



# THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIST

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

WATERLOO, ONTARIO

1971 - 1973

## O. N. A. OFFICERS

### Past Presidents

R. R. REKOFSKI (1962-65)  
L. T. SMITH (1965-67)  
W. ENGLISH (1967-69)  
D. FLICK (1969-71)

### President

CHAS. B. LAISTER

### First Vice-President

W. E. PAT LAMBERT

### Second Vice-President

KEN PROPHET

### Secretary

TED TURANSKI

### Treasurer and Membership

BRUCE H. RASZMANN

### Mailing Address

Box 33, Waterloo, Ontario

## DIRECTORS

Area 1 Howard Whitfield  
Area 2 Mel Fiske  
Area 3 J. Edward Stahley  
Area 4 Jack Craig  
Area 5 Wm. R. Gage  
Area 6 Jack C. Dietrich  
Frank Lieshout  
Area 7 Charles Miller  
Area 8 Paul L. Sullivan  
Area 9 John McKay-Clements  
Area 10 Elliott Jephson

### Historian

WALTER GRIGGS

### Publicity

BOB VOADEN  
Ontario Paper Co.,  
Thorold, Ont.

### Librarian

BILL ENGLISH  
Box 4, Waterloo, Ont.

### Audio-Visual Service

CHAS. B. LAISTER  
No. 3 Highway  
Tillsonburg, Ont.

### Chairman of Display Cases

WALTER HOLST  
4 Maple Court  
Waterloo, Ont.  
Phone: 576-7831

### Speaker's Circuit Service

KEN PROPHET  
CFMTC CFB BORDEN,  
Borden, Ont.

### Editor

W. E. PAT LAMBERT  
57 Emmett Road  
St. Catharines, Ont.

Volume 11 April 1972 Page 31

## OUR 10th ANNUAL CONVENTION

Here we are, the tenth part of a century behind us, all set for another convention in the Convention City of Niagara Falls, scene of one of the many wonders of the world, and, as is so often emphasized - The Honeymoon Capital of the World - a place for fun and also a place for serious business.

I think we should give serious thought to where we are headed. We have changed considerably since the founding convention at Waterloo in 1962 -- noticeably in our efforts to promote the hobby by means of service to our members (who, incidentally, now number over 300) by way of the Audio-Visual, the Display Case service to member clubs, the Speakers Circuit, the Judging service to club shows, the O.N.A. Library, the Bulletin - to say nothing of our services used in settling disputes, etc.

This is good. But is this enough? Could we not be looking further ahead and, as the younger generation say "Get With It". By this I mean to open our minds, do more to bring our juniors into the clubs -- give them more of a challenge by asking them what they want in the clubs -- do the things that will interest them, like providing mental exercises along the lines of "How can we improve the hobby of Coin Collecting?" or "Just because the books say it - is it necessarily true?", etc.

In other words let us call this, not only the 10th Convention but the "Challenging Convention." Come to Niagara Falls and add your thoughts and ideas to the above.

W.E.P.L.

## SOME NOTES ON THE COINAGE OF BRITISH INDIA

By William N. Clarke, London Numismatic Society.

The coinage of India can best be divided into four main categories:- The Native Coinage, Coinage of the East India Co., Imperial Coinage and the Coinage of the Republic of India. To this list may be added the coinages of the Dutch, French and Portuguese settlements in India.

This paper deals with the coinage of The East India Company and the Imperial Coinage to 1901. The first established trading company received its charter in 1600 from Elizabeth I under the title "The Governor and Company of Merchants of London trading to the East Indies". This Company traded throughout the whole East Indies but by 1624 was forced out of the islands by the Dutch trading companies and established itself on mainland India. During the Civil War period (1649 - 1660), in England, the protection offered by the Charter was lost and notice was given by the East India Company that they would withdraw from Indian trade. This resulted in a new charter being granted by Cromwell in 1657, which guaranteed the rights of the company under the original charter of 1600.

A further blow to the Merchants of London came in 1698, when William III granted a duplicate trade monopoly to the "English Company Trading to the East Indies".

The resulting rivalry could, of course, have only one reasonable solution and in 1702, a provisional agreement was reached followed by union of the two companies in 1709. The United East India Company followed a course of complete control over Indian affairs. From the Battle of Plassey 1757, and Buxor 1763, the Company controlled all finances and revenues as well as judicial powers over the Bengal, Behar and Orissa districts, the most populous and richest in India. By this time, the Company also had its own army and navy and wielded tremendous power until the Indian Mutiny of 1857. In 1858, when peace was restored, the East India Company ceased to exist and all its powers were surrendered to the Crown. The country remained a Crown colony until 1877 when Victoria was proclaimed Empress of India.

The first coinage of this period was struck in 1600-01, a set of four coins valued at 1 dollar, 1/2, 1/4, and 1/8 dollars. These "Portcullis Money" named for the design on the reverse were to be struck from silver to the value of £6000 per voyage by the Company and were also to compete with the Spanish Dollar as a trade piece. However, the coins were not well received and the Company was able to avoid its obligation to coin further issues of these pieces.

The next attempt to coin money for trade was made in 1671 for the Bombay district. This and succeeding issues were well received and the Company continued to strike coins for use in India.

\*\*\*\*\*

THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIST IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION. The publication may be obtained with membership in one of the following categories:- Life Memberships - \$50, Regular Membership - \$3. yearly, Juniors - \$2. yearly, (up to 18 years of age), Husband and Wife - \$5. yearly, (one journal), Club - \$10. yearly. Special O.N.A. Sterling Silver Lapel Pins (Screw back or pin back) only \$2.50.

Remittances are payable to the Ontario Numismatic Association, P.O. Box 33, Waterloo, Ontario.

During the late 1700's, the great coiner Matthew Boulton, along with James Watt, harnessed steam power to their coining presses at Birmingham. With his mint in full operation Boulton was able to complete an order for 100 tons of copper coins for the West India Company, Bengal district.

Further issues of the Company for the Bombay Presidency 1794-1833, Bengal Presidency 1791-1853 and the Madras Presidency from 1758-1835 further illustrate the powers held by the East India Company.

The first actual coinage for all India was issued in 1835. This handsome issue has the bare head of King William IV on the obverse, while the reverse legend includes the words East India Company - date and value. This issue stands out as an interesting example of the combination of public administration and private enterprise. All coins of this reign and issue are dated 1835, although they were struck until 1840. The next issue, perhaps better described as a double issue is that of Queen Victoria dated 1840/41.

The first of these two coinages was the work of the native engraver Kasinath Dass. This type is known as the continuous legend type as the legend "Victoria Queen" continues across the top of the coin on the obverse.

It was not until 1849 that dies were received from England prepared by William Wyon, chief engraver at the Royal Mint with the type two or divided legend coins -- all dated 1840. This issue also includes some major varieties of importance:

On the type 1 issues of the Madras Mint, the letter 'S' appears on the truncation. This is the initial of the mint master Major J.T. Smith, who was master during the complete coinage of this series, 1840/41 to 1850/51, all dated 1840/41. (Note - the silver rupees, half rupees and quarter rupee pieces were first issued in 1840 and the quarter rupee or two anna piece was added to the series in 1841).

The 1835 coinage of William IV struck at the Calcutta Mint has the initials R.S. and F. on the Truncation. These are the initials of Robert Saunders, mint master from 1826 to 1836 and Captain, later Lt. Col. William Nairn Forbes R.E., master from 1836 to 1855.

The type two 1840 issue has the initials W.W. on the truncation, the initials of William Wyon of the Royal Mint. However, the coins struck at the Madras Mint have the initials W.W. and 'S' and W.W. and 'B' for Major J. T. Smith and his successor Major J. H. Bell.

No new issues were struck until 1862, by which time the 1840 dated coins had run into several millions of pieces.

Following the closure of the East India Company in 1858 and under the Gothic revival in coin design in England, it was decided to strike a completely new issue for India. Patterns for the new coinage were struck in 1861 and with little change, the regular issue was struck dated 1862. The legend on this issue reads simply Victoria Queen. In 1862, the three former East India Co. mints at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras were still in operation and were put into service to strike the new coins. The complete issue consists of: Gold, 1 Mohur, 10 rupees and 5 rupees; Silver, one, half and quarter rupees and two anna; Copper, half and quarter annas, half pice and one-twelfth annas.

The Madras Mint was closed in 1867 after striking more than 25 million pieces. Although this number is quite impressive, it does not compare with the total number of 1862 coins struck at Bombay and

Calcutta, being about 408 and 270 million rupees respectively. This issue was struck with the 1862 date until 1874, when the date was changed.

In 1877, the title Empress of India was bestowed upon Victoria, mainly at the insistence of the colourful statesman Benjamin Disraeli, a service for which, as well as other political feats such as the Suez Canal purchase, he was created Earl of Beaconsfield. This issue is identical to the 1862-74 issue except that the obverse legend now reads Victoria Empress. This design was the last of the reign and was issued until the death of Queen Victoria in 1901.

On collecting Indian coins.

1. I believe it would be advisable to collect by type only.
2. Indian coins are not generally scarce, particularly in the poorer conditions.
3. It would be advisable to obtain the best specimens possible. I have found that the coins of India include some of the most beautifully designed and executed coins available to-day.
4. Even though there were very large quantities of coins made, it is difficult to obtain specimens, particularly in the minor copper issues, in very fine to uncirculated condition. As most of the series was struck in India, very few specimens were put aside by officials or government personnel, nearly all were released for circulation.

YE ED'S NOTE

Our thanks again to Mr. William Clarke for a very interesting article. Mr. Clarke contributes regularly to these pages and we are very grateful to him for these excellent articles. Thanks, Bill.

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

NEWS AROUND THE COIN CLUBS

BRANTFORD NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

From Brantford comes the following bits of interesting information- The earliest incidents of exchange or barter took place between tribes rather than individuals. Sea Tortoise Shells, among the most valuable of ancient Chinese monies, were available only in Cochin, China and Annam. Banala tribesmen of the Congo carry the shells they use for currency in a circular "purse" made from reeds.

HAMILTON COIN CLUB

The last meeting featured a slide show of Australian coins from the C.N.A. library. Also J.A. Peddie, F.R.N.S., gave an interesting talk and display on Scottish Bank Notes. Also the O.N.A. President, Chas. B. Laister, spoke briefly on the present and future activities of the Association.

HURONIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

At the last meeting Bill Gage gave an interesting Glimpse at Cape Breton. History is where you find it and no place is more steeped in history than the Island of Cape Breton. It is an old island dating back many years when life centered around the Fort at Louisburg. It was to this island that a young man sailed to from Jersey in the Channel Islands. John Robin arrived on Cape Breton and settled at Arichat in 1764 and there established his fishing and general merchandise firm. Two years later his brother, Charles

arrived at Arichat. The patent to their land is dated 1787. Soon the firm prospered and they began to branch out, first to Cheticamp and then to Gaspe. The firm still stands today mute testimony to the hard work and planning of these brothers whose foresight in their land helped to shape the future of the Island. In passing, this firm handled money from every point of the compass whether it be Spanish doubloons, English copper and silver or West Indian dollars.

LONDON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

At the last meeting the speaker was Tom Masters who gave a talk on Philadelphia and the Liberty Bell on U.S. coins with a display and slides. Brochures from the Wellings Mint were also displayed.

NIAGARA FALLS COIN CLUB

At the last meeting the slides on the Canadian five cent silver series were shown by Pat Lambert, and were enjoyed by all. A lively auction concluded the meeting.

ORILLIA CHAMPLAIN COIN CLUB

At the last meeting plans went forward for the big Coin, Stamp and Antique show coming up and it was stated that some tables were already sold. Mr. Elwood McLaughlin showed slides entitled "Close Ups of Wild Flowers" which were much enjoyed.

STRATFORD COIN CLUB

The executive for the next two years are as follows:-Pres. - Ken Wimot, Vice-Pres.-John Partridge, Sec.-Ted Thorup, Treas.-Jim Ellison, Editors-Gerri and Bryan Niscon. All the best to these people in the future of the club.

SARNIA COIN CLUB

The special guest at the last meeting was Al. Berniston from Chatham. The program committee for 1972 are:- Fred Robertson, Jim Anderson and Gertrude Scott. Arrangements are being made for the Banquet on May 3rd.

ST. CATHARINES COIN CLUB

The last meeting was held on Sunday, March 20th with 67 members and 7 guests present. Due to the unfortunate cancellation of a visit by Don Thomas it was necessary to re-arrange the program which was ably filled by an interesting talk on "Campaign Medals" by Victor Potter who is an enthusiastic club member. Victor Snell gave a brief outline of the forthcoming C.N.A. Show in August and Pat Lambert gave final details on the O.N.A. Convention in Niagara Falls. A lively auction by Lloyd Dorsey and Company closed the meeting.

THISTLETOWN COIN CLUB

Are eight years this year and are celebrating this happy event. Interesting talks were given at the last meeting by Stan Ella on "Counterfeiting" and Howard DeGeer came up with some intriguing facts concerning his family tree and the connection with medals issued in commemoration of the first landed pilgrims to North America.

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

DID YOU KNOW

In many instances the names of coins were originally the names of weights, or were derived directly from the names of weights, such as the talent, originally a Babylonian weight.

PROPOSED COIN SHOWS

Listed below are the proposed coin club annual show dates and banquets. Please check to see if any of these dates will conflict with your club's proposed dates.

- April 8 - Thistletown Coin Club annual show and bourse in the Albion Hall, east end rotunda, 11.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m. Details re bourse, etc., to Norm Balsten, 37 Neames Crescent, Downsview, Ontario.
- April 8 - Woodstock Coin Club Annual Show in Old St. Paul's Parish Hall, Dundas St., with banquet at 6.30 p.m. Information re bourse - P.O. Box 631, Woodstock and re display - Bert Carter, P.O. Box 159, Innerkip, Ontario.
- April 16 - Kent Club 4th Annual Show at the Holiday Inn, Highway 2 and Keil Road, Chatham, Ont. 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. Details re bourse, etc. to Jack Sands, 14 Gregory Dr. East, Chatham.
- Apr. 22-  
23 - O.N.A. 10th Annual Convention at Sheraton Brock Hotel, Niagara Falls. Details re bourse, etc. to Chairman - Mel Fiske, 7795 Beaverdams Rd., Niagara Falls, or Howard Hill, 1 Hayes St., St. Catharines. Accommodations - Mrs. Marge Smith, 5138 Willmot St., Niagara Falls, Ont.
- May 3 - Sarnia Numismatic Society Annual Banquet in Paterson Memorial Hall, Russell St., Sarnia. No further details available.
- May 13 - St. Thomas Annual Coin Show and Banquet in Grace United Church Auditorium. Details re bourse, etc. to St. Thomas Numismatic Association, P.O. Box 187, St. Thomas, Ontario.
- May 13 - Orillia Champlain Coin Club Annual Show in the Orange Hall, Mississaga St. West, Orillia. Details re bourse, etc. to Harry Booth, 270 Nottawasaga St., Orillia.
- May 27 - Peterborough Numismatic Society Annual Coin Show at the Orange Hall, 184 Brock St., Peterborough, Ontario. Details re bourse and displays to Mr. Paul Johnson, 375 Rogers St., Peterborough, Ontario.
- June 4 - Welland Coin Club Coin Show from 1.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. Details next bulletin.
- June 12 - Stratford Coin Club Dinner Meeting with Guest speaker. Details later.
- Aug. 5-6- Joint C.N.A.-C.P.M.S. Convention at the Holiday Inn, Civic Square, Toronto, Ontario. Details re bourse to Jack Veffler, P.O. Box 7, Station "S", Toronto. General Chairman - Victor Snell, P.O. Box 2186, Station "B", St. Catharines.
- Oct. 1 - Kitchener Coin Club Annual Show at the Holiday Inn, Fairway Road, Kitchener. Details re bourse, etc., to Ted Turonski, 111 Lancaster St. E., Kitchener, Ontario.
- Oct. 21 - St. Catharines Coin Club Annual Show and Banquet in Westminster United Church Parish Hall, Queenston St., St. Catharines. Details later.
- Oct. 21 - Sarnia Bluewater International Coin Show at The Village, 751 N. Christine St., Sarnia. Details re bourse to Norm Scott, Box 89, Corunna, Exhibits - Robert Sargent, 1212 Hancock St., Port Huron, Mich. and General Chairman to Carl Williamson, 931 Greendale St., Sarnia, Ont.

- Oct. 22 - Stratford Coin Club Annual Show and Auction with eight bourse dealers and a 100 lot auction. Details re the above to Stratford Coin Club, P.O. Box 262, Stratford, Ont.
- Oct. 29 - Tillsonburg Numismatic Society Annual Coin and Antique Show in the Orange Hall, Brock Street, Tillsonburg, Ont. Details re bourse to Chas. B. Laister, No. 3 Highway, Tillsonburg. General Chairman - George Reynaert, 41 Park Avenue, Delhi.
- JULY 15-16- City of Ottawa Coin Club 4th Annual Show in the Chateau Laurier Hotel. Details re bourse, displays, etc. to P.O. Box 6094, Station "J", Ottawa K2A 1T2.

\*\*\*\*\*

THE CANADIAN FIVE CENT PIECE - 1943

By Lloyd T. Smith.

The "V" Victory reverse design on the reverse of the 1943 five cent piece was introduced with the aim of furthering the war effort. They were made of Tombac (88% copper, 12% zinc) and were twelve-sided as were the 1942 tombac five cent coins.

The obverse is the same as the 1942 issue, except that rim denticles were added. The torch and V on the reverse symbolize sacrifice and victory. Instead of rim denticles like the obverse, a dot-dash pattern forms the inner rim. The dot-dash pattern forms the International Code message, "WE WIN WHEN WE WORK WILLINGLY," starting below the "N" in CENTS. The designer was the Royal Canadian Mint's chief engraver, Thomas Shingles (TS at right of the torch), who cut the master matrix entirely by hand -- a feat few present-day engravers can accomplish.

This issue may be considered a tribute to Samuel B. Morse, the inventor of the Morse Code and the telegraph system (1843). The tombac five cent of 1943 was issued just 100 years after Mr. Samuel B. Morse was granted a patent on his invention. The message on the coins is in the International or Continental Code though and not the Morse Code.

This is also the first die made entirely at the Royal Canadian Mint in Ottawa. It is interesting that the 12-sided position differs from the English 12-sided threepence coins by a 15 degree turn. The tombac alloy was replaced with chromium-plated steel in 1944-45 because the copper and zinc were needed for the war effort.

(Thanks to the London Numismatic Society Bulletin)

\*\*\*\*\*

LATE COIN NEWS

NORTH YORK COIN CLUB

The last meeting featured the twelfth anniversary of the club and was highlighted by a display by Michael Zigler on banknotes of the People's Republic of China and Fred Jewett's talk on the Fenian Raid period in Canadian history accompanied by a display of several British "Fenian Raid" service medals, and Mr. R. Strong gave a very informative talk on the early French regime and its effect on Canadian numismatics. It was also announced that the bourse and show held recently was a great success.

In 1964, 72.25 per cent of coins produced in Canada were cents.

Will You Invite?.....

As a nation we have always been noted for our hospitality-- and I see no reason to note any change in one of the nicer of our traditional traits -- which brings me to the point of these musings -- Each year it appears to get more and more difficult to find one of our clubs who is prepared to give us a old-fashioned "Invite" for next year's Convention -- We ask executives and members to mull over these thoughts and see if you feel you are prepared to host the O.N.A. Convention in 1973 -- Then sit down and surprise us -- We are waiting to be surprised-- All we can promise is that you will have : lots of work, details galore, etc. -- But in the final analysis -- The personal satisfaction of seeing a successful show and even making a few dollars into the bargain -- Let's hear from you, huh? ?

\*\*\*\*\*                   \*\*\*\*\*                   \*\*\*\*\*                   \*\*\*\*\*                   \*\*\*\*\*

NEW MEMBERS

Applications published in the March issue of the Ontario Numismatist have now been accepted.

Applications for membership will be published in the May issue of the Bulletin.

\*\*\*\*\*                   \*\*\*\*\*                   \*\*\*\*\*                   \*\*\*\*\*                   \*\*\*\*\*

THIS 'N THAT

As our 10th Convention draws nearer I was kind of cogitating on how many of the club delegates will turn up to the Delegates' Meeting -- a very important part of any convention -- particularly when there are so many items which we should be discussing; for instance - Why are so many club members apathetic when it comes to club activities and work to be done? One of the hardest things is to get workers who will do things for their club and the hobby -- This is only one of the pressing problems which should be discussed at our general meeting -- we should be getting to the itty gritty on the big question of a Judging System which is acceptable to all clubs and all exhibitors -- here are some problems which require careful consideration by our delegates and the membership of the O.N.A. -- we trust that this year will see lots of delegates with plenty of hints that will stimulate this year's meeting and lead to a better Association who will be noted for being a progressive one, willing to listen to those who came to give the benefit of their experience for the betterment of their hobby --Finally, I want to express the sincere thanks of the executive of the O.N.A. to someone who has worked hard, and contributed much in a personal and a business capacity to publicizing this year's convention, I mean the grand effort of Don Thomas, the publisher of Coin, Stamp and Antique News, who has, to say the least, done a terrific job in promoting this Convention -- The hundreds of readers of his excellent paper will have no doubt as to where, when and what is going to happen on April 22nd-23 at Niagara Falls; Don, I trust you will accept thses thoughts as our token of gratitude for a swell job of promotion at its highest level -- Looking forward to seeing many of you folks at the Convention, so long for now,