.)



Fig. 2



Fig. 4 (ingr.)



Fig. 3



Fig. 2 (ingr.)



Fig. 4



Fig. 5



Fig. 6



Fig. 10/1



Fig. 10/2



Fig. 10/3



Fig. 7



Fig. 9/1



Fig. 9/2



Fig. 9/3



Fig. 8



Fig. 10/1



Fig. 10/2



Fig. 10/3



Fig. 11



Fig. 12



Fig. 13



events, plausible." Thinking that an Arsacid dynasty in Armenia is derived from a brother of Mithridates I, he maintains that the coins with portrait facing left and beardless were minted in Armenia and nowhere else.

Wroth (*Num. Chron.*, 1905) in a reply to the work referred to, notes that the place of origin of the drachms "without beard," is the territories corresponding to ancient Parthia, and not to Armenia, and that the type of those drachms is that which is characteristic of Parthian coins: the seated figure depicted on the reverse remains, in fact, almost identical on practically all the Parthian coins from their beginnings until the third century A.D. He therefore asserts that they are without a doubt Parthian. Howarth (*Num. Chron.*, 1906) takes up the cudgels afresh with Wroth, has some reservations to make about the place of origin of the "beardless" coins, and insists on the "overwhelming improbability" that one and the same king coined at the same time coins with bearded portrait and with beardless portrait, and on the fact that Mithridates I, granted his Iranian origin, must have had a beard. As for the reverse of the coins "without beard," which according to Wroth were the Arsacid type par excellence, he tries to avoid this observation, which is fundamental in character, by maintaining that this type, if very frequent in Arsacid coinage, is not however of Parthian origin: the figure seated on the "omphalos" is a copy of the Apollo on the "omphalos" of the Seleucids.

Howarth again in another article (*Num. Chron.*, 1907) the following year, on this same argument, examines the tetradrachms with bearded figure turned to the right. These can be divided into two categories, according to the reverse: some have here a figure of Hercules, a monogram, and sometimes the date: the others a figure of a seated woman (Demeter according to some, a Tyche according to Howarth). The first group, according to this authority, was inspired by the mintings of Euthydemus (Bactriana): Justin records that Mithridates conducted a campaign in the Far East, at that time probably ruled by Eucratides or by Heliocles his son, from whom he won the greater part of his dominions. The tetradrachms of this type must have been provincial mintings, produced for these new conquests, and must, therefore, have been the first tetradrachms of the Parthian series. As for the tetradrachms of the second type, they are evidently inspired by the Syrian mintings of the two Demetrii. Demetrius I reigned from 162 to 156 B.C., whilst the first reign of Demetrius II was from 146 to 138 B.C. Both of those reigns coincided with that of Mithridates I; the first reign of Demetrius II ended, therefore, with his defeat and capture at the hands of Mithridates I; and, until 130 B.C., the eastern dominions of the Seleucids were under Parthian domination. It was in this year that the brother of Demetrius II, Antiochus Sidetes, marched out of Syria with an army of 80,000 men, defeated a Parthian brigand (Indates?) and liberated Babylonia. Phraates, at that time king of the Parthians, sent against him Demetrius, who

during captivity had married the daughter of Mithridates I, with a Parthian army, and Antiochus was defeated and killed. Demetrius thus reconquered his kingdom, devoted himself to fighting the rebels (Alexander Zebina), and was killed at Tyre; his latest coins are dated 187 (= 126-125 B.C.). To Howarth it seems logical that the tetradrachms in question must have been minted between 138 and 130 B.C. in the Seleucid territories which during this period had fallen under Parthian domination, it being "very natural for the Arsacidan ruler in each circumstances to copy the coins of one of the Demetrii." The old head on the coin is very consistent with its having been used by Mithridates I, but it is also consistent with its having been struck by his brother Artabanus, who must also have been an old man when he mounted the throne after the death of Phraates, son of Mithridates." The arguments put forward by Howarth in this last note of this would appear logical but for the fact that, in attributing, as he does, all the tetradrachms to the most eastern and to the most western provinces, and the drachms "without beard" to Armenia, to Parthia properly so called there no longer remains, until Mithridates II, one single coin!

De Morgan (*Rev. Num.*, 1912) after asserting that it is probable that none of the predecessors of Mithridates I, who were simple tribal chiefs rather than kings, minted coins, affirms that Mithridates I minted coins of bronze of Bactrian type (bearded head facing right, reverse: horseman and ARSAKOU), drachms of Iranian type (bearded head facing left, reverse: figure seated on the "omphalos" with a bow and BASILEOS MEGALOU ARSAKOU) and tetradrachms and drachms of Syrian type (bearded head facing right, reverse: Hercules, or Demeter, or Zeus as the case may be). Mithridates minted the first group after extending his authority over the East, the second after the conquest of Iran, the third after defeating Demetrius Nicator.

As for the coins with the beardless portrait, he identifies the hat worn by this figure with the hood worn in Persidia, and therefore maintains that these coins were minted after the conquest of that region. The characters of the inscriptions are close to those used under Mithridates I, but still more to those used under his immediate successors; and the figure without beard is not a Parthian king, but a priest: when Mithridates became master of Persepolis (although the date is not known, it is presumable that it happened in the first half of his reign) it is probable that he took away the right of striking money from the dynasts of Persidia (of Mazdean religion) to give it to his own priests. This issue must have been very brief, because it disappeared at the beginning of the reign of Mithridates II. The identification of the figure without beard with a priest agrees with the fact that the features of this figure do not remain identical in the different coins of this type; his opinion has been accepted by Babelon, who has classified these coins under the title of "sacerdotal issues."

These ideas were later substantially repeated by De Morgan

himself in his treatise (*Numismatique de la Perse Antique*, Paris, Leroux, 1933) with only very slight modifications. He stresses the fact that the figure of the reverse must portray a divinity or a high priest; whilst that of the obverse must certainly be the portrait of the high priest. Taking his stand on the type of the inscription, he merely revives the attribution of coins to the period of Mithridates I and his immediate successors: "ces émissions, qui semblent commencer sous Mithridates I, sont assez abondantes au cours de ce règne, elles deviennent plus rares sous Phraates II, et s'arrêtent au cours du règne de Mithridates II." (These issues which seem to begin under Mithridates I, are very abundant in the course of this reign, they become more rare under Phraates II, and cease in the course of the reign of Mithridates II.)

If we wish to sum up very briefly how far this explanation has taken us, we find that until the beginning of the 20th century the coins with figure turned to the left and without beard have been unanimously attributed to the Parthian kings who preceded Mithridates I, and to the first years of the reign of that king, those with the figure facing right and with beard to the time of Mithridates I. This classification found its best form in the work of Wroth, but it is just with this work that the discussions began, and that the classification was increasingly abandoned. Von Petrowicz takes from the kings of the Parthians the coins with bearded portrait, to attribute them to an Arsacid dynasty in Armenia; Howarth, on the contrary, takes away the drachms with beardless portrait to attribute them to that same country; De Morgan gives them all back again to Parthia, but in order to make the group of coins with beardless portrait a group contemporaneous with or later (instead of earlier) than that with bearded portrait.

As a certain number of Parthian coins have been added to my collection some of which formerly belonged to the collections of Von Petrowicz and Allotte de la Fûye, I thought it would be interesting to re-examine so controversial a question; and I think it is worth while to set down some reflections which can help to dispel many doubts on the theme.

The authorities who maintain that the drachms with beardless portrait and the tetradrachms with bearded portrait ought to be assigned to two different states based their view on the enormous difference which exists between the two types (a difference which makes it highly improbable that the two types were minted contemporaneously, or nearly contemporaneously in one single state), and on the fact that the two types, though for different reasons, differ quite perceptibly from the immediately succeeding coins which are definitely Parthian.

Let us consider first the coins with the beardless portrait (see figs. 1 and 2). Although the obverse of these coins differs from the other genuinely Parthian coins in some features, despite the fact that the portrait is turned to the left, as regularly happens in Parthian coins, the reverse is such as to remove all

doubt. The seated figure which is its characteristic is found, *identical* (see fig. 5) on the coins of Mithridates II. (One could perhaps dispute the attribution of these coins to this king, but that they belong to the Parthian series no one has ever called in question, nor ever could), and is found almost identical, with only substitution of the throne for the "omphalos," on other coins of the same Mithridates I (see fig. 6) and on the drachms, it may be said, of all the succeeding kings until the latest. The fact that this figure is probably inspired by the Apollo seated on the "omphalos" of the Seleucid coins (Gardiner, Howarth) though it appears here thus modified and with characteristics which remain constant for another three centuries, makes it no less inevitable that this figure is absolutely exclusive to and characteristic of the Parthian series.

True though it be that the portrait of the obverse has a head-dress which we no longer find on the coins minted by Mithridates II and that the portrait itself does not wear a beard, whilst it was a well-known custom of the Parthians to wear a beard, these are features which are of no importance as against the features supplied by the figure of the reverse. On the other hand, so far as the absence of beard is concerned, it cannot be denied that we find Pacorus I and Pacorus II (see fig. 7) portrayed without beard, and nobody on that account calls in question the assignment of their coins to Parthia. Nor can we discount a priori that the custom of some of the Parthian monarchs of wearing a beard (a rule which, as we have just remarked also has some exceptions later) began essentially with Mithridates I, and that his predecessors on the other hand did not wear one. We shall see however at the end of the present discussion that we must reach the conclusion that Arsaces I at least had no beard, and that the portrait put on his "beardless" drachms must be precisely his. On the other hand a criterion which is certainly important in the attribution of a group of coins to a definite country is that of the district in which these coins were found; and Wroth reports that the coins portraying the figure without a beard have been found in the territories corresponding to ancient Parthia, whilst later, De Morgan gives us even more precise information, the fruit of his personal experience. "J'ai remarqué qu' en Azerbaidjan, et dans le Kurdistan de Moukri, celles des drachmes Parthes au type imberbe, que je considère de frappe sacerdotale, se rencontrent plus fréquemment que dans les autres provinces persanes." (I have noticed that in Azerbaidjan and in the Kurdistan of Moukri, those of the Parthian drachms of the beardless type, which I consider a priestly coinage, are found more frequently than in the other Persian provinces.) More justifiable than the removal from Parthia, as Howarth has proposed, of the drachms with the beardless portrait, would appear to be at first sight the removal from Parthia of the tetradrachms with bearded portrait, but turned to the right instead of to the left, as Prokesch-Osten and Von Petrowicz proposed. As for coins on which the portrait is surrounded by a band of wool,

they are as frequent among Seleucid and Bactrian coins as they are few among those of Parthia; and not only are the portraits depicted on the reverse never found in any subsequent Parthian money; but the style, which is exactly Greek, makes them substantially different either from the coins with the beardless portrait, with which we are at present dealing, or from all the subsequent coins (see fig. 3). Faced with all these differences, we find, however, one fact, which evidently escaped Prokesch-Osten and Von Petrowicz, or was not adequately appreciated by them, and that is, in the inscription of the reverse, the great king Arsaces has also the title of PHILHELLENOS, a title which appears here for the first time, but which we find thereafter for over three centuries on almost all the Parthian coins, whilst it is not found at any time on the coins of any other realm, with the sole exception of a very few coins of Armenia (Tigranes III) and of Nabataea (Aretas III) about a century later. This important characteristic should be enough, in my opinion, to persuade us to classify without hesitation among the Parthian coins, the coins of this type similarly to what we have maintained can be substantiated for the seated figure of the reverse among "beardless" coins.

But between the coins of these two types, with portrait to the left and without beard, and with portrait to the right and bearded does this separation (which the authorities have pointed out) really exist so clearly? Yes, certainly, if we take into account the more widely spread and better known types with which we have been occupied up to the present; no, if, on the other hand, beside these two types which we could call extremes, we take into consideration also some coins, much less known, which have an appearance evidently midway between these two extremes, and which constitute a clear bond between them. I allude here to the drachm of the *B.M. Cat.* in which the bearded head turned to the right is similar to that of the tetradrachms whilst the reverse has the figure seated on the "omphalos," identical with that of the drachms with the portrait without a beard (this coin is reproduced by Wroth in plate II, I) (see fig. 8). And I allude also to some obols (six of them are illustrated in the *B.M. Cat.* and three are in my collection, coming from that of Von Petrowicz) which have on the obverse a bearded head turned to the right, but similar to that of the tetradrachms, whilst on the reverse they have in smaller size a head but turned to the right, which in the *B.M. Cat.* is described as bearded but covered by a head-dress substantially the same as that which we have found on the drachms with the beardless portrait (see fig. 9). Now on two of the three obols of my collection this head is really bearded, but in one is clearly without beard, and therefore identical, with the sole difference that it is turned to the right, with that of the "beardless" drachms (see fig. 10/2). It would be difficult to imagine a better instance of some of the opposing characteristics of the "beardless" drachms and of the "bearded" tetradrachms gathered on a single coin! If there still be any difficulty in

admitting, after the considerations I have previously mentioned, that both sets of characteristics belong to one and the same series, all doubt should disappear after the examination of the examples already quoted.

Now that it has been shown that the two types of coins belong to Parthia, although mutually so different, it is logical to ask in what chronological relationship they must stand to each other: if, that is, they were minted at the same time, or in succession, and in that case what type came first. If there is no doubt that one or the other of the types must have been put on the Parthian coinage to begin with, the doubts on the other hand are many (and will perhaps never be wholly eliminated) when we wish to attribute each coin to a definite king.

Whilst the numismatists of the previous century were inclined to admit that the Parthian coinage began with the foundation of the Arsacid dynasty, and Wroth has made it begin with Tiridates, later authorities are in general unwilling to admit a Parthian coinage prior to Mithridates I. They (Howorth, De Morgan) are inclined to maintain that the predecessors of Mithridates were half-savage tribal chiefs, and they therefore deny that they could have struck money. Wroth also, in his reply to the criticisms made of him by Howorth, shows himself disposed to admit that "numismatists have usually assigned too early a date for the beginning of the Parthian coinage" and to designate the coins with MEGALOU "as the earliest drachm-coinage of Mithridates I"; he stresses that the others should have been left to his immediate predecessors, perhaps only to Phriapatius and to Phraates I.

In reality, although the barbarous origins of the Arsacids are not to be denied, it cannot however be denied that Mithridates I mounted the throne about eighty years after their power was established, and when their people had already acquired a vast territory in their struggle against powerful states: Tiridates had founded cities and had resisted Seleucus II; his son had fought against Antiochus the Great. That this people, enclosed between two countries, Bactriana and Syria, which both knew about coinage quite early, and having connections with Syria itself which are evidenced by the wars carried on against it, could have no knowledge of coinage for so many decades, seems very strange. And that all the more so if we take into account that Parthia was, in its time, under the Achaemenid dynasty, and was, in consequence, overrun and conquered by Alexander the Great, and then ruled by the first Seleucids; and that, besides, according to Polybius (X, 31) about 200 B.C. numerous Greeks inhabited the cities of Parthia and Hyrcania. How can we view, after all this, the possibility that the Parthians continued to be ignorant of the use of coinage until 170 B.C.?

If it is logical to suppose that Arsaces I had no means of minting coins, if it is difficult to deny these means to his immediate successors, and if the coins with the simple inscription ARSAKOU could very well be attributed to Tiridates and to

Arsaces his son, just like those on which appears the title of BASILEOS, it is not really strange that they can have been minted under these monarchs, or, at least under Phriapatius and under Phraates I, and there is no reason why they should not have had this title. As for all the other drachms on which the title of the king is accompanied by other adjectives, Howorth maintains that "almost certainly" these titles, employed in Arsacid coinage are taken from Seleucid coinage, and that it must give us the terminus a quo for dating these coins. And just as the title THEOU appears in Syria with Antiochus Epiphanes (175-164 B.C.) that of MEGALOU with Timarchus (162 B.C.), that of THEOPATOROS with Alexander Bala (150-145 B.C.), that of AUTOKRATOROS with Tryphon (142-139 B.C.) he concludes that all the Arsacid coins with these same titles cannot have been earlier than Mithridates I. Again, on the hypothesis of a Bactrian derivation, the title of MEGALOU was used by Eucratides, who was defeated by Mithridates, and that of THEOU by Antimachus and by Agathocles, who are supposed to be contemporary with Eucratides. To these dates, drawn up by Howorth, Wroth objected with justice that these titles must have been "in the air," even before their appearance on the coins, so that they can give us a reference which is only approximate: but I believe that it is possible to go even farther.

It is true that the monarchies which were neighbours of Parthia, had already at the time when it achieved autonomy, a relatively long tradition in the art of striking coins (in Syria Seleucus I even between 323, when Alexander the Great died and 312 B.C. which saw the victory of Gaza and the beginning of the Seleucid era, was minting coins with the types of Alexander, with the addition, in the field, of his own symbol, the anchor) to anyone to whom it seems probable, a priori, that the mints of the new Parthian kingdom must have been inspired by the coins of these kingdoms, it is not less true, on the other hand, that the type of coins with the beardless portrait has absolutely no analogy with the mints of Syria or of Bactriana. It is a question of coins which are not an imitation, be it merely barbaric, of pre-existing coins, but of coins with a type absolutely *sui generis*. Even the analogy, justly emphasised by Howorth, between the figure of the reverse and the Apollo of the Seleucid coins, is only very approximate. The seated figure which we find on the Arsacid drachms is obviously clothed while the Apollo of the coins of Syria is naked, it is turned to the right instead of to the left, carries on the slightly outstretched arm a bow, and one or more arrows.

It is particularly interesting to record here that there exist also little-known tetradrachms (one, very fine, is represented in an article by E. Rogers in the *Numismatic Chronicle*, 1912) of Antiochus II, in which Apollo holds in his hand, instead of the arrow, a bow, in an attitude strictly similar to that of the figure of the Arsacid coins (see fig. 10). If account is taken of the fact that Antiochus II reigned from 261 to 246 B.C., while the reign of Tiridates I goes from 248-210 B.C., it is suggestive to suppose

that it is just from these tetradrachms that the first Parthian craftsmen draw their inspiration, and we should then have a new fact for establishing with complete probability just at this time the beginning of the Parthian coinage.

The only true analogy between the two types is the "omphalos" on which the one or the other figure is seated. Now if this simple and solitary detail is in reality enough to prove that the minter of the first Arsacid drachms must have known the Seleucid coinage, and drawn inspiration therefrom, it is quite obvious that the craftsman did not try to copy this model, but sought to differ from it as much as possible, if not in substance, at least in appearance. And if this attempt at independence in the design of the figure is so clearly proved, it is then obscure as to why the same craftsmen must have felt obliged to copy faithfully the epithets to be added to the name of the king, and on the other hand, were unable in this attempt also to be, or at least to appear original. Is it really inevitable that the craftsman, before adding to the name of Arsaces an epithet so elementary as that of "The Great" (not to mention any save that most frequently used) must have necessarily already seen it on another coin? And in this case, must he have gone to fish for titles essentially on the coins of Timarchus, satrap of Babylonia, who had rebelled against his king, and whose power did not last even for a year? It would be, if anything, more probable that, if derivation is proved, it is that Timarchus, whose satrapy was contiguous with the kingdom of the Parthians, took this title from the coins of the Parthians. But if we go on to consider that the tetradrachms of Timarchus, are an almost identical copy (cf. G. F. Hill in *Num. Chron.*, 1914) of those of Eucratides, we must immediately conclude that the tetradrachms of Eucratides with MEGALOU are certainly (and probably of different years) earlier than 162 B.C. (the year of the revolt of Timarchus) and that therefore, if at all, on a date before 162 B.C. and from Eucratides, not from Timarchus, the Arsacids took the title of "the Great."

Granted all this, and being also ready to admit that titles like MEGALOU, etc., are more appropriate to Mithridates I than to his predecessors (but this independently of their time of appearance on the Seleucid coinage) we cannot believe that it is possible a priori to exclude the fact of their having been used by Phriapatius or by Phraates I.

As to the title which we find more than frequent (MEGALOU) the fact that it appears in the coinage of Syria, only on coins of Timarchus, persuades us to think it probable, as we have just remarked, that the Arsacid coins with MEGALOU must be earlier than 162 B.C., the year of the rebellion of Timarchus, and must therefore be attributed, if not to Phriapatius, or to Phraates I, to the first years of the reign of Mithridates I. But if we wish at all costs to persist in holding that these titles must necessarily have been copied by the Parthians from coins of neighbouring kingdoms, we cannot deny that, while for the duration of the reigns of the different kings

of Syria we have dates sufficiently exact, for the duration of those of the kings of Bactriana we have, on the contrary, dates very vague and uncertain. And the titles of MEGALOU and of THEOU were used, as Howorth himself recognises, even by Eucratides, Antimachus and Agathocles. And we know very little about the precise time at which these figures came to power: it is supposed that they were contemporary with one another, and it is known that Eucratides was defeated by Mithridates; but, that is not sufficient to exclude the possibility that this king could have come to the throne already several years before Mithridates himself, so that, even following this way, we find ourselves unable to exclude on these dates alone, the possibility that the titles of MEGALOU or of THEOU cannot already have been used in imitation of the Bactrian mints by Phriapatius or by Phraates I.

As for the tetradrachms, drachms and obols and rare bronze coins, with portrait turned to the right and bearded, their derivation, according to circumstances, from the Seleucid or Bactrian mints is so obvious that the admission of Howorth himself, that they were minted by Mithridates I after the occupation of the Bactrian and Seleucid provinces, appears very logical. And it is, furthermore, quite explicable that this king, in conquering provinces far more civilised than Parthia, in which he found a monetary system more perfected, set himself to imitate it, so as to maintain for these populations (and to extend to the whole of Parthia, probably) a type of coin which was very similar to that to which they were accustomed. The title of PHILHELLENOS assumed at this time by Mithridates, and never abandoned by his successors, perhaps serves to show his wish to deny the barbaric origins of his own dynasty, and to show his own plans for civilisation. The coins of this type represent, therefore, the coins minted during the second half of the reign of Mithridates I, and the dates GOR and DOR stamped on some of them, agree exactly with this statement of ours. They are indeed the dates which permit us to place after the year 138 B.C. (and not before, as Von Petrowicz proposes), the date of the death of Mithridates I.

On this point a reasonable question arises: what person is represented by the beardless portrait of the earliest Arsacid coins and by the bearded portrait?

That without the beard, it is generally admitted, must represent the founder of the dynasty, Arsaces I, or rather, perhaps, Tiridates. And in the seated figure of the reverse it is thought there has been portrayed in full the same figure as on the obverse. De Morgan sees, however, in the portrait of the obverse, that of a priest, and in the figure of the reverse, as Howorth had already done, that of a divinity. In support of the hypothesis that the portrait is that of a priest, would be, according to the same authority, the fact that the features vary perceptibly on the different coins, maintaining constant only the characteristic of lack of beard and the type of head-dress. But this hypothesis is clearly arbitrary, having no objective evidence to support it. Not only are we not entitled to maintain that the

Parthians had had for a certain time, a priestly coinage, but the portrait with the head covered with a head-dress which has much more of the appearance of a helmet (of leather?) than of a cap, seems rather that of a warrior than of a priest! If again we compare this portrait with that which is found on the reverse of the obols of Mithridates I (see figs. 9 and 10), we see the same head-dress appear, worn here in the majority of instances, by a bearded figure in which Wroth has supposed, with great probability, that we must see the brother and predecessor of Mithridates, Phraates I, and only in one case on the reverse is portrayed the same head-dress worn by an unbearded figure, in which we could very well recognise Arsaces I or Tiridates, that is, the same figure as on the coinage "without beard." On the other hand, if we admit that the portrait without the beard represents Arsaces I or Tiridates, they were already dead at the time when the craftsman traced their features on the coin, and it is thus easy to explain differences in the several examples of drachms, minted in bronze and in different years by craftsmen who had never seen the person whom they wished to represent, but whom they knew only from the features so far as tradition had transmitted them: or, at most, they reproduced the same features (if we admit that the Arsacid coinage was begun under Tiridates) taking them from the earliest rough coins. There is therefore no real justification for thinking, in order to explain these differences, that we must consider them as different persons, and so much the less as priests.

The hypothesis that the first successors of Arsaces coined money reproducing as well as their own portrait, that of the founder of the dynasty is very probable if we think of the very great respect with which his memory must have been surrounded. It will not be out of place to recall a passage of Justin, XLI, 5: "*Sic Arsaces quaesito simul constitutoque regno non minus memorabilis Parthis quam Persis Cyrus, Macedonibus Alexander, Romanis Romulus natura senectute decedit. Cuius memoriae hunc honorem Parthi tribuerunt, ut omnes exinde reges suos Arsacis nomine nuncupent.*" (Thus Arsaces after seeking and at the same time establishing his sovereignty was no less vivid in the memory of the Parthians than Cyrus in that of the Persians, Alexander in that of the Macedonians, or Romulus in that of the Romans, and he departed this life at a ripe old age. To his memory the Parthians have done this honour: all their kings in succession they call by the name of Arsaces.") On the other hand, the habit of reproducing on the coinage the portrait of the head of the dynasty by his immediate successors was not rare at this time. Especially in Syria we find that in the preceding century Antiochus I coined at the beginning of the reign money with his name but with the portrait of his father, the founder of the dynasty, Seleucus.

As to the seated figure reproduced on the reverse of these same coins, the hypothesis that it is intended to represent the same figure as that of the obverse appears much more acceptable

than the more recent one that it represents a divinity. On the earliest drachms it wears on its head (the fact is clearly visible in those best preserved, *B.M. Cat.*, Plate I, Nos. 8 and 9) the same helmet as the portrait of the obverse, while in some subsequent tetradrachms (Phraates IV), on which the seated figure which holds the bow is turned to the left instead of the right, it wears, instead, a diadem similar to that worn by the king portrayed on the obverse of the same coins. It is clear from this that the craftsman has intended to portray a ruler, and not a divinity. On the other hand the very fact that in the earliest drachms the figure is seated on the "omphalos," but that very soon (during the reign of Mithridates II) for the "omphalos" there is substituted a throne (and this substitution is maintained throughout all the subsequent coinage) shows, it seems to me, that the "omphalos" of the earliest drachms does not serve to prove that the figure seated on it is a divinity (as Howorth has maintained to support this argument) but simply that the craftsman has imitated, in this detail, the Seleucid coins without knowing the sacred significance of this object, and believing, very probably that the figure represented on the reverse of the Seleucid coins was not that of a divinity (Apollo) but rather that of the ruler! Obviously when relations with the kingdom of Syria were strengthened, what was doubtful was cleared up, the "omphalos" disappeared from the Parthian coins to give place to the throne which was assigned to the royal figure.

For final confirmation of this idea we could merely recollect how in almost all the tetradrachms, from Phraates III onwards, on which the seated figure does not appear similar to that of the drachms, we find portrayed the same seated king with a Victory which crowns him, or with a Tyche which offers him a palm, a fact which just serves to show the Parthian habit of representing their king even on the reverse of the coin. And this habit was not peculiar only to the Parthians, but was quite wide-spread in the East about this time, as can be deduced from the examination of the series of Persidia, Elimais, Caracene, and the second part of the Bactrian monarchy.

And we come to the last of the bearded portraits, in which one sees portrayed Mithridates I, another believes, on the other hand, that a satrap has been portrayed. This last hypothesis, put forward by Gardner, which could have been justified when some coins were attributed to Mithridates I now however (Wroth) attributed to Mithridates II, has actually no longer any reason for existence. The hypothesis put forward by Howorth that the portrait in question could also be that of Artabanus, brother of Mithridates I and successor of Phraates II seems absolutely unfounded. We must not in fact confuse with the tetradrachms which we are studying other tetradrachms, similar in type, but with a portrait, admittedly bearded, but essentially different, and which Wroth had already, relying on the date, (EPR = 125/4 B.C.) attributed with justification to this king (see fig. 4). That Mithridates I must in reality have had a long flowing beard could

perhaps be proved also by direct evidence. Demetrius Nicator, when taken prisoner by him, did not wear a beard (see fig. 12) any more than any Seleucid king before or after him: when, however, after about eight years of captivity and after marrying the daughter of Mithridates, he returned to the throne of Syria, we find him now portrayed with a long wavy beard, quite similar to that which we see on the tetradrachms of Mithridates (see fig. 13) an imitation of his victorious and glorious father-in-law.

To conclude and sum up: Both the coins with the portrait on the obverse without a beard and turned to the left and those with a portrait with a long beard, but turned towards the right belong to Parthia. The former certainly preceded the latter in order of time. It is probable that those with the beardless portrait and the legend ARSAKOU must be attributed to Tiridates or to Arsaces his son, those with BASILEOS ARSAKOU perhaps to those same kings, certainly to Phriapatius and to Phraates I, those, in conclusion with the same legend, but with other epithets added belong perhaps to Phriapatius and to Phraates I, certainly to Mithridates I in the first years of his reign. The portrait here represented is very probably that of Arsaces I.

The coins with the bearded portrait turned to the right represent Mithridates I, and were minted during the second half of his reign, very probably after his conquests in Bactriana and Syria.

We have thus come very close (but with supplementations and certain modifications) to what was the classification proposed by Wroth about fifty years ago, but which subsequently met with numerous objections.

DESCRIPTION OF COINS ILLUSTRATED.

1. Tiridates (or Arsaces his son or Phriapatius). Obol: head without beard, covered by a kind of helmet: on the reverse BASILEOS ARSAKOU. Gr. 0.700. (Not mentioned in the *B.M. Cat.*) At the sides the same coin enlarged.
2. Phraates I (or Mithridates I in the first years of his reign). Drachm: obverse as the preceding, but less rough; on the reverse BASILEOS MEGALOU ARSAKOU. Gr. 4.700. Below, the same coin enlarged.
3. Mithridates I—tetradrachm of Bactrian type: head of Mithridates with flowing beard; on the reverse BASILEOS MEGALOU ARSAKOU PHILHELLENOS. Gr. 14.970.
4. Artabanus I—tetradrachm dated EPR (= 188 Sel. = 125/24 B.C.); on the reverse to the left, monogram, under the arm of the goddess. The one tetradrachm hitherto known with this single letter has been published by Von Petrowicz (and is not the one illustrated); in the *B.M. Cat.*, under the arm of the goddess, THE. It is evident that there is inspiration from the Syrian tetradrachm of Demetrius I (162-150 B.C.).
5. Mithridates II—drachm. Figure of the reverse seated on the "omphalos" as on the coins of the first Arsacids. (Variation, because of the incorrect writing in the exergue; from *B.M. Cat.* 8.)

6. Mithridates II—drachm. The king is visibly older; the figure of the reverse is no longer seated on the "omphalos" but on the throne.
7. Pacorus II—drachm: portrait of the king without beard.
8. Mithridates I—drachm: bearded head on the obverse similar to that of the tetradrachms. Portrait on the reverse like that of the "beardless" drachms. (From *B.M. Cat.*)
9. Mithridates I—obols: head on the obverse like that of the tetradrachms, portrait on the reverse with head-dress like that of the "beardless" drachms.
10. The foregoing obols, enlarged: on the middle one the figure of the reverse is clearly without beard. (Not mentioned in the *B.M. Cat.*)
11. Antiochus II—tetradrachm: on the reverse Apollo seated on the "omphalos" with a bow in his out-stretched hand (also one or more arrows, as in all the subsequent Seleucid coinage). (From Rogers.)
12. Demetrius II Nicator—drachm: portrait of the king without a beard (before the imprisonment in Parthia).
13. Demetrius II Nicator—tetradrachm: portrait of the king with flowing beard (after the imprisonment in Parthia).

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

£5 Notes Not For Export.—Travellers to the United Kingdom are allowed to take with them £15 as pocket-money, of which £10 may be in £1 or 10/- notes, and the balance in silver, but £5 notes are barred. Travellers to other countries are limited to £7 in pocket-money in New Zealand currency. This is additional to other money normally carried by travellers—bank-notes, travellers' cheques, drafts, and letters of credit—which must be covered by a certificate issued by a bank.—*Evening Post*, July, 1951.

Greenstone.—"To speak of greenstone (nephrite or New Zealand jade) being worth £20 to £100 an ounce is just plain nonsense." Mr. J. S. Cameron in *N.Z. Herald*, 19/3/53. He states that there are huge deposits in Wyoming. Before the war a greenstone boulder weighing a ton was sent to Germany where it was difficult to find a market at sixpence a pound.

Inflation.—The purchasing power of the pound sterling has fallen by more than half (56 per cent) since prewar, to only 8s 10d, while that of the postwar unit has declined by 32 per cent to 13s 7d. (Rt. Hon. Mr. Butler, Chancellor of the Exchequer in the U.K.) The value of the United States dollar, too, has fallen about 50 per cent since prewar.—*Auckland Star*, 7/4/53.

Treasure Trove.—"There is literally no coin of any value we can bury today to encourage our descendants to dig—they just won't be bothered digging up chips of nickel and soggy paper." Kickshaws, *Dominion*, 7/7/52.

Decimal Coinage.—"Decimal coinage must come. It has everything in its favour." *Better Business*, Nov., 1952. In this issue some Members of Parliament strongly support decimal coinage.

Visit of Mr. Harold Mattingly.—We learn that Mr. Harold Mattingly is to be the visiting Professor at Otago University in 1954.



RARE NEW ZEALAND PENNY.

Census of Owners.

An interesting census of the owners of specimens of the rare New Zealand Penny shows that of the score or more specimens extant, more than half of them are owned by collectors overseas. Mr. P. Watts Rule, F.R.N.S.N.Z., of Timaru, gave the following information when interviewed by a representative of the *Timaru Herald* on 20 January, 1953:—

The rarest New Zealand coin (with the exception of the trial crown, 1935, and some trial coins, 1933, that may still be extant) is the New Zealand penny of 1879, bearing the head of Queen Victoria on the obverse and NEW ZEALAND above Britannia on the reverse. Mr. Rule possesses one of these.*

The rarity of the coin is accounted for by the fact that only 12 specimens are said to have been struck, and the dies were destroyed in 1886, but there is reason to believe that the total number known throughout the world is 20.

Mr. Rule said yesterday that as far as could be ascertained the 20 owners were as follows: Allan Sutherland, Auckland; J. L. Griffin, Wellington; Otago Early Settlers' Museum, Dunedin; W. F. Meek, Dunedin; P. W. Rule, Timaru; Sir Marcus Clark, Sydney; Freeman, Melbourne; S. V. Hagley; R. Marcollo, Bendigo; Strang; E. Wills, New South Wales; Melbourne Museum and Art Gallery; South Australian collection; Sydney Museum; Steinberg, New York; O'Dea; Roy Farman, Victoria; Canterbury Museum; L. J. Dale, Christchurch, and Miss E. R. Thomas.

It is understood that in 1879, when a suggestion was made that New Zealand should call in penny and half-penny traders' copper tokens, with the object of substituting pennies and half-pennies of Imperial design only, a proposal was made that New Zealand should issue its own coins, and a few pattern pennies—now known as the New Zealand penny—were struck by Joseph Moore, an English medallist in London, from a design submitted for the Imperial bronze coinage in 1860.

* As reported elsewhere in this issue Mr. Watts Rule passed away on 17th May.

The proposal to adopt this coin as an official New Zealand penny was not agreed to, but the pennies were allowed to go into circulation.

Mr. Rule, who has long played a distinguished part in numismatic circles in the Dominion and further afield, has asked the Timaru librarian (Miss A. K. Elliot) to place the Cook Medal and the New Zealand pattern penny on display in the library.

In addition to the above list of owners the Dominion Museum, Wellington, has a specimen; also the Editor has an additional specimen, and one of the privately-owned specimens listed as being in Australia is now in the Reserve Bank collection.

In order to give a "pedigree" to these tokens the Editor will be pleased to receive information from any person or institution not listed above who owns a specimen of the rare New Zealand penny.

VISCOUNT BLEDISLOE.

In March we learned from Mr. H. D. London, Hon. Secretary of the Whakatane and District Historical Society, Inc., and a valued member of our Society, that our much respected first and Hon. Life Patron, Viscount Bledisloe was enjoying a holiday and rest in Algeciras, Spain. He is now 85 years of age.

FUTURE NUMBERING OF JOURNAL.

The cyclostyled reports of the Society since its establishment in 1931 until 1947 are contained in three bound and indexed volumes. From 1947 the reports have been printed, commencing with Vol. 4, No. 1, and since then fourteen printed Journals have been issued. Four numbers have been issued for each of Vols. 4 and 5, and five numbers for Vol. 6. Commencing with this Journal, Vol. 7, No. 1, a running number (17) will be shown in addition, so that members can more easily sort their printed copies.

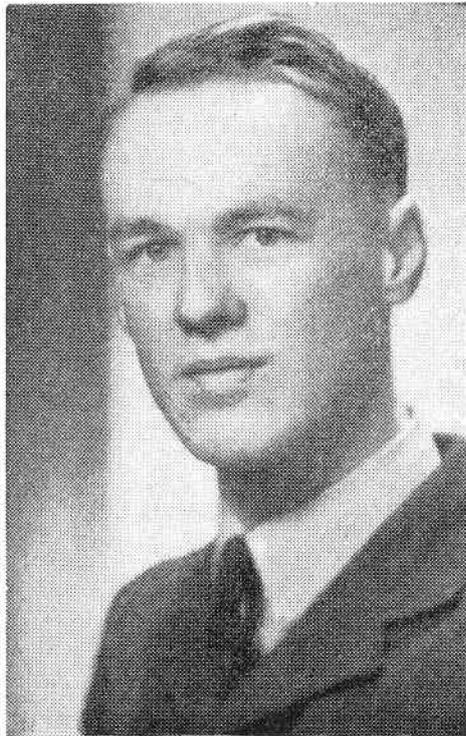
MEMBERS' EXCHANGE.

Mr. H. N. Johnson, P.O. Box 92, New Plymouth, would like to exchange or purchase New Zealand tokens.

Mr. J. Sutherland, 18 Somerfield Street, Cashmere, Christchurch, would like to purchase a Mears token.

Numismatic History of New Zealand, Part V ("Medals of New Zealand") and Part VI ("Coins of New Zealand") wanted by L. J. Dale, Box 3, Papanui, New Zealand. Good price paid.

N.Z. Tokens wanted by Junior member, Miss Jane Anschutz, 44 Ventnor Road, Remuera, Auckland.

DESIGNER OF REVERSE OF CROWN PIECE.

MR. R. M. CONLY.



Approved design for Crown Piece. A reeded rim will appear on the coin.

Mr. R. M. Conly, of Dunedin, whose design for the reverse of the crown piece was selected from about twenty other designs, was born on 3rd February, 1920. He was educated in Dunedin, and received art training at Dunedin and Wellington Schools of Art. He has been employed as a commercial artist since 1937. He entered the R.N.Z.A.F. at the outbreak of war, and subsequently joined the staff of *Contact* as artist. He was appointed official artist to the R.N.Z.A.F., and toured New Zealand and the Pacific Islands doing paintings and portraits. Since his demobilisation in 1945 he has been employed as artist in charge by printing houses and advertising agencies. He is now in charge of the art and photographic studio of Messrs. Coulls, Somerville & Wilkie Ltd., Dunedin. He was married in 1945. His entry into the 1953 crown piece design competitions was his first effort of this kind.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL AS PATRON.

His Excellency the Governor-General, Sir Willoughby Norrie, has graciously consented to become Patron of the Society.

COLCHESTER AND ITS 19th CENTENARY.

Read at Wellington by Mr. Eric Horwood.

In July, 1950, the town of Colchester, with which I am so closely associated, celebrated the nineteenth centenary of its establishment as a Roman Colony. In A.D. 50, Emperor Claudius founded and named its Colonia Claudia Victricensis. Previously the town had been called Camulodunum. It was the native capital of the British King Cunobelinus who ruled over South-east Britain, and who issued a very fine series of coins in gold, silver and bronze, which remain to tell us something of the man, his achievements and the extent of his dominions. Camulodunum is a Celtic name meaning "the strong place of Camulus," who was a war-god.

The facts which go to make up the picture of Colchester in the early days of its foundation are a fascinating jig-saw, built up from many finds and excavations over a long period of time, the whole forming a composite picture, very largely complete, of the life and happenings as they occurred 1,900 years ago.

The many discoveries, both numismatical and archaeological, are sometimes in themselves capable of giving a complete answer to a facet of life, and sometimes they are so fragmentary that a piece only fits the picture by comparison with similar discoveries and known facts from other parts of the Roman world, aided by records from some chroniclers.

During the disorder following the death of Cunobelinus, a Roman army numbering between 40,000 and 50,000 men, under Aulus Plautius landed on the Channel coast in the year 43 A.D., and in two main battles secured the country up to the Thames, and then moved to the native capital at Camulodunum. By 49 A.D. it had reached the borders of Wales, and the Humber to the north. The Governor, Ostorius Scapula, finding that his forces were insufficient to face the task of conquering the unruly and powerful tribes of Silures in the west and Brigantes in the north, decided to free the garrison at Camulodunum by founding a Colony there, which the Emperor Claudius agreed to do, and issued orders to that effect, also paying a sixteen-day visit to Britain to honour the founding of this new Colony. He further ordered to be built a temple of the Emperor at Camulodunum, as capital of the province, and to mark the occasion silver coins were struck showing an arch of triumph, and the legend DE BRITANNIS.

Following Roman custom, men in the legions who had completed their twenty years of service were discharged and sent to live in the new Colony; they were given land requisitioned from native owners, as a gratuity, and they, on their part had to build up the Colony, and be responsible for its defence, and for maintaining order among surrounding tribes, thus releasing the garrison for duty elsewhere.

The site chosen for the new town was to the east of the old capital, on an adjoining hilltop, and this is the layout of

Colchester as we know it today. Many people were attracted to the place, and there was much building in wood and stone, while workshops were established at what is now Sheepen farm, to cater for the demand for materials and implements. Work progressed steadily during the next ten years on houses of timber framing, with wattle and daub panels, on a public theatre, baths and a market place, a council building and law courts, while dominating the whole scene was the great temple of Claudius, a most ambitious and imposing structure where now stands the Norman Castle. The one item left in abeyance was the construction of defensive walls. The temple was of outstanding importance in the community.

Standing in the centre of the forum, or public square (an area 600 feet by 400 feet) and raised 11 feet above surrounding level on a platform of masonry, the temple measured 80 feet wide by 110 feet in length, plus ornamental mouldings and steps in front. Conjectures as to small but massive foundations in the vicinity are that they were used for pedestals and statues, or altars.

A College of Priests, presided over by a High Priest, was maintained at great cost to the native Britons, and this was one of the causes of discontent, as the temple was considered symbolic of Roman power. The High Priest was a person of great standing. He had to pay dearly for his appointment, and he exacted dues in proportion, in order to recompense himself.

The annual convention of the province was held in the great square of the temple. In addition to private citizens, representatives from every tribe in Britain attended, including the Governor and all officials whose duties allowed them to attend. It is supposed that the ceremonies would be the same as in other parts of the Roman Empire, and would include athletic contests, recitations of poetry, trials of eloquence, and a fair. This was the great social event of the year. However pleasant this gathering may have been, the British tribes had many just causes for complaint against the Romans, both as regards administration and in a personal capacity. Land was confiscated, conduct of Roman settlers was insufferable, heavy taxes were imposed, the Procurator Catus Decianus (responsible for tax collecting) was noted for his rapacity, and was justly hated, while the financier Seneca, together with the Emperor, were involved in a financial scandal after foreclosing on loan monies advanced to British tribes. All these conditions laid the foundation for revolt. The crisis was reached in A.D. 61, following the death of Prasutagus, King of the Iceni, who had been friendly towards Rome. In order to protect his family after his demise, he left his fortune jointly to his daughters and the Emperor. His wishes were not carried out. Instead his wife Boudicca and his family were attacked and beaten, his relatives were made slaves, and important men of the tribe were robbed of their possessions. It is no wonder that Boudicca, placing herself at the head of her tribe, was able to attract an army of 120,000 to fight against Rome. At this time

Suetonius Paulinus was away, in the far West with the bulk of his army, trying to extinguish the power of the Druids in their last retreat on the Isle of Mona (now Anglesey), so that at first Boudicca and her forces were almost unopposed. The territory of the Iceni was in the area now known as Suffolk and Norfolk. Camulodunum was the nearest settlement, and therefore it fell before the first furious onslaught of the Britons. The temple held out for two days before it was stormed, plundered and fired. There are signs on the site of the metal workshops at Sheepen Farm of the frantic attempts made to repair and make military equipment. In many parts of the town are to be seen evidence of destruction by fire of original buildings. Boudicca constructed a ditch and rampart around the site. She then attacked and routed the Roman IX Legion advancing from Lincoln under Petilius Cerialis. She then turned her forces south and Londinium and later Verulamium shared the fate of Camulodunum. Suetonius, though awaiting reinforcements, decided that he must fight or perish. He won a decisive battle against Boudicca's forces. Boudicca and her two daughters perished. Suetonius exacted terrible reprisals with fire and sword, so much so that Nero demanded an enquiry which absolved Suetonius from blame, but he was removed from his position. Prestige demanded that the Colony be rebuilt, and this was done. The town plan of today is largely the result.*

* More about the Romans in Briton will be found in the "Agricola" of Tacitus, ably translated with introduction in the Penguin series by Mr. Harold Mattingly.

THE HUMAN TOUCH.

Describing the distribution of the Royal Maundy in Westminster Abbey last year, Richard Dimbleby in *Elizabeth Our Queen*, states: "With great formality and strictly according to tradition she was conducted along lines of men and women waiting to receive alms. Everyone in the great nave of the abbey who was in a position to see the Queen was watching her, a small figure in black, walking between the taller and splendidly robed officers of the Almonry, the Bishop of Lichfield and the Dean of Westminster. They saw her pass along the line, smiling at each old man and woman, as she handed them their purse of silver coins. It was a formal ceremony, one that had changed greatly since its origin 1900 years ago in the Last Supper. Today, in its abbreviated form, it could have been a quick routine occasion. Not so, however, with the Queen. She paused and made a separate ceremony of handing-over of each bag of alms. At last she came to a group of half a dozen men and women who were blind, and who waited nervously, listening to the footsteps of the Queen and the almoners as they approached. They need not have been uneasy, for Her Majesty looked at them swiftly and, without prompting, took hold of the hand of the first woman, spoke to her, and lifting her hand, laid a purse in it. She clasped the hand for a moment in her own before moving on."

—Penguin in *Auckland Weekly News*, 29/4/1953.

BEAUTIFUL MODERN COINS.*By C. J. V. WEAVER (now deceased).*

II.

FRANKFURT THALER.

We now come to the beautiful silver thalers of the free city of Frankfurt, in Germany. There were two varieties, dated 1857 and 1860. The obverse of both types bears the bust to right of a beautiful German girl in rich national dress, the hair bound with ribbon and caught up behind the head in a knot from which curls escape, with similar curls in front of the ear. The head is encircled by a large wreath of oak leaves. The bust fills the diameter of the coin. Around is the inscription FREIE STADT FRANKFURT (Free City of Frankfurt). In the first type an inner line separates the inscription from the field, coming to a point at the top on each side. On either side of the shoulder of the bust are towers in the distance. The name of the artist appears on the truncation of the bust. The second type, that of 1860, is without the inner lines or the towers, but is similar in all other respects. On the left hand truncation of the bust in incuse letters is A. V. NORDHEIM. This fine work is by the German artist engraver August Fredrick von Nordheim (1813-1884) and the model for the obverse was the beautiful Fanny Janauschek who posed as "Francofurtia" for this bust. These pieces were styled "Janauschekthalers" after her. The handsome reverse shows a magnificent crowned heraldic eagle and around it the inscription EIN VEREINSTALER XXX EIN PFUND FEIN with the date. Upon the edge of the coin in incuse letters is the legend of the city, STARK IM RECHT (strong in the right).

NEW ZEALAND TOKEN.

Although a large number of the penny and half-penny copper and bronze tokens of Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand are of mediocre and often poor design and workmanship, many commendable and pleasing designs are to be found. The specimen that I shall describe is in the ranks of beautiful modern coins. The obverse, following the custom, simply shows the name and location of the issuing firm in block letters: around above JOHN GILMOUR, around below NEW ZEALAND and across centre of field in two straight lines NEW/PLYMOUTH, the whole surrounded by a beaded rim. The fine reverse depicts one of New Zealand's famous landscapes—Mount Egmont rising sheer from a forest of trees at its base. In the right foreground are three tree ferns, the first of which, in large form, bisects the right diameter. In the middle distance is a large lake upon which is a native craft manned by six Maoris rowing. In the immediate foreground is a kiwi, a wingless bird, feeding among the grasses. Beautiful landscape scenes accompanied by the fauna and flora of the locality are too seldom seen upon the coinages of the world.

Like so many of the tokens of this period, it is undated. It was issued and circulated during the 'sixties of last century. The medallist who produced it is not definitely known.

PERUVIAN DOLLAR.

A coin bearing a very handsome obverse appeared in 1880, the Peruvian five pesetas or dollar. It would seem that there was only one year's issue of this type of dollar, a disastrous year for the Peruvians who engaged in war with the neighbouring republic of Chile and suffered a crushing defeat. A beautiful female head to left occupies in full the obverse of this coin. The countenance is of a strong Spanish type of beauty; the head carries a large and heavy wreath composed of flowers and ears of wheat. Part of the hair is caught up in a heavy plaited bunch high on the back of the head, the remaining hair being allowed to fall in a wave from the forehead across the ear and down the back of the neck. A large circular ear-ring depends from the lobe of the ear. A necklace of pearls encircles the neck. Around is PROSPERIDAD Y PODER POR LA JUSTICIA, and below 1880. No artist's name appears on this handsome obverse. The reverse is, with slight variations, of the normal type of the coins of Peru. Within an inner rim a shield surrounded by a semi-wreath of palm and laurel. Above the shield a small wreath irradiates. The large shield is divided into three sections, in the upper left a llama, in the upper right a flourishing tree and in the large lower section a cornucopia, or horn of plenty. The inscription between the inner and outer rim reads, around—REPUBLICA PERUANA LIMA 9 DECIMOS FINO B.F. Below CINCO PESETAS. Between the two ends of the ribbon binding the wreath appears in relief the minute letter B. The edge of the dollar is milled. Certain other denominations of this type were issued, but I believe that the year 1880 marks the sole appearance of this dollar.

ARGENTINE PESO.

In 1881 appeared an inspired work, the splendid head of Liberty on all denominations of the coins of the Argentine Republic. It will be seen at its best on the silver peso, and the bronze two centavo piece. Upon the obverse of this peso is depicted a lovely female head of purest classic Greek. Its serene and surpassing beauty is a veritable glory to the Republic. The head is to left, the abundant waving masses of hair flying in the breeze, and terminating in beautiful curls. Above the forehead the hair is similarly blown upwards in short waving curls overflowing the well-known cap of liberty, which appears upon the head. A lock of hair is pendent before the ear.

The inscription around above the head LIBERTAD (Liberty), to left and right respectively UN PESO (One Peso) and 9 Dos. FINO (nine-tenths pure silver). Two large stars separate the upper inscription from the left and right, and a third appears between the truncation and the rim. Beneath the truncation is the name of the artist OUDINE.

When we realise that this glorious work is from the master hand that wrought the divine Greek obverse of the five-franc piece of the Second French Republic (dated 1851) we can better understand its inspiring loveliness.

The reverse bears a coat of arms of handsome design. Upon a central oval are clasped hands holding a staff upon which is the republican emblem, the cap of liberty, and in the background is an horizon line. A semi-wreath surrounds the oval, and the whole is superimposed upon a stand of flags, at the base of which appears the breech-ends of two cannon. Above the oval, and between the left and right ends of the flags is the rising sun humanised and irradiate. Around is the inscription REPUBLICA ARGENTINA. Below is the date. Between the rim and the left and right cannon are two large stars.

MEXICAN DOLLAR.

A coin bearing a handsome reverse is the Mexican dollar which for many years has been current over a large part of the world, including South America, China and the adjacent countries and the islands of the Pacific. Its fine reverse has given it the name of the "Sunburst dollar." It fills the field with a splendid sunburst of seventeen major and fifteen minor rays. In the centre is a large republican cap of liberty, upon the rim of which appears in incuse letters LIBERTAD. Around below from left to right, a star 8 R. GA. 1892 I.S. 10 D^S. 20 G^S. (8 Reales = Peso or Dollar, GA. = the mint mark of the mint at Gaudalaxara, the date 1892, I.S. the moneyer's initials, 10 D^S. 20 G^S. = 10 Decimos 20 Granos = the guarantee of silver fineness laid down by the Latin Monetary Union). The specimen I have described bears the above date and mint mark, but others of these dollars bear other mint marks and dates and at times moneyers' initials.

Although the obverse does not come under the category required by the title of these pages it is nevertheless very creditable, showing the Mexican eagle with wings outstretched perched upon a cactus plant and grasping a snake in its beak. Around above, REPUBLICA MEXICANA. (The eagle with snake and cactus perch is due to a legend or prophecy, traced to the pre-Aztec period, that the war-god's temple should be built where a prickly pear was found growing on a rock, and perched on it, an eagle devouring a snake.—*Spink's Numismatic Circular*, Mar.-April, 1916.) The edge of the coin is usually decorated with alternate squares and circles after the style of the Spanish dollars.

(To be continued)

OBITUARY.**Sir Thomas Hunter, M.A., M.Sc.**

Sir Thomas A. Hunter, former Principal of the Victoria University College, and a member of our Society, died at Wellington on 20th April, aged 77. He was Vice-Chancellor of the University of New Zealand from 1929 to 1949.

Sir Thomas Hunter was an advanced thinker, a stimulating and lucid speaker, and one of the most outstanding lecturers of his time. He will long be remembered by thousands of ex-students whose mental horizons have been widened by their contacts with his great intellect.

A tribute by Sir Thomas Hunter to Sir John Rankine Brown, ex President of our Society, was published in the first printed issue of our Journal, Vol. 4, No. 1.

The Rev. D. C. Bates, first President of the Society, and now in his 85th year, paid a tribute to the memory of Sir Thomas Hunter. He said: "In spite of differences in outlook, I regarded him as a great and good man, one who loved righteousness and hated iniquity—a seeker of truth above all other earthly considerations." At the meeting of the Society on 27th April, members stood in silence as a mark of respect to his memory.

Mr. P. Watts Rule, F.N.Z.I.A., F.R.N.S., N.Z.

In the death of Mr. Percy Watts Rule at Timaru on 17th May the Society has lost one of its most distinguished members. Mr. Watts Rule was almost a foundation member, and was a Vice-President from 1933 to 1948. He took an active interest in the Society's affairs, and at the time of his death he was a Fellow of the Society, and a member of the Council. He took a keen interest in historic and numismatic matters, and contributed valuable papers from time to time. In 1948 he was selected by the Government to act with Mr. J. Berry and the writer on a Committee under the Chairmanship of Sir Joseph (then Mr.) Heenan, to report on the issue of coins and medals to mark the projected Royal visit of King George VI that did not eventuate. The 1949 crown piece emerged from that Committee's work.

As an architect Mr. Watts Rule distinguished himself, and many fine buildings stand as a tribute to his work. For his design of the Surgical Block of the Timaru Public Hospital, he was awarded a gold medal in 1939 by the N.Z. Institute of Architects, of which body he was a Fellow.

One of his main interests was book-collecting, and at his home in Timaru he founded the Earlham Library which contains many rare books and Bibles. He specialised in the collection of New Zealand tokens, coins and medals, and was also interested in philately and conchology. He was President of the Canterbury Historical Society, and a keen member of the Canterbury Branch of our Society.

Although Mr. Watts Rule was 64 years of age when he died he maintained a youthful outlook throughout, and his alert

intellect and charming personality never failed to enthuse his listeners when he spoke on subjects in which he was interested.

He earned an honoured place in the community which he served so well. The Society has been enriched by his membership, and members who were privileged to know him will honour his memory.

At meetings of the Society held in the main centres tributes were paid to his memory, and messages of sympathy were sent to his only daughter, Mrs. H. G. Norris, St. Peter's Vicarage, Upper Riccarton.—A.S.

MAUNDY COINS.

The Queen, dressed in mourning for Queen Mary, today performed one of the most ancient of Royal duties—the distribution of Maundy alms to the aged and the poor at Saint Paul's Cathedral.

It was Her Majesty's first public engagement since her grandmother died.

Today, 27 old men and 27 old women—as many as the Queen has years of age—each received the specially-minted silver Maundy pence, which for the first time bore the Queen's own likeness.

Maundy gifts also included a green purse to each woman containing an allowance of £1 15s and a white purse to each man with £2 5s in lieu of clothing.

Each was given a red purse containing £1 representing "redemption money" and £1 10s for provisions.—*N.Z. Herald*, 4/4/1953.

The above report, which was sent from London on 2nd April, did not refer to change of venue. This was probably due to the Abbey being closed for Coronation preparations.

UNIQUE REUNION.

Former Employees of Archibald Clark, Auckland.

On March 26th, 1953, over 100 former members of the one-time notable firm of Archibald Clark, draper, Shortland Street, Auckland, held a reunion in Auckland. The firm was founded in 1849. In 1857 Archibald Clark issued a penny token from his retail drapery premises which, in 1864, became a wholesale warehouse when three sons were taken into partnership. The building is now occupied by National Mutual Life Association.

Archibald Clark died in 1875. The firm built larger premises on the corner of Wellesley Street and Elliott Street, where it continued from 1908 until its dissolution in 1928. The T. & G. Building now occupies that site.

Archibald Clark, who arrived from Scotland in 1849, was the first Mayor of Auckland in 1851, also a member of the House of Representatives. A son, J. McCosh Clark also became Mayor of Auckland, and one of his sons, A. McCosh Clark, now 78 years of age was present at the reunion; also present was Mr. Fred Smith, 79 years old, who began with the firm as buggy-driver for the town-travellers.

NOTES OF MEETINGS.

WELLINGTON.

Minutes of the 160th General Meeting held 23rd February, 1953.

Present: Professor H. A. Murray (in the Chair), Capt. Stagg, Messrs. Martin, Freeman, Tether, de Rouffignac, Chetwynd, Ferguson, Hornblow, Matthews, Leask, Tandy and Horwood. Apologies were received from Mr. and Mrs. Berry.

Professor Murray extended new year greetings to all members, and a hearty welcome to Mr. Ferguson on his return from overseas.

Accounts: An account from Messrs. Wilson & Horton for £6 was approved.

Publications Received: *Bibliography of Indian Coins, Part II (Muhammadan and Later Series)*, by Dr. C. R. Singhal.

Numismatic Literature No. 21. It was noted that this edition contained several reviews of papers by members of the Society.

Numismatic Association of Victoria Journals for Nov. and Dec., 1952, and Jan., 1953.

South Australian Numismatic Journal, Vol. 3, No. 3.

Spink & Son Ltd. Numismatic Circulars for Nov. and Dec., 1952.

Muenzen & Medaillen. Lists 117 and 118.

Australian Numismatic Society: Minutes of 151st General Meeting.

New Members Elected:—Mr. J. Wark, 16B Devonport Road, Tauranga; Mr. O. Pugh, Junr., Post Office, Clarence Bridge, Marlborough.

Resignations:—Mr. R. E. Walpole and Prof. Blaiklock. It was decided to write Prof. Blaiklock in an endeavour to maintain a connection with the Auckland University.

General: A letter was received from the Christchurch Branch as to the possibility of obtaining literature and slides, etc., for Branch Meetings and the Secretary was instructed to make enquiries in the matter. The Christchurch Branch also expressed satisfaction at the recent decisions on the Constitution of the Council. Mr. Hornblow gave a general report on his meetings with the Committee established in connection with the design for the new crown piece.

It was reported that a Mint Set of New Zealand coins is sent to the Dominion Museum each year by the Treasury.

Votes of thanks were passed to Mr. Hornblow for his work in connection with the new crown piece, to Professor Murray and Mr. Freeman for the display arranged for the public in Bowen House, and to Professor Murray, Mr. Freeman and Capt. Stagg for their work in preparing an exhibition of coins and medals at the Museum.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Rev. Mr. Bates for his presentation of a numismatic work on Roman coins printed c. 1650 by a French scholar in Latin.

Papers: A brief extract on the Hapsburg Double Eagle was read. Mr. Freeman read a further part of the late Mr. C. J. Weaver's paper on "Beautiful Modern Coins."

Minutes of the 161st General Meeting held 30th March, 1953.

Present: Professor H. A. Murray (in the Chair), Capt. Stagg, Mrs. Inkersell and Messrs. de Rouffignac, Matthews, Tether, Ferguson, Freeman, Berry, Leask, Hornblow, Horwood and Bateley. Apologies were received from Messrs. Chetwynd and Tandy.

Accounts: An account for £4 from Messrs. Wilson & Horton was passed for payment.

Resignations: The following resignations were accepted with regret:—

Mr. C. Robb, Christchurch.
Miss M. I. Turnbull, Dunedin.
Mr. A. E. Miller, Apiti R.D.
Miss J. Butt, Titirangi School.
Timaru Boys' High School.

Publications Received: The following publications were received:—

Annual Report of the Deputy Comptroller of the Mint, 1950.
Numismatic Association of Victoria Journals for Feb. and Mar., 1953.
Numismatic Literature No. 21.
Spink & Son Numismatic Circulars for Jan. and Feb., 1953.
Muenzen & Medaillen. Lists Nos. 119 and 120.

Correspondence: The following correspondence was received:—

Official Secretary to H.E. The Governor-General advising that H.E. had agreed to act as Patron to the Society.

Auckland Branch regarding agreement with the new procedure for Council Meetings and liaison.

Enquiries regarding Victorian fourpenny piece, and Kruger penny which were referred to members for reply.

Prof. Simonetta enclosing a further paper on Parthian Coinage.

Address: Mr. Ferguson gave a very interesting address on his recent visit to England, Numismatic Societies and the personalities he met there.

Mr. Berry exhibited several designs he had submitted in the past for coins and stamps.

Mr. Taylor exhibited a specimen of the rare New Zealand Cross which had recently been donated to the Turnbull Library, also the official roll thereof.

Minutes of the 162nd General Meeting held 27th April, 1953.

Present: Professor H. A. Murray (Chairman), Messrs. Freeman, Tether, Stagg, Matthews, de Rouffignac, Berry, Leask, Ferguson, Horwood and Mrs. Inkersell. Apologies were received from Mrs. Berry, Mrs. Kalfas and Messrs. Tandy, Chetwynd and Hornblow.

The news of the death of Sir Thomas Hunter was received with regret, and as a mark of respect all present stood in silence for a minute.

New Members: The following new members were elected:—

Mr. C. Bately of Wellington.
Mr. G. Sangster of Auckland.

Accounts Passed for Payment: Thos. Avery & Sons Ltd., £53 8s 9d (Journals); B. Snowden, £3 12s 0d (Photographs).

Publications Received:—

Numismatic Literature No. 22.
Journal of the Numismatic Association of Victoria, April.
Canadian Numismatic Association Bulletin, January.
Minutes of 159th General Meeting of the Australian Numismatic Society.
Spink & Son Ltd. Numismatic Circular, March.

Correspondence Received: Official Secretary to H.E. The Governor-General regretting that Their Excellencies are unable to attend one of the Society's Meetings.

H. D. London re Coronation Medals.
E. Posselt re Victorian coins.

Greetings were also received from Prof. Simonetta through a letter received by Mr. Hornblow from a relative of his who had personally called on the Professor.

General: It was agreed that a letter of greetings be sent to Sir John Hanham on the occasion of the Numismatic Congress to be held in Bournemouth in May.

Paper: Mr. Freeman read a most interesting paper by Mr. A. Sutherland on "Captain Cook Medals."

Exhibits: Mr. Berry exhibited two medals struck by the N.Z. Master Builders' Federation and the N.Z. Association of Scientific Workers.

The Turnbull Library exhibited some interesting Chinese coins donated by Mr. F. Bird, Stratford, who has spent several years in China. Mr. Freeman read the interesting comments of Mr. Bird which accompanied the coins.

The Meeting then terminated with supper.

AUCKLAND.

The 41st General Meeting of the Auckland Branch was held on Wednesday, 4th March, in the office of Robinson Brothers, Queen Street. Mr. J. P. Roberts presided.

At this, our first Meeting for 1953, there were fourteen members and two guests present. The Branch has made a good start for the year.

This year will see new issues of coins for most, if not all parts of the British Commonwealth. Collectors of this series should have a busy time ahead of them. Crowns are to be struck for England, Rhodesia, South Africa and New Zealand, while Canada is to issue a Dollar. Has any member information on forthcoming issues for Australia?

Members will be pleased to hear that the Branch has now secured a permanent room for our monthly Meetings. This room is on the second floor of the Unity Buildings, Queen Street, just above the Town Hall, and all future meetings of the Branch will be held there.

The 42nd General Meeting of the Auckland Branch was held on Wednesday, 2nd April, 1953, in the Unity Buildings, Queen Street. Mr. J. P. Roberts presided.

This was our first meeting in our new "home" and at the close of business, members enjoyed a cup of tea and a general discussion before dispersing.

Members will be pleased to hear that at our next Meeting a short film on the manufacture of coins will be shown. This film was taken at the Royal Mint in London, and should be of interest to all. This will not be a three-dimensional film, as it is thought that the temptation for members to pocket Mint State specimens thrust under their very noses might be too great. Mr. Asher Robinson will again be of great assistance to the Branch, this time being Hon. Projectionist for the evening.

The June Meeting will also be the fifth Annual Meeting of the Branch, at which the election of Officers for the following twelve months will take place.

E. J. MORRIS,
Hon. Sec. and Treas.



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CORONATION YEAR COINAGE OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

We expect to have specimens available later this year as listed below. Numismatists requiring these should record their order with us, subject to confirmation when we advise price, etc., when the specimens arrive.

NEW ZEALAND

- (1) Complete proof specimen set of 8 pieces, crown to halfpenny in special case as issued by the Mint.
- (2) Complete sets of uncirculated non-proof coins. Set of 8.
- (3) Separate uncirculated crowns.

GREAT BRITAIN

- (1) Complete proof set in case, crown to farthing.
- (2) Complete sets of ordinary uncirculated coins, crown to farthing.
- (3) Selected crowns only in special plastic holder.

BOOKS

Numismatic History of N.Z. (Allan Sutherland, 1940). Blue cloth bound volume of six parts dealing with barter and early coinages of N.Z., Medals, Tokens, Paper Money and all true N.Z. coinages. £4/12/6 (post paid).

They Made Their Own Money. New book published by Canterbury Branch of the R.N.S.N.Z., dealing with the Canterbury merchants who issued trade tokens (1857-1881). Full story of great interest to all New Zealand Token Collectors. Well produced and fully illustrated, issue limited to 500 numbered copies. 12/6 per copy. (Posted 12/10.)

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