



# THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIST

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

WATERLOO, ONTARIO

1973 - 1975

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## Letters to the Editor

October 28, 1974.  
302 Talbot St.,  
LONDON, Ont.

The Editor:

Dear Sir:

I would like to offer my solution to the present concern over the judging of displays at coin shows. There are "pro's" and "con's" with each system, but before we get on to the shows the main point to be considered is "why am I displaying at all?"

There are two answers to this question, firstly, to win prizes (awards, trophies, cash, etc.,) and secondly, for the pleasure of sharing one's coins and knowledge with other collectors and the general public who attend coin shows. The only displays which fall into the second category at this time, are the non-competitive or 'Court of Honour' displays.

No matter what system of judging is used, the whole point of competitive display is defeated by incompetent judging. It is impractical to expect anyone to know everything about one series of coins, but to expect a judge to know everything about every series of coins, is ridiculous in the extreme.

To have competitive displays at all defeats the whole object of numismatics, it is only a way of saying, "I've got more coins than you've got" or "My coins are better than your coins", or "I'm richer than you are". The sharing of knowledge and the pleasure of showing coins with historical and numismatic interest will far out-weigh the acquisition of trophies to the true collector. The money spent by clubs on trophies could be used to present the displayee with a medal or certificate of merit, thanking the exhibitor for sharing his display, his time and effort. This would solve the problem of

the ill-will which is generally felt when an inferior display gets an award, and would make our coin shows what they should be - a friendly atmosphere of fellowship, instead of being in competition with each other to the disadvantage of everyone.

Yours very truly,

Signed: Chris Brooker.

BOOK REVIEW

1975 STANDARD CATALOGUE OF CANADIAN  
COINS, TOKENS AND PAPER MONEY  
FIRST EDITION  
BY: J. E. CHARLTON

When considering how to approach this review of the paper money section of the 1975 Standard Catalogue of Canadian Coins, Tokens and Paper Money, it is necessary to ask: "Do you want to hear the good news or the bad news first?" To remain forever an optimist the good news will be covered first.

There are quite a few favourable things that can be mentioned. First of all, the atrocious numbering system used in the 1974 Catalogue for the Dominion Government and Bank of Canada notes has disappeared replaced by a simplified system of chronological numbers prefixed by an alphabetical code:

DC - Dominion of Canada  
BC - Bank of Canada, etc.

This is an improvement that will appeal to even the most cursory users. It will not, on the other hand, be adequate if used to number the chartered banks or merchant notes but these presumably do not need numbering at the present time.

Another big improvement is in the format for the banks and merchant notes. These are listed single column across a full page using larger type and where new illustrations are used they too have been increased in size. This is a great benefit and in itself is worth the increased price of 55¢ for the Catalogue. More illustrations are used in the 1975 Catalogue. Virtually every bank has at least one note shown and the increased use of photographs is even more pronounced in the merchants' notes section. The photographs are of uniformly high quality. All these changes are a significant step in the right direction.

Now for the other news - the pricing. The Standard Catalogue would be a good reference source without the prices because they do not make much more sense than they did last year. With the possible exception of the fact that greater use is made of brackets or ranges of prices, the 1975 edition can not be, to put it mildly, considered much of an improvement. The main reasons are, of course, the strange approach

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THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIST is published monthly by the Ontario Numismatic Association. The publication can be obtained with membership in one of the following categories starting January, 1975: Life Membership - \$50., Regular Membership - \$5. annually, Juniors (up to 18 years of age) - \$3. annually, Husband and Wife (one Journal) - \$7. annually, Club Membership - \$10. annually.

Special O.N.A. Silver Lapel Pins - \$2.50.

Remittance made payable to The Ontario Numismatic Association, c/o Mr. Bruce Raszmann, P.O. Box 33, Waterloo, Ontario.

to price changes and to the continued practice of assigning prices to 5 or 6 grades of notes. Many rare notes never come on the market, if indeed they exist at all in any grade. Only one example, chosen at random, need be mentioned to illustrate the point:

The first issue \$1.00 note of the Bank of British North America dated 1837. The prices are supposed to be:  
V.G.--\$100.00, Fine--\$250.00, V.Fine--\$300.00, E. Fine--\$350.00, and Unc.--\$450.00.

By the way, how can an uncirculated note of this year be worth only \$450.00 if a \$4.00 note of this bank issued in any of the years from 1841 to 1877 is worth \$700.00 to \$800.00?

This raises the other difficult part of the subject -- the inconsistency of the prices. These exist both in absolute terms, as in the example mentioned, and in the price changes between the 1974 and 1975 editions. Some, moreover, have been in the catalogue for some time notwithstanding attention has been previously drawn to them.

Strangely enough the market price increased only for the government issues this past year as the chartered bank notes virtually show no increase in price -- or can it be that the prices were too high in the 1974 edition?

In summary there are good and bad points to the 1975 edition. Each reader can decide which out-weighs the other. On balance this reviewer still finds the Standard Catalogue gives the most complete coverage of Canadian paper money -- just remember to resist having it quoted as an absolute authority when discussing price.

By W. H. McDonald

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#### TREASURERS FOUND AT WORK

Thanks to R. McQuade and City of Ottawa Coin Club.

Throughout the centuries, many of Britain's treasurers have been found by workmen in the course of their employment. For example, workers carrying out alterations to Pillaton Hall in Staffordshire in 1742 found £10,000 in gold coins in a hidden cupboard. A few years later, 25 leather purses containing nearly £6,000 were discovered near by.

At Dean in Bedfordshire, labourers found numerous gold coins in a cartload of debris taken from a house which they were demolishing in 1875; in the following year men digging for iron ore at Desborough in Northamptonshire found a 7th-century necklace in a grave.

One of the most intriguing finds in the region was at Nottingham in 1880, when workmen excavating an old house found 200 silver pennies, dating back from the 13th century. The coins had been subjected to intense heat and were fused together, but experts established that they had been deposited between April and December 1141, in the period when much of the town was destroyed by fire after a siege by the Earl of Gloucester.

At St. Albans in Hertfordshire, several oak beams were removed from an old house in the 1880's. Eventually deciding to use one of them for firewood, a boy employed at the yard where they were stored started to chop one. As he split it with his axe, a hoard of 15th and 16th century gold coins of the reigns of Edward IV to Henry VIII fell from holes that had been bored in the wood - probably at the time

of the Dissolution of the Monasteries.

The most valuable medieval coin hoard found in Britain was unearthed by workmen near Fishpool in Nottingham in 1966. More than 1200 gold coins from the reigns of Edward 11 to Edward 1V (1327-1483), and jewellery, were excavated with a mechanical digger. The find was worth about £40,000.

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GERMANS PRODUCE FAKES

From Vancouver International Coin Enthusiasts  
P.O. Box 35484, Station E, Vancouver, B.C. V6M 4G8

In a recent article which appeared in Coin, Stamp and Antique News, September 28, 1974, on page 30, a wonderful new series of counterfeit "coins" is reported. The article is entitled "GERMANS PRODUCE FAKES", and covers these "coins" in some detail. It goes on to state that "the German states, German New Guinea, German East Africa and the German Weimar Republic" coins are being offered.

Attached is the price list of the person offering this material, We have had the three parts numbered 1, 2, and 3 and offer a translation from the German.

- #1. Selection from The Big Offering of The Year 1974:  
Silver Coins - just Like Originals of Coin Rarities - Scarce Items, from the German Empire, Weimar Republic, Third Reich.
- #2. All coins in silver - desirable gifts - first class collection completers.  
Obverse, Reverse, edge and silver just like originals. Number according to Jager's catalogue "Die Deutschen Munsen seit 1871". For your order please use simply the following order form, cut it out and place it in an envelope with 40 Pfs. postage.
- #3. All 152 different silver coins together: special price of DM. 10,000 - Every customer receives the big coin offering. Also available 120 different struck copies, faithfully reproduced, with correct gold content, of 5, 10 and 20 Mark gold pieces of the empire of emperors, kings, princes and cities. Please ask for special offer.

This article and the price list could cause me to wonder. I am asking myself what next? Also how can we stop these things, or at least how can we keep them from being sold as "GENUINE COINS"???????

We would like your comments on this. Even if YOU do not collect German coins. What do you think? Please write and let us know. Send your comments to- W. E. Pat Lambert, P.O. Box 311, St, Catharines, Ontario L2R 6T7 or Dennis Lane or Bill Ziegler, P.O. Box 35484, Vancouver, B.C. V6M 4G8.

Any replies sent to Ye Ed will be published here for all to read.

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SMILE - "My wife is always asking me for money" complained a friend. "Last week she wanted \$200.00. The day before yesterday she asked me for \$150.00. This morning she wanted \$125.00". "That's crazy" I said, "What does she do with it all". "I don't know" said my friend, "I never give her any".

DISPLAY CASES

Due to many problems with our Display Case Service to coin clubs over the Province, among which was the impossibility of replacing worn and broken cases, the original manufacturer having gone out of business, and also the high cost of repairs to glass covers, frames, etc, has made it to-day an expense your Association cannot afford. Your Executive have decided to dispose of all of its cases to our members clubs at a small cost of \$25.00 per crate of five cases. A limit has been set of one crate (of five cases) per club until we see how many clubs are interested. Some clubs have requested 2 or 3 crates, however your executive thought it only fair to limit one crate per club until exact orders have been received - any surplus will go to clubs who signify they could use more than one crate, if available.

All club orders should be sent to:- Mr. Charles B. Laister,  
No 3 Highway, TILLSONBURG,  
Ontario N4G 3J1.

Please state how many crates (if more than one is desired), with cheque or money order for \$25.00 made payable to the O.N.A. for the initial order of one crate containing five cases. It will be readily understood that these cases will be required for our Convention at Stratford in 1975. The member clubs ordering crates may pick them up at the Convention at Stratford, which will save the cost of transporting them to the various clubs.

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A CHALLENGE

FROM "YE ED"

Have you ever thought you could be a budding editor? To formulate and direct and express the thoughts of your readers and members? Here is a chance for you to express yourself and put your ideas into practise. The Editorship of the O.N.A. Bulletin is open to any interested party. Ye Ed, after eight years, wishes to retire. Any interested party direct your enquiries to:- Charles B. Laister, Chairman of the Nominating Committee for the officers for 1975-77, No. 3. Highway, Tillsonburg, Ontario, N4G 3J1. If you want further details on what is involved, etc., drop Ye Ed a line and I shall be only too happy to give you all the information and help I can.

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CONVENTION NEWS - 1975

Just to remind our readers that time is passing, with many items still to be solved-- To our Dealer Friends, please reserve your tables as early as possible so we can finalize details well in advance of the Show --- To those Auctioneers who are interested, will you also, please submit your bids in the next few weeks so we can start publicising the event --- To our members, be sure you submit your nomination for the O.N.A.'s Award of Merit - send your selection to Mr. Robert Voaden, c/o Ontario Paper Company, THOROLD, Ontario, again as early as possible --- and finally, elections are the big event at this year's Convention-- Have you submitted your list of names for the various officers to serve on your behalf for 1975-77 -- if not, may I suggest you do so without delay. Send them to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Mr. Charles B. Laister, No. 3 Highway, TILLSONBURG, Ontario N4G 3J1. Thank you,

W. E. Pat Lambert, President.

PRESS RELEASE FROM STRATFORD RE CONVENTION '75

The Stratford Coin Club's plans for the O.N.A. Convention on April 26 and 27, 1975 are moving ahead in excellent fashion.

Within one week of the announcement that bourse reservations were being accepted over 30% of the 43 tables had already been reserved. The tables are allocated by the locations requested at a cost of \$55.00 for the table (approximately 8' x 2'6"). This cost includes one banquet ticket and two registration packets for each request. Information can be obtained by writing, Bourse, Stratford Coin Club, P.O. Box 262, STRATFORD, Ontario.

Stratford, noted for its Festival, Furniture Manufacturing, Fine Shops and accommodations is out to make this a Show not soon to be forgotten. Plans for tours through the Festival and Furniture Show Rooms are well advanced along with the general preparations.

Persons requesting accommodations are requested to forward their requirements to Accommodations, Stratford Coin Club, P.O. Box 262, Stratford, Ontario.

The Victorian Inn, one of Stratford's finest Motor Hotels, will be the site of the '75 O.N.A. Convention.

The main theme of this year's show will be "Stratford, Where Hospitality Began". We hope we can show everyone that this is not just a saying.

From Show Chairman, Ken Wilmot

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O.N.A. MEMBERSHIP

Once again it is membership renewal time, when I must send you a renewal membership application.

As you know, annual membership dues are payable on a calendar year basis. Would you, therefore, please complete the enclosed renewal membership application and return it along with your remittance in the enclosed self addressed envelope at your earliest convenience.

After three years, members of this association are eligible to apply for Life Membership. Have you ever considered a Life Membership.

Yours sincerely,

Signed: Bruce H. Raszmann  
O.N.A. Treasurer & Membership Chairman.

P.S. As time permits, membership cards and receipts will be mailed. Please be patient, the job of being treasurer and membership chairman is a labour of love.

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1975 SILVER DOLLAR - Thanks to City of Ottawa Coin Club.

Donald D. Paterson was the winner of the competition which was held to secure a design for a Silver Dollar to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the founding of the City of Calgary.

The design depicts a rider and horse competing in the Calgary Stampede. The words CANADA and DOLLAR appear above the rider and the dates 1875 CALGARY 1975 appear below.

The Royal Canadian Mint seems to have started a group of issues. Do you think they can rightly be called COINS, or are they COLLECTORS ITEMS?

REPORTS ON C.Y.N. SHOW IN TORONTO

First From Stan Clute, North York Coin Club

The Second Annual Convention of the Canadian Young Numismatists Association, which was held at the Four Seasons Sheraton Hotel in Toronto on Saturday, November 9th was, by all appearances very successful. Most of our own junior members turned out to support this show, with several entering competitive numismatic exhibits. Congratulations to members Jon Jones, Tom Beckett, Ted Banning and Diane Getgood on winning exhibit awards. Altogether, I noticed more than a quarter of the North York Coin Club's total membership in attendance. Now a very brief report on the meetings held at the show. The Ancient Coin Society meeting was held during the morning and was highly successful. It was highlighted by a talk by Professor Malcolm Wallace of the University of Toronto, about some very unusual Greek silver coins issued in Southern Italy around 530 to 490 B.C. These coins have as a reverse type whatever appears raised above the field of the coin on the obverse, only it appears sunk beneath the background on the reverse. The Canadian Paper Money Society unfortunately had to cancel their planned meeting at the show, at the last minute due to circumstances beyond their control. I had the honour of being the guest speaker at the C.Y.N. General Meeting, following which Robert Aaron presented C.Y.N. with a cheque for \$400. The only real problem with the Show was the difficulty in finding its location in the hotel. The show, itself, was very well run. The C.Y.N. members and executive who organized and ran the Show deserve a lot of credit. Also, credit is due to Rickey Morse who was the auctioneer at the C.Y.N. meeting.

Second From Ted Banning's Letter in the C.Y.N. Messenger

The Convention culminated in the banquet, and the most notable thing about this banquet was not the awards, nor the introductions, nor even the food, but the speech of Major Sheldon Carroll. The talk was certainly humorous, the smiles and laughter were evidence of this. It was obviously well-planned, although the Major had announced that he would jump from topic to topic, he did so with such a skillful flow that coherence and continuity seemed, at least, to be preserved. But most importantly, it was underlined with a seriousness which provoked thought, I think, from everyone in the audience; he was questioning and quite rightly the validity of the very name of the Canadian Numismatic Association. What had the general membership ever done to earn the title of "Numismatist"? Most members were only collectors, accumulators, dealers and investors, taking little trouble to actually study their coins, tokens, medals and paper".....

Major Carroll also mentioned, among other topics, the careless habit among many of us of referring to our Canadian coins as quarters, dimes and nickels. These terms are only rightly applied to American coins. In Canada our coins are called cents - twenty-five cents, ten cents, etc.

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AGAIN SMILE -

Ted says he's read so much about the terrible effects of smoking that he's decided to give up reading.

"You're fare, young lady," said the handsome train conductor. She smiled at him sweetly, "You're not so bad yourself".

NEWS AROUND THE COIN CLUBS

CITY OF OTTAWA COIN CLUB

At the last meeting in the War Museum 37 members and guests listened to a very interesting talk and pictures by Al. Driega who had recently returned from a trip to Russia and he also had some Russian stamps which created comment. The meeting closed with a lively auction conducted by Dick Nash.

HAMILTON COIN CLUB

At the last meeting in the I.O.O.F. Hall, 64 Wellington St. North, 19 members and guests enjoyed an excellent showing of slides on "Maundy Money" by Pamela White. The Senior display was won by Eugene Culp with the largest and smallest silver coins of the 20th century and the Junior display by Terri Roach with two identical Westmoreland Bank Notes.

MISSISSUAGA COIN CLUB

At the last meeting in the Fairview Public School the feature was "Coin Grading Workshop" which has proven ever popular with seniors and juniors alike. This explains why each person may grade coins differently. The club reported that they had obtained some new members at the recent Torex Show.

NORTH YORK COIN CLUB

The last meeting saw the room packed to hear the guest speaker, Mr. Donald Paterson, explain how he designed his winning entry in the 1975 Calgary dollar coin contest. He showed sketches and explained how he began his design and followed through to the finished product. Mr. Frank Rose also presented the club with a cheque for \$250.00 for their work at the Torex show.

RICHMOND HILL COIN CLUB

At the last meeting reports were given on the success of the recent show and the progress being made for the Thistle-town Show. It was stated that the O.N.A. will be discontinuing their case loan service at the end of the year thus will not be providing any service to the club after that, and the latest developments of the Olympic Coins Program was discussed.

SARNIA NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

Forty-two members and guests at the last meeting of the club heard Tom Masters give an enlightening talk on the Bank of Canada, Ottawa, which next year will begin work on a permanent numismatic museum scheduled to open in 1977 and display Ancient Greek and Roman Coins, Foreign Coins and Foreign Paper Money. It was reported that the recent show was a decided success both numismatically and financially.

ST. CATHARINES COIN CLUB

Fifty-two members and guests attended the last meeting of the club and heard a very interesting talk by William Mitchell on the "Wonderful World of Watch Fobs". Mr. Mitchell had a display of the fobs he had collected and answered a number of questions on the subject. Ray Pleau of the Oshawa Coin Club said a few words and presented the junior members with the Oshawa trade dollar which has been struck to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the city. Claude Trudel reported a 1974 dollar with beads that appeared to be attached giving the effect of a string. A lively auction closed the meeting.



'THIS 'N THAT

Elsewhere in this Bulletin our readers will note an article on the striking of replica or to use the proper term, counterfeit, coins which are presently being struck in Germany. Our readers will also remember that Ye Ed brought this problem to the attention of our readers earlier on this year. I believe that the time has come when we, as collectors, should try to have this question of counterfeiting settled once and for all throughout the numismatic world. I draw our readers attention to the fact that our own Canadian \$20.00 gold piece has been the victim of counterfeiters. I also am given to understand that many of the United States gold pieces, in particular the rarer pieces, are being reproduced in the far East. In other words perhaps it is about time that the counterfeiters and so-called technological experts who direct their otherwise brilliant talents into more legal-type practices ---- I would like to make fair comment with reference to a recent report of the Richmond Hill Coin Club at their last meeting. It would appear that Vice-President Ricky Morse who states, and I quote, "the O.N.A. will be discontinuing its display case loan service at the end of this year" and he adds, and I quote "that he feels that the organization will not be providing the club with any real service, once the cases are discontinued". I should like to correct Ricky and any of our readers who read Stan Clute's excellent monthly bulletin that such a remark was not correct. First of all, what about our audio-visual service to member clubs, the speakers circuit, the library service which is at the disposal of any club or any member and also I should clarify one point and that is while we are discontinuing the display case service we will be keeping a small number of cases which with special arrangements may be borrowed by clubs who do not purchase their own cases. I only stress this to clarify any doubts that could arise from Ricky's remarks.--- Further to my short article entitled "A Challenge" I should like to take the readers of this and that into my confidence and explain in a very few words why Ye Ed has decided to retire. First of all, not being a typist of any known repute I have to rely upon the good offices of Mrs. Ye Ed who, up until two years ago gladly and willingly pounded away month in and month out to produce this Bulletin, however, times have changed and through a physical disability Mrs. Ye Ed can no longer type our stencils so I feel that among our members there must be someone who will take on this most important task, printing the views expressed by many of our members (and non-members) in order to keep you, the collector, as well-informed as we possibly can. The challenge is issued. Are you big enough to accept it????----- Finally, the festive season is fast approaching, so in conclusion, may we wish you and yours, everywhere, a MERRY CHRISTMAS, JOYEUX NOEL,

Ye Ed and Mrs. Ye Ed,  
and for those who have met him, from Whiskey Ye Ed.