



# THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIST

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

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1969 - 1971

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## COIN CONVERSATION

By John McKay-Clements

The Spanish copper-nickel 50 centimos of 1949 can be found in two varieties, one is worth ten times the value of the other, to collectors. An interesting story covers the background of the more expensive coin. The coin has a round hole in the centre, just below this hole on the reverse will be found five arrows. They are apparently tied in the middle but fanned out at the ends with the arrow heads at the top, or up, on the most common variety which is the official issue. The trophy of arrows pointing upwards to signify victory is the emblem of Generalissimo Franco and it occupies about one third of the obverse of the 25 centimos of 1937, the first year of the Nationalist government. In 1947 a Monarchy was declared under the regency of Franco. Mint workers who were still supporters of the republic and opposed to Franco's plans are alleged to have re-designed the die of the 1949 50 centimos reverse to show the arrows pointing downward to indicate defeat. The intention was to embarrass Generalissimo Franco and the National government. A number of the "arrow-down" coins were struck, how many is not known, however some were actually issued into circulation and were later recalled by an angry government which destroyed them as quickly as possible. Some were hoarded by sympathetic Spaniards who did not turn them in and these are now fortunately finding their way into world type collections. My own specimens of the Spanish 50 centimos of 1949, both "Arrows-down" and "Arrows-up" are unaltered. The former was acquired several years ago in Helsinki before I knew about the story behind the origin of the two varieties.

The above-mentioned article was taken from the Temiskaming Speaker with the kind permission of its author, O.N.A. Director John McKay-Clements.

MOSTLY ABOUT COINS

During a recent conversation with a novice collector, I was asked what I thought the chances might be of finding or securing a 1943 U.S. copper cent. My friend explained that he had read a newspaper report of such a find and was hopeful of some day adding one of these coins to his collection. I failed to convince him that a genuine 1943 copper Lincoln simply does not exist.

Over the past few years some 50 or 60 have been reported, but so far unverified, except by newspaper stories. Such reports, appearing from time to time, are the probable reason for many collectors believing that such a coin exists. This is despite the fact that officials of the U.S. Mint at Philadelphia have repeatedly stated that no copper cents were struck in 1943. The one-cent coins of that year were produced in steel only.

Supposing for the moment, that as some people claim, these coins were genuine and were placed in circulation in 1943. With upwards of 11-million collectors in the United States, does it not seem strange that they should circulate undiscovered for 20 years then a rash of "finds" are reported, all within the last five years?

Al Maynard, official authenticator for the Collectors Of Numismatic Errors Inc. (CONE) has reported in that association's bulletin "THE ERRORGRAM", that he has examined a number of 1943 dated U.S. copper cents and true to his expectations, none proved to be genuine.

The latest of these coins sent to Mr. Maynard for authentication (which the owner had visions of selling for \$30,000) was one that very closely resembled a genuine article. This coin, which had been found in circulation was accompanied by notarized graphs from a well known metallurgical laboratory indicating their findings of specific gravity and X-ray spectro-analysis and comparisons with a known 1942 normal bronze cent etc.

Maynard's examination and comparisons of the graphs indicated that with acceptable tolerance, the 1942 normal coin and the 1943 specimen were approximately identical in copper, zinc and tin content, the alloy used in the production of copper coins. The coin was then weighed both against a normal coin and by itself for total grain weight. The 1943 specimen proved to be 10 per cent lighter than a copper-bronze cent weighing slightly more than 42 grains instead of approximately 47 grains, which it should have weighed. Next, it was subjected to microscopic examination at 100X and upwards. Under this powerful magnification, porosity and other characteristics were clearly seen which verified the fact that the coin was simply a cast counterfeit, but of excellent workmanship.

Since the spectro-analysis indicated comparable alloy qualities, it may be assumed that the counterfeiter melted down bronze cents of 1942, or earlier date, in order to secure the correct alloy for his

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purpose. With this unknown person having gone to such lengths to produce the coin, it is also reasonable to assume that more than one of these items were so manufactured. How these coins came to be in circulation is anybody's guess.

This excellent article was contributed by O.N.A. member Jack Wallace of the Kingston Coin Club founder of Project Brenda

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NEWS AROUND THE COIN CLUBS

BRANTFORD NUMISMATIC SOCIETY -

The first meeting of the fall season featured three items of interest, the Canada Packers movie "Canada Produces", Mr. Churchill of London spoke on Paper Money and Walter Griggs also gave a talk. Plans were completed for the 9th Annual Show, October 19th when Dr. Wilkinson will be guest speaker.

CENTRAL COIN CLUB -

The most important news from this club is that they will host the CNVCA Convention next April in the Westbury Hotel. Even now plans are being made to make this a great event.

HURONIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION -

The first meeting of the fall featured a draw for an old coin box. Members brought their old coins and filled the box and one lucky person won it with the winning ticket. Already plans are going ahead for the O.N.A. Convention next May when it will also be the club's 10th anniversary.

INGERSOLL COIN CLUB-

The first fall meeting featured a talk by Harry Eisenhauer on "The Halifax Banking Company" with slides of this bank and other banks of Nova Scotia, from the Paper Money Society's library. The lucky draws were in keeping with the theme being a pair of bronze bookends shaped like a lighthouse with the name Nova Scotia across the base. Also William Clarke of London had a display of material from various Nova Scotia Banks.

KINGSTON COIN CLUB-

The September meeting featured final preparations for the Show to be held October 18th. Also the members were urged to get their displays ready, and make the show a success.

NIAGARA FALLS COIN CLUB

The September meeting showed slides on the Coins of Newfoundland and it was decided to have an auction at each meeting. There was a fair number at the meeting and we hope for better things as the season progresses.

CITY OF OTTAWA COIN CLUB

The President gave a report of his visit to the A.N.A. Convention and the opening of the new U.S. Mint in Philadelphia. The meeting featured a spirited auction with the coins bringing good prices and the door prize was a Norval Parker medal of which the club has purchased several. Tom Muir was elected delegate to the C.N.A. Convention in Toronto and we are looking forward to his report at the next meeting.



Reverse showed Peeping Tom's house and date 1797 along the lower edge. Can you find another token that will link with an important or long forgotten event in history.

(Thanks to Editor of Ottawa Coin Club Bulletin)

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PROPOSED COIN SHOWS

To help clubs decide upon a coin show date that will not conflict with another club in its area we are listing below proposed dates that we now have on hand.

- Oct. 5 - Kitchener Coin Club Sixth Annual Show in the Walper Hotel from 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. Display Chairman- Mr. John Craig, 105 Lancaster St. East, Kitchener. There is also a good auction. Draw is for a Centennial Gold Set at 5.30 p.m.
- Oct. 18 - Kingston Coin Club Annual Show and Banquet in the Hockey Hall of Fame commencing at 1.00 p.m. Prizes for Best of Show, Best Canadian Miscellaneous, Best Canadian Coins, Best Foreign Miscellaneous and Best Foreign Coins. Bourse Reservations from Fred Steele, 1480 Montreal St.
- Oct. 19 - Brantford Numismatic Society 9th Annual Banquet, Exhibition and Bourse. For the first time non-members will be able to exhibit. Speaker is Dr. John S. Wilkinson. O.N.A. and own club cases only can be used for exhibits.
- Oct. 19 - Tillsonburg Numismatic Society Seventh Annual Show and Banquet at the Orange Hall, Brock Street, East Tillsonburg. Information re Bourse, Exhibits, etc. contact Chas. B. Laister, R.R.#3, Tillsonburg, Ontario.
- Oct. 25 & 26 - Windsor Coin Club Annual Show at the Norton-Palmer Hotel. Bourse dealers contact Carl Querbach, P.O. Box 173, Sandwich Post Office, Windsor 10, Ont. Sunday hours from 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.
- Nov. 1 - Oshawa Coin Club 9th Annual Coin-A-Rama to be held in the Genosha Hotel, Oshawa from 11.00 a.m. to 11.00 p.m. Bourse tables available from Bourse Chairman- Bruce Watt, P.O. Box 212, Oshawa, Ontario.
- Nov. 8 - Hamilton Coin Club Fall Show at the Wentworth Arms Hotel in the heart of Hamilton. For information re Bourse, Displays and auction write to - Hamilton Coin Club Fall Show Committee, P.O. Box 325, Station "B", Hamilton.

1970

- April 11 - The Canadian Numismatic Variety Collectors Association & 12 will hold their Convention in the Westbury Hotel, Yonge Street, Toronto, with the host club being the Central Coin Club. Information either from CNVCA, P.O. Box 41 Station "H", Toronto OR Central Coin Club, The Secretary, 306 Jarvis St., Toronto, Ont. Either club will be glad to supply details as to Exhibits, Banquet, Bourse, etc.
- May 2 & 3- Huronia Numismatic Association will host the 1970 O.N.A. Convention at Barrie. Notice well in advance so all clubs can arrange their shows accordingly,

COINS OF THE ISLE OF MAN

The history and coinage of the Isle of Man have been traced back for many centuries, but little is known of the details. Coinage undoubtedly existed on the island in the 16th and 17th centuries.

The first legal tender coins of the island were struck in 1668 by a local merchant, John Murrey. These coins were about the size of a farthing and bore on the reverse the arms of the Isle of Man.

The design of the Island's arms or emblem is a figure of three limbs joined together at the thigh and is described as a "triune". The design is very old and its origin is not known. Later a Latin inscription was added - "Quocunque Jeceris Stabit" which means "Whichever way you throw it, it will stand."

At one time Irish coins circulated freely on the island, along with Murray's pence and regal English coinage. In 1710, copper coins dated 1709, which were cast rather than struck, were put into circulation by the Governor, the 10th Earl of Derby. The standard of coin resulted in many forgeries and as a result, in 1733, all existing coinage was outlawed and a new set of coins issued. Fourteen Manx pennies were equivalent to one British shilling and thirteen were equivalent to one Irish shilling. The 1733 penny was about the same size as the English halfpenny and the Manx halfpenny corresponded to the farthing. These coins were well designed, clearly struck and proved popular in Ireland and other countries, thereby draining the supply in the Isle of Man.

In 1758 new coinage was struck in the penny and halfpenny denominations, when the 2nd Duke of Athol became Governor of the Island.

The Isle of Man was purchased by the British Government in 1765. New coinage was struck in 1786 and later in 1798 and 1813. On the obverse was the head of George III and on the reverse, the Island's triune.

In the early years of the 19th century, a quantity of privately issued coinage and base foreign coins circulated freely on the Island. In 1839, an issue of Queen Victoria pennies, halfpennies and farthings were sent to the Island to correct this situation. A royal proclamation in 1840 was intended to discontinue the use of Manx coinage on the island but resistance prevented it from being effective until 1862. Since that date, English coinage has circulated on the island on an official basis.

(Thanks to the Ervar Digest)

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DID YOU KNOW - That, besides the common terms of blanket notes and shimplasters, many other names have been applied to notes, especially those of questionable banks. Some of these were Blue Backs, Green Backs, Blu Pup, Brindle Pup, Stump Tail, Red Dog, Wildcat, Red Backs, Red Horse, Bob Tail and Rag Tag.

That a forgery is an illegitimate coin or medal; a Counterfeit is a coin or medal meant to deceive the public; an Imitation is a coin or medal copied from the original without fraudulent intent and that a Reproduction is a facsimile of the original coin for the purpose of research and exhibit.

BY RICKY MORSE

A tip-o-the-hat to "Cassandra" for his first column in the Ontario Numismatist which I fully agree with one hundred per cent. As a member of numerous coin clubs and Associations in both Canada and the U.S.A. I have met many of these so-called "numismatists" that prey on all their friends "just to make a fast buck" as Cassandra says.

My own personal library of over 300 numismatic textbooks enables me to study our hobby without borrowing from the many club libraries, but I do feel, as Cassandra does, that more members should take advantage of the library of the club to which they belong. Personally, I feel that many are inclined to be stricken with lazy-itis.

My "pet beef" is that there are not enough "workers" in any club or Association to carry the load of the work that has to be done, with the result that ONE MAN often has to do the work of four or five, and sometimes more. Sooner or later, this man's health will "give-out" or he will become thoroughly disgusted with the situation and resign.

While refraining from mentioning the name of any special club or Association in our hobby, I strongly feel that a few, and one in particular, are made up of those strange type of people who THINK that they are "so much better" than their fellow man. These people are commonly known as SNOBS, and have done more harm to our hobby than any good they may profess to have accomplished.

As I said in my Report, (see: Ontario Numismatist-Feb. 1969, Page 16), that the Ontario Numismatic Association extended the "hand of Goodfellowship", and that this could be especially noticed, (and felt) by others, both in the province of Ontario and elsewhere. In other words, the O.N.A. are not snobbish, and extend a hand of friendship to all.

May I take this opportunity to wish the O.N.A. the very best of luck with their 1970 Convention in Barrie, Ontario and tell Cassandra to keep up the good work.

(Thanks Ricky, come on and get well soon.)

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CASSANDRA SAYS

I see that my first article draws one letter of comment and also some of his, the writer's, pet beefs- that of the great lack of workers in so many clubs---how very true this is. How often do you find it is the same? There are four to six members who are loaded down with not only their own particular jobs but are doing one or more persons chores who just failed to show.----I'm told that this was partially the case at the recent C.N.A. show---too few workers, too much work and some of the important things that go to make a show run smoothly were left undone---so who gets the blame for this---the very people who have worked their heads off to try to put on a good show---you just cannot win. Incidentally I feel that there was certainly a great lack of co-ordination in the various jobs at the show, and I'm told that there was not enough helpers -- like the distribution of exhibit cases---lack of communication re "changing of categories" (this is the perogative of the Host club and gripe or not --this is their say so)---like the judging of exhibits, this too

was the choice of the Host club to choose their own judges and we should accept this even if we do disagree. I feel that the public should and could have given the Convention better support--- a pity ---but on the whole, it was a gigantic task which gave the Host club a chance to show their desire to help the C.N.A. and gain experience. Given a second chance I feel sure they will do as one rather disgruntled dealer said "Think a bit more of the dealer and not so much of the exhibitor". He has a point. The dealers pay for your show.

The "pet beef" this month is two-fold. Firstly the very serious matter of the dishonest dealer and secondly the spate of "Dealer Brankruptcies" we are experiencing. I recently heard about a letter from a very irate gentleman who lives in the U.S. who purchased some material---running in the area of approximately \$100.00 to \$150.00, only to find the material was counterfeit. After writing to the dealer concerned and receiving NO reply, he has placed the matter in the hands of one of the National Associations. I do not think there is too much of this going on, but even two or three instances are too many and does a great dis-service to our hobby. My considered opinion is to buy only from the dealer you know personally is an honest guy. It sure pays.

Now I come to the matter of the dealer who goes "bankrupt". What a sham this is. I do hope our Government Officials will soon wake up to what is going on and fill in those "loop-holes", which enables a dealer to cry "brankrupt" and then the next thing you know, he is in business again under another name. You, friend reader know them. So beware, do not do any business with them or the firm they supposedly represent. Remember "once bitten, twice shy". If you have been bitten and feel like letting off steam--don't forget-- just put it on paper and send it to

Cassandra  
c/o Your Editor

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NEW MEMBERS

The following applications have been received. If no written objections are received, their acceptance will be acknowledged in the November issue of the Ontario Numismatist.

- 737 Harry Eisenhauer, 501 Chester Street, London 17, Ontario.
- 738 Tony Hine, 1545 Venetia Drive, Oakville, Ontario
- 739 Wm. Stewart, 1560 Weston Road, Weston 335, Ontario.
- 740 Eddie Ball, 138 First Avenue, Brockville, Ontario.
- 741 Robert Parkin, 29 Cowan Avenue, Toronto 150, Ontario.
- 742 Eric Halliday, 1591 Dufferin Street, Toronto 170, Ontario.
- 743 John R. Cottrell, 4010 Lawrence Ave. E., Apt. 1506, West Hill 7  
721, Ontario
- 744 Paul Sandvold, 837 Roselawn Ave., Apt. 204, Toromto 340, Ont.
- 745 Mrs. Audrgy Sue Mercer, 96 Fenelon Drive, Don Mills 405, Ont.
- 746 Jay Gordon Mercer, 96 Fenelon Drive, Don Mills 405, Ont.
- 747 Ian Douglas Cameron, 39 Oakley Blvd., Scarborough 732, Ontario.

NOTES ON ENGLISH MAUNDY MONEY

Since 1822 Maundy coins have been issued every year. In 1831, 1838 coronation sets struck in gold were made for William IV and Victoria. These however were not officially issued.

In 1932 King George V revived the personal distribution of the Maundy by the reigning monarch. Before 1650 the Maundy ceremony took place in Chapel Royal at Whitehall. Since that time it has taken place in Westminster Abbey. Elizabeth II has, however, distributed her Maundy in St. Paul's Cathedral in 1953 and in Southwark Cathedral in 1955, to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the diocese of Southwark. She has also distributed her coins at St. Albans in 1957, St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle in 1959, Rochester Cathedral in 1961, 1963 at the Cathedral Church of St. Mary, the Virgin, St. Peter and St. Cedd at Chelmsford and in 1965 at Canterbury.

On Maundy Thursday, April 3rd, 1969, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will distribute her Maundy Money during the traditional ceremony to be held this year at Selby Abbey, Yorkshire. This ceremony is also in keeping with the celebration of the 9th centenary of Selby Abbey.

This year, 86 recipients, 43 men and 43 women will receive purses containing the maundy coins. It has been announced that 1969 will be the last year that crowns will be distributed due to the coming demonetization of the crown and half-crown pieces. In 1970, five shillings in some other form (but not additional Maundy coins) will be given.

Maundy money will survive after decimalization in 1971. The new maundy coins will have Arnold Machin's "Commonwealth Head" of Her Majesty on the obverse however; reverse designs have not been selected.

The Royal Almoners Office, Buckingham Palace, has announced that special precautions have been taken this year to ensure that the recipients are conducted to the Abbey for the ceremony and later back home, so that they will not be bothered by "persistent coin buyers". The list of recipients will not be made known in advance.

And so, on April 3, a great tradition will be carried on. Those words spoken nearly two thousand years ago still live amongst Christian men and in the significance of these small coins which can be appreciated by the collectors of to-day.

(Thanks to London Numismatic Society Bulletin)

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DID YOU KNOW -

That in paper currency, a Counterfeit note is one that resembles and has been copied from a genuine note. A Spurious note is a peculiar style of counterfeit printed or engraved from an original plate but bearing no resemblance to a genuine note except for the names of the bank and the signatures of the officers. An Altered note is one on which the name of a reputable bank has been replaced by the name of a suspended bank. A Raised note is a genuine note on which the amount has been raised to a higher denomination.

THIS 'N THAT

Well, here we are again, fall is with us once more, the various coin clubs are swinging into action ---- let us hope that we will have good attendance at all clubs with renewed interest in the hobby---First of all, let me congratulate Paul Sullivan who has been elected President of the City of Ottawa Coin Club and to Miss Keall who is carrying out the secretarial duties for the coming year---In passing let me say how dependent we are for short articles on the clubs and how very often we find these articles in the club bulletins sent to us faithfully by the secretaries and editors and for these we are truly grateful----Yours truly for i  
health reasons was unable to attend the C.N.A. Convention which I believe was my great loss---However all being well, it is my hope that I will be able to meet many of our readers and friends at the various coin shows this fall and winter, starting with the Kitchener Show on Sunday, October 5th----Here is a show that we have attended for many years and never once have we been able to say it was a poor show---always something different---always something interesting and always well attended.---Also congratulations to Mel Fiske of the Niagara Falls-St. Catharines Coin Clubs, etc. who has been asked to take over the vacancy left by the resignation of Arthur Honour----Mel, we know is a true numismatist and a hard worker and we feel sure that numismatics generally and our Association in particular will benefit largely from Mel's interest and hard-working qualities---Good luck, Mel----Our readers must excuse me for being a little long-winded this month but you will remember that our new contributor, Cassandra, cut me out entirely last month and speaking of our friend, Cassandra, we'd like our readers to send in their ideas, pet beefs, etc. to Cassandra, so make with the pen, you folks, and let us hear from you---- So long for now---will talk to you again next month.

Ye Ed.