



THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIST

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

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THE ILL-FATED GOLD COINAGE OF CANADA

by R. W. Irwin

Australia's basic unit of currency when it embraces the new decimal system in 1966, will be known as the "ROYAL". It will be made up of 100 cents and will be worth 10 shillings, about \$1.20, in the present currency. To Canadian numismatists, this term is very familiar and might, under different circumstances, have become the basic unit for Canada. During the 1852-53 session of the Provincial Parliament, the British Treasury Board proposed that a new gold coin, to be called a Royal, be used instead of the dollar for the impending decimal currency. The subsidiary coins were to be called shillings and marks. The legislature turned the suggestion down.

The next attempt at making a gold coinage was almost as unsuccessful. Gold was discovered in British Columbia in 1857, and an Assay Office was opened in New Westminster in August, 1860. Coins were scarce, and the following year the governor of the Crown Colony, Sir James Douglas, applied to the Home Office for permission to strike these at the Assay Office. An engraver and cameo cutter in San Francisco, Albrecht Koner, cut the dies for a \$10 and \$20 coin as well as engraving his own name in a prominent position on the die. The dies were dated 1862, and 76 lbs. were struck in gold for display at the International Exhibition of 1862. Permission was not granted to mint coins, and since these were illegal they were to be destroyed. The coins were also overweight, as the \$20 piece contained \$24 of gold, and the \$10 piece contained \$13 of gold. Eleven of these specimen or trial gold coins survived. There are seven \$20 and four \$10. No coins were actually issued to the public.

Following Confederation, the Uniform Currency Act (34 Vic., c.4) of 1871 made the decimal system applicable to all Canada and adopted the pound sterling at \$4.866667 as the standard. The Act also made current the United States gold eagle at \$10 and authorized the striking of a Canadian \$5 gold piece. While the Canadian metallic standard was now on a gold basis, gold was rarely seen and was chiefly used by persons going on trips abroad.

Once again the gold fever struck. Gold was discovered in the Yukon in 1897. This gold was exported to Seattle for refining, and soon questions were raised as to why no mint was available in Canada to refine the gold. It was also pointed out that gold sovereigns enjoyed a small circulation in British Columbia. Based on the desire to mint gold sovereigns, a branch of the Royal Mint was established in Ottawa. The standard British gold sovereign was struck late in 1908. The sovereigns contain 916.6667 parts fine gold and those struck at Ottawa can be recognized by the small "C" on the obverse of the coin. The dies were supplied by the Royal Mint. New dies arrived in February 1911 for the George V obverse.

Table #1 -- Gold Sovereigns Struck and Issued at Ottawa

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. Struck</u>	<u>No. Issued</u>
1908	678	633
1909	16,840	16,275
1910	28,917	28,012
1911	274,762	256,395
1912	0	515
1913	4,040	3,742
1914	15,445	9,077
1915	0	13
1916	6,156	11,035
1917	61,072	187
1918	113,297	130,768
1919	137,354	171,042
1920	0	4
1921	0	136
	<u>658,561</u>	<u>627,834</u>

No sovereigns were struck in Britain after 1917 except for a restriking and some recent new issues. These coins were held in the Canadian Gold Reserve until early in 1931, when the Department of Finance sent one hundred bags containing 1,000 sovereigns each or one million coins, to be cast into 500 ounce bars. Fifteen per cent were new coins, and 256,316 ounces of standard pound sterling were cast. The bars were a more convenient form for storage and export.

Section 3 of the Currency Act (9-10 Edw. VII, c.14) of 1910 defined the currency of Canada by a gold standard of stated fineness, not in terms of the sovereign which then took on the status of just another gold coin at a stated rating. The Act provided for the striking of \$20, \$10, \$5 and \$2½ gold coins of a standard weight of 516, 258, 129 and 64.5 grains respectively; the Canadian gold dollar contains 23.22 grains of pure gold and is of 900 millesimal fineness. The United States \$20, \$10 and \$5 gold coins contain the same weight of gold as the Canadian and so are also legal tender as well as the sovereign.

In 1911 dies were prepared by the Royal Mint for the \$5 and \$10 denominations, but no coins were struck until May, 1912. The coins are very beautiful and well struck.

Table #2 -- Canadian Gold Coins Struck and Issued at Ottawa

<u>Year</u>	<u>Denominations</u>	<u>No. Struck</u>	<u>No. Issued</u>
1912	10	74,759	70,680
1913	10	149,232	141,897
1914	10	140,068	135,411
1915	10	0	48
1940	10	0	2
		<u>364,059</u>	<u>348,038</u>

1912	5	165,680	154,138
1913	5	98,832	94,344
1914	5	31,122	29,119
1915	5	0	11
1940	5	0	2
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		295,634	277,614

The issue satisfied the public curiosity but the fashion soon passed away and most of the coins returned to the gold reserves.

By December 31, 1915, a total of \$4,868,420.00 in Canadian gold coin had been issued by the mint. At the same time the Central Gold Reserve held \$3,436,095.00 of these coins and it was thought that the chartered banks held the bulk of the balance. The gold reserve transferred \$2,704,865.00 of Canadian gold coin to the Bank of Canada on December 31, 1934 when it took over the holding of gold. The chartered banks also transferred their gold reserves at the same time but no breakdown of detail has been found.

In 1927, new dies for the five and ten dollar gold piece was prepared by G. Kruger Gray of the Royal Mint to agree with the Coat of Arms of the Royal Proclamation of 1921. These dies were dated 1928 and sent to Canada, although there was no intention of issuing the coins. If urgently needed, they would be here.

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LIBRARY DONATIONS

The O. N. A. is proud to acknowledge the following donations to its lending library:

Donated by Major Sheldon S. Carroll -- "Coin Collection" by Laurence Brown, and
"Royal Greek Portrait Coins" by Edward T. Newell

And from the International Numismatic Society of San Diego -- complete set of 1964 Intercoin (official monthly publication), plus a few copies from 1963.

Anyone having good numismatic material that they would like to share with the members of the O. N. A., please send the material to the librarian.

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CLUB NEWS

HURONIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION had forty members and guests turn out to the December meeting. A large auction of 109 lots cleared the auction-block. The club is adding new interest by encouraging members to submit numismatic articles for publication in their monthly bulletin.

WOODSTOCK COIN CLUB have elected the following executive for the coming year: President-Howard Murray; Vice president - Douglas McGill; Secretary - Vincent Sidebotham; Treasurer - Robert Barney; Directors - Jack Griffin, Wilson Fox, Albert Cole and George Bayne.

NORFOLK COIN CLUB added interest to the January meeting by presenting a "Scrambled Words" game. The winner will receive the Ookpik medal. Following is the slate of officers for 1965: Past President - Bob Comer; President - Don Payne; Vice president - Fred Crabb; Secretary - Elsie Fick; Treasurer - Edna Smith; Directors - Don Beeton, Steve Suprun, Bruce Greer, Willy Mahrt, Ralph McKnight and Ed Beemer.

LONDON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY had 65 members and guests at the January meeting. Feature of the programme was a talk and display by Lloyd T. Smith, entitled "Type or Series". The monthly bulletin outlined the activities of the club during 1964. This has been a very busy society, and the educational programmes have been many and varied.

TORONTO COIN CLUB presents the following executive for 1965: President - A. L. Munroe; Vice president - Russell Martel; Secretary - Dr. Marvin Kay; Assist. Secretary - Miss M. Wilson; Treasurer - Harvey Farrow; Directors - Dr. J. S. Wilkinson, Miss Frances Doane and James Reid; Librarian - Paul Petch; Bulletin Despatcher - Roger Fox; Editor - Mrs. Hazel Munro; Medal Despatcher - Blake Graham; Hostesses - Mrs. Retta Frampton and Mrs. Barbara Toombs. T. C. C. is also encouraging numismatic articles for publication in the monthly bulletin. Mr. G. N. Robillard, first president to the T. C. C., was a visitor at the December meeting. Many years ago Mr. Robillard donated a badge to be worn by the President at all meetings. The new Club Crest is an adaptation of this badge. Mr. Robillard pinned the badge on the lapel of the new President, Mr. Munro, and was in turn presented with a silver and bronze club medal by out-going President, Mr. John Curtis.

INGERSOLL COIN CLUB highlighted the January meeting with a film, "The Story of Banking in Canada", by J. D. Ferguson. To add interest to the programme, there were displays of early coinage, tokens, wampum and paper money from the 18th century to the present day.

KITCHENER COIN CLUB had an attendance record-breaker at the January meeting. More than 75 turned out to see the O. N. A. Audio-visual, "Canadian Voyageur Dollar" by Claudia Felkey. The numismatic donations project to the Doon Pioneer Village is under way. This project committee consists of William English, Chairman, Bud Schell and Kenneth Coe. Anyone, anywhere, may donate to this project. Contact Mr. Kenneth Coe, 6 Springbank Crescent, Kitchener, Ontario.

CHAMPLAIN COIN CLUB officially elected Dorothy Horne as Secretary-Treasurer for the coming year. Howard Johnson presented a report on Hobby Fair which will take place in March. Mr. Johnson will give you any assistance or direction that is needed.

OAKVILLE COIN CLUB had as guest speaker in February, Mr. Edward Denby of Toronto . . . a dealer of antiques and guns, he has been called on by the Canadian Customs for his expert advice. Mr. Denby spoke on "Medals and Badges" of which he has an outstanding collection. By popular demand, the club will continue to operate during the summer months.

HAMILTON COIN CLUB, featured Dr. David Brown as guest speaker at the January meeting. His examination of royal manipulations of the coinage in Elizabethan and Stuart England revealed many interesting and humorous details of the times. Several displays supplemented those brought by Dr. Brown.

ST. THOMAS NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION celebrated the Second birthday of the club on February 10. Members were invited to discuss plans for their Second Annual Coin Show. New display cases were purchased and made available to club members at cost price.

GUELPH COIN CLUB presented the O. N. A. Audio-visual "Coinage of Canada" at the February 10, 1965 meeting. This is the first of many productions that the club has planned for the next several meetings.

WATERLOO COIN SOCIETY featured an Audience Participation programme at the February 16 meeting. Plans for the Annual Banquet were finalized. There will be a two-session auction handled by John Cloran. A new revised judging list of categories and point system will be used at the banquet, March 13, and 14, 1965. Ten categories for displays are set up for open competition.

BAY OF QUINTE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION presented Ross Irwin with a life membership and a plaque at the January 10 meeting. The O. N. A. Audio-visual, "Canadian Voyageur Dollar", by Claudia Pelkey was a feature of the January 21st meeting. The February 18th meeting featured an illustrated talk on Fifty Cent Pieces, by Cecil Paul.

BRANTFORD COIN CLUB featured the movie, "Captive River" at the January meeting. Personal Auctions, where any member may auction off three of his own numismatic items, is becoming a regular feature of B. C. C.

KENT COIN CLUB Elections were recently held, and the following were elected to office: President - Herb Samway; Vice president - George Jackson; Secretary - Lou Wagenaar; Treasurer - Ernie M. Ansell; Auction - Messrs. J. Simpson and Dave Cregg; Auctioneers - Messrs. S. Berger and Herb Samway; Librarian - Wayne Mills. The club meets the third Wednesday of each month at St. Johns Parish Hall, Kiel Drive, Chatham, Ontario at 8:00 p. m.

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COMING EVENTS

Your club's social events are of interest. Please send us full particulars regarding your banquets, shows, exhibitions or what-have-you.

- March 13, 14 WATERLOO COIN SOCIETY 6th Annual Banquet, Walper Hotel, Kitchener, Ontario. General Chairman: Bill English, P. O. Box 4, Waterloo
Bourse Chairman: Philip Mueller, 239 Lancaster St. W., Kitchener.
- March 20 RICHMOND HILL COIN CLUB 1st Annual Coin Show, 1 Yonge St., Richmond Hill, Ontario. Time: 10:00 a. m. to 6:00 p. m.
- April 3 WOODSTOCK COIN CLUB 6th Annual Banquet and Show, Central School Auditorium, Graham St., Woodstock, Ontario. Guest speaker, Mr. J. E. Charlton. General Chairman: Wilson Fox, 651 Brant St., Woodstock.
- April 30, May 1 and 2 ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION 3rd Annual Convention, London, Ontario. Host club: London Numismatic Society. General Chairman: William Clarke, 167 Delaware St., London, Ontario.
Bourse Chairman: Percy Elgie, Thamesford, Ontario.
- May 16 STRATFORD COIN CLUB Annual Coin Show and Banquet. Complete details will be published in the next issue of the Ontario Numismatist.
- August 12, 13, 14 CANADIAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION 12th Annual Convention. Mont Royal Hotel, Montreal, Quebec. Host club: Montreal Coin Club. General Chairman: Louis Goldsmith, 5251 Sherbrooke St. W., Montreal, Que.

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South Africa's new nickel coins are to be made from Canadian blanks. The Republic ordered 110 million pure nickel coin blanks from Sherritt Gordon Mines Ltd. for the production of their new 5, 10 and 50 cent South African coins.

MINT TO FILL ORDERS

Finance Minister Gordon has stated that categorically all demand for the 1965 sets will be met, thus knocking the props from under the speculators for uncirculated sets of 1965 Canadian coins. Now all orders will be accepted, once the Mint gives the new release date, even if the mint has to work into 1966 to fill them. They will still remain five sets to a customer. Eight new presses are expected to be in operation during the summer. So, if your request was returned, watch for the new opening date.

NEW MEMBERS

Applications published in the February issue of the Ontario Numismatist were accepted. The following applications were received. If no written objections are received, their acceptance will be acknowledged in the April issue of the Ontario Numismatist.

- 473. Lloyd Hottot, 757 Paling Road, Burlington, Ont.
- 474. J. A. Newport, 2250 Brookfield Ave., Niagara Falls, Ont.
- 475. John Gillen, 73 Ninth Ave., Brantford, Ont.
- 476. Peter Findlay, 41 Fisher St., King City, Ont.
- 477. Miss Suzzane Long, 131 Roywood Dr., Don Mills, Ont.
- 478. Edward Prang, Frederich St., Zurich, Ont.
- 479. Willy Mahrt, c/o Delhi Coin Exchange, 104 King St., Delhi, Ont.
- 480. A. A. McLean, R. R. #7, Parkhill, Ont.
- 481. William G. Ackroyd, 236A Aldercrest Rd., Toronto 14, Ont.
- 482. Harold L. Daniels, 2611 Culp St., Niagara Falls, Ont.
- 483. Gerald B. Parker, Village of Philadelphia, New York, U. S. A.
- C45 WELLAND COIN CLUB, c/o Sandra Levinski, 256 Lincoln St. E., Welland, Ont.
- C46 GANANOQUE COIN CLUB, c/o Lorne T. Pinch, Elgin, Ont.
- C47A EASTWOOD COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE NUMISMATIC CLUB, c/o Henry A. Janzen, 760 East Ave.,
Kitchener, Ont.
- C48 NIAGARA FALLS COIN CLUB, c/o Harold L. Daniels, 2611 Culp St., Niagara Falls, Ont.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- 3. Edward Knight, 245 Queen St. W., Toronto 2B, Ont.
- 221. Cecil S. Paul, 3 Ramsay St., Trenton, Ont.
- 441. W. E. Underwood, 130 Tiago Ave., Toronto 16, Ont.
- C2 HAMILTON COIN CLUB, c/o Lloyd Hottot, 757 Paling Rd., Burlington, Ont.
- C6 OAKVILLE COIN CLUB, c/o Mrs. Irene Turner, 211 Gloucester Ave., Oakville, Ont.
- C8 NORFOLK COIN CLUB, Box 398, Simcoe, Ont.
- C29 TILLSONBURG NUMISMATIC SOCIETY, c/o W. B. Wolfe, R. R. #3, Tillsonburg, Ont.
- C34 KENT COIN CLUB, c/o Lou Wagenaar, 27 Peter St., Chatham, Ont.

LOOK! LISTEN! DON'T STOP BUT COME TO

THIRD ANNUAL CONVENTION, TREASURE ISLAND, LONDON, ONTARIO, April 30 to May 2, 1965.

Retiring founding president R. R. Rekofski extends a warm invitation to all collectors to attend a numismatic highlight of 1965. The third annual convention is packed with every aspect of the hobby that will appeal to every type of collector. This covers the novice as well as the advanced collectors. For those who do not participate in the hobby, the displays and coloured slide talks, will more than cover the nominal admission charge of fifty cents . . . three dollars and a half covers everything.

The guest speaker, Mr. Orlo Miller will deliver an address after the Saturday evening banquet. Mr. Miller, a noted London historian, an author and television writer, will talk on the early coin and paper money used for commercial transactions in southwestern Ontario.

Percy Elgie, Thamesford, Ontario informs me that the bourse tables are going fast. Any dealers interested in a table should contact Percy as soon as possible.

The mail and floor auction under the hand of Louie Biro, Box 1236, Paris, Ont., promises to be outstanding. The material will cover all phases of the collecting field. A few lots of particular note will be: a 1921 B. U. 5 cent silver; a 1964 Proof dollar; an 1862 early replica of a British Columbia \$20.00 piece gilded; an 1858 Proof Canadian Large cent; plus varied foreign proof sets.

The host club, the London Numismatic Society, guided by Wm. N. Clarke, 167 Delaware Street, London, Ontario, who is also General Convention Chairman reports that the Commemorative Medal will depict the Middlesex County Court House. This historic old court house, erected in 1830, was modelled after Malahide Castle near Dublin, Ireland, ancestral home of Colonel Thomas Talbot. The medals struck in gold, gold filled, sterling silver and bronze will be available in April.

Desirable trophies will be awarded, and all who visit the show are invited to participate. Category and judging rules may be obtained from the display chairman, Mr. S. Smith, 92 Elworthy Avenue, London.

London is located in the centre of southwestern Ontario. Treasure Island is at the London exit from the Highway 401 equidistant between Toronto and Detroit. This makes it easy to reach in Ontario, as well as the bordering U. S. states.

This is a show that is a must for all collectors. Please contact the General Chairman for reservations or other particulars.

By Bill English,
Publicity Chairman.

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Princes' Gate, famed entrance to the Canadian National Exhibition grounds, Toronto, was named in honour of the Prince of Wales and his brother the Duke of Windsor.

The ONTARIO NUMISMATIST is published monthly by the Ontario Numismatic Association. The publication may be obtained with memberships of one of the following categories: Adult -- \$2 yearly; Junior -- \$1 yearly (up to 18 years of age); Husband and wife (One copy) -- \$3 yearly; club -- \$10 yearly.

Remittances (plus bank exchange if paid by cheque) payable to the Ontario Numismatic Association, P. O. Box 33, Waterloo, Ontario.

NOMINATIONS

The following members have been nominated in proper form, the nominees have accepted the nominations, and the nominations have been approved by the O. N. A. Executive:

President -- Lloyd T. Smith, London
First Vice president -- William English, Waterloo
Second Vice president -- Frank Uttley Kitchener
Secretary -- Mrs. Ruth Mueller, Kitchener
Treasurer -- Bruce H. Raszmann, Waterloo

February 15, 1965

Alex M. Sweeton
Nominations Chairman

All previous nominations for Directors have been accepted and nominations for the nine areas as outlined below will now be accepted with a closing date of April 30, 1965. Election by mail will follow within 60 days after closing. Please send your nominations to Mr. Alex M. Sweeton, 172 Regent Street, London, Ontario.

- Area 1 - Includes counties of: Essex, Kent, Elgin, Middlesex and Lambton.
- Area 2 - Includes counties of: Norfolk, Haldimand, Welland, Lincoln, Wentworth and Brant.
- Area 3 - Includes counties of: Oxford, Waterloo, Perth and Huron.
- Area 4 - Includes counties of: Wellington, Halton and Peel.
- Area 5 - Includes counties of: Bruce, Grey, Dufferin, Simcoe, and districts of Muskoka and Parry Sound.
- Area 6 - Includes counties of: York and Ontario.
- Area 7 - Includes counties of: Durham, Northumberland, Prince Edward, Victoria, Peterborough, Hastings, Lennox and Addington and the District of Haliburton.
- Area 8 - Includes counties of: Frontenac, Leeds, Grenville, Dundas, Stormont, Glengarry, Prescott, Russell, Carleton, Lanark and Renfrew.
- Area 9 - Includes all Districts and Counties of Northern Ontario and also Manitoulin Island.

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AWARD OF MERIT

Mr. Lloyd T. Smith, London, Ontario, has been appointed Chairman of the Award Committee with power to appoint two additional committee members.

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Orders for Canadian Proof-like coins ended abruptly January 2nd, 1965. A reported 2,000,000 sets were ordered in that first gigantic landslide of requests.

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In 1933 only six English pennies were struck. Three are under foundation stones, -- others in the Royal Mint museum. Anyone of these six pennies in private hands would be worth \$3,000.

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Canadian COIN WEEK will be April 24 to May 1, 1965, and will coincide with Coin Week in the United States.

DISPLAY CATEGORIES FOR THIRD ANNUAL O. N. A. CONVENTION

April 30 - May 2, 1965 - London, Ontario

- A. CANADIAN - Includes all Canadian Coins and Provincial Regal.
 - B. TOKENS - Includes all Tokens such as Canadian, U. S. A., and Store, Communion, Tradesmen Tokens, etc.
 - C. U. S. A. - Includes all coins of U. S. A. and possessions.
 - D. CLASSICAL - Includes Ancient and Mediaeval (prior to 1500)
 - E. BRITISH EMPIRE & COMMONWEALTH - Excluding Canadian coins as classified in A. category. Canadian coins may be a part of a display in this category.
 - F. WORLD COINS - Includes all coins NOT otherwise classified.
 - G. WORLD CURRENCY - All paper money
 - H. MISCELLANEOUS - Includes Medals, Badges, Numismatic Items and Novelty Displays that DO NOT classify in any of the other classifications.
 - J. JUNIOR - Includes any numismatic display by a recognized Junior collector.
- GRAND AWARD - This award is presented to the person whose display is judged "Best in the Entire Show" and will be in addition to any other award for best in one of the above categories.

Exhibitors wishing to display and/or reserve display cases should write to Mr. Sam Smith, Display Chairman, 92 Elworthy Avenue, London, Ontario.

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HISTORY OF CANADIAN DECIMAL COINAGE (Conclusion)

by Cecil Paul

In 1953, another monarch's features graced our coinage, that of Queen Elizabeth II. Queen Elizabeth II was born Elizabeth Alexandra Mary Windsor on April 21, 1926, in London, England. She was married on November 20, 1947, to Lt. Philip Mountbatten, formerly Prince Philip of Greece. Elizabeth became Queen upon the death of her father King George VI.

Mary Gillick executed the figure of the Queen on the obverse of our coinage. Remarkable is the fact that Mary Gillick was 72 years old at the time she designed these coins.

On all coins of the Canadian decimal series of 1953, there are two types. The first issue showed the Queen with no shoulder strap on her gown. This was due to the fact that the design was weak in that area and the strap did not show. Later on in the year, the dies were retouched at the Mint and the later issues of that year show a shoulder strap on the gown.

The 25 cent and 50 cent pieces of that year also had another variety, and this was in the date. There is a large and a small date variety in both these coins. This is likely due to two different engravers putting the date on these coins.

Arnprior is a small town in the Province of Ontario, not far from Ottawa. Its principle business centres around Playtex Limited, a corporation which manufactures

girdles, brassieres, gloves and baby's wear. In 1955, the president of Playtex decided to pay his employees a Christmas bonus in silver dollars. He found himself in trouble when he discovered he was 2000 dollars short of the number he required. He inquired of the Mint as to whether the needed coins could be minted, and he was informed that the Mint had no authority to do such a thing. Next he approached the Minister of Finance, and he was agreeable to the proposal and gave the necessary authority.

Thus on December 10, 1955, the Mint filled a special order for Playtex by minting 2000 silver dollars. This special issue of the 1955 silver dollar had only $1\frac{1}{2}$ water lines on the right of the canoe, instead of the usual 3 lines.

This issue and all other issues showing this variant are referred to as the "Arnprior Dollars". This variety was caused by the dies plugging in that area of the coin and has occurred in several years other than 1955, and although these others are not really Arnprior dollars, they are referred to as such.

In 1958 the fourth commemorative silver dollar was struck. This one was to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Province of British Columbia. The reverse design was done by Stephen Trenka, the designer of the 1951 commemorative nickel reverse. It is very interesting to note that Mr. Trenka chose the "Death Totem" for his design. As a result, it is claimed that Indians of the Northwest region of Canada will have nothing to do with any of the "Death Dollars" that are in circulation.

In 1959, the reverse design of the 50 cent piece was changed to conform with the Coat of Arms of Canada --- the principle change being the St. Edward's Crown instead of the former Tudor Crown. A spade type shield replaced the scroll type. This design was done by Mr. Thomas Shingles, the designer of the 1943 Torch nickel and the 1949 silver dollar reverse.

The last year of the 12-sided nickel minted in Canada was 1962. In this year, the Mint stated it would go back to the round nickel similar to the issue of 1937. There was no change in design. This change in shape was largely due to the fact that vending machine manufacturers had complained that the large 12-sided nickels had more of a tendency to jam in their machines. The Master of the Mint said that there would be no great change necessary in the equipment to convert back to the round nickel. He also stated that the round nickel would be much more economical to produce.

Dinko Vodanovic, a Yugoslav-born architect employed by the Canadian National Railways in Montreal, won the \$1,000 prize in a competition to select a design for the reverse of the 1964 commemorative silver dollar.

This coin commemorates the 100th anniversary of the Charlottetown-Quebec conferences which paved the way for Confederation in 1867.

Mr. Vodanovic's design, shows the French fleur-de-lis, the Irish shamrock, the Scottish thistle and the English rose conjoined within a circle.

The fact that the fleur-de-lis is on the top and the thistle is on the bottom has no significance as Mr. Vodanovic stated that the sequence of the four symbols was dictated exclusively by aesthetic reasons.

Symbolically, the design conveys the idea of the combined efforts of the four groups who, at the conference, set the basis for Confederation of British North America.

The winning design was chosen from among 169 entries, among these, three were submitted by Mr. Vodanovic.

THE END.