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We hope you find the  
pot of gold waiting for  
you at the end of the  
rainbow.

— ONA EXECUTIVE

THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIST is published by the Ontario Numismatic Association. The publication can be obtained with membership in one of the following categories: Regular Membership \$7.00 annually. Husband and Wife (one journal) \$12.00 annually. Junior (up to 18) \$3.00 annually. Club Membership \$10.00 annually. Life Memberships available for \$75.00 after 3 years of regular membership.

Remittances payable to the Ontario Numismatic Association, P.O. Box 33, Waterloo, Ontario. N2J 3Z6.

KING JOHN 111 SOBIESKI AND THE RELIEF OF VIENNABY TOM KOSZTALUK

THE POLISH AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION ISSUED AN APPROPRIATE MEDAL FOR THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RELIEF OF VIENNA.

FINE SILVER (.999)-95, DARK BRONZE-110, LIGHT BRONZE-200, WERE MINTED.

IN THE FIRST HALF OF THE 17TH CENTURY THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE EXPERIENCED THE PERIOD OF PEACE AND PROSPERITY AND EXTENDED THE SULTAN'S RULE OVER ALL OF NORTH AFRICA,

WESTERN ASIA AND MOST OF EASTERN EUROPE.

THE EMPIRE CONTROLLED THE MOUTHS OF THE RIVERS OF TIGRIS, EUPHRATES, NILE, DNIEPER, DANUBE AND BUG WITH ALL THE RICHES OF THE TRADE ON THESE RIVERS. THE MANPOWER WAS ALMOST INEXHAUSTIBLE.

THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE EMPIRE AND BUILD-UP OF A LARGE ARMY MADE HER A GREAT DANGER TO CHRISTIAN EUROPE.

A BOY WAS BORN CASTLE OF OLESKO

ON AUGUST 17, 1629, A BOY WAS BORN IN THE CASTLE OF OLESKO. HIS LONG LIFE WAS TO BE DEDICATED TO THE WAR AGAINST THE EXPANDING TURKISH CRESCENT, AND HE WAS THE LAST OF THE HEROIC KINGS TO PERSONALLY LEAD THE CHRISTIAN ARMIES IN DEFENSE OF FAITH AND WESTERN CIVILIZATION.

JOHN SOBIESKI WAS BORN IN THE PALATINATE OF RUTHENIA IN SOUTHEASTERN POLAND, WHICH WAS IN THE PATH OF TURKISH AND TARTAR INVASIONS.

HIS FATHER JAMES, WAS CASTELLAN OF CRACOW AND FOUR TIME MARSHAL OF THE DIET. HIS MOTHER WAS THE GRANDDAUGHTER OF THE GREAT HETMAN ZOLKIEWSKI, WHO OCCUPIED MOSCOW IN 1610, BROUGHT THE CZAR CAPTIVE TO WARSAW AND PLACED A POLISH PRINCE ON THE THRONE OF MOSCOW.

HE DIED IN BATTLE ON MOLDAVIAN STEPPE IN 1620 AT THE AGE OF 73.

THE YOUNG SOBIESKI GREW UP WITH HIS BROTHER AMONG RELICS OF OLD CAMPAIGNS, AND THEY WERE TAKEN EVERY DAY TO PRAY AT THE MARBLE TOMB OF ZOLKIEWSKI, AT THE CASTLE OF ZOLKIEW NEAR LWOW. AFTER FINISHING THE UNIVERSITY IN CRACOW, THEY WERE SENT FOR AN EDUCATIONAL TOUR OF WESTERN EUROPE. JOHN SOBIESKI WAS SOON RECOGNIZED AS A BRILLIANT LEADER LEADER ON THE BATTLEFIELD AND IN POLITICS.

IN 1665, HE BECAME GRAND MARSHAL OF THE DIET AND IN MAY, 1666 HE WAS GIVEN THE BATON OF THE FIELD HETMAN OF THE ARMIES OF THE CROWN.

IN 1667, WITH ONLY 9,000 REGULARS AND 6,000 MILITIA, HE COMPLETELY DEFEATED THE 50,000 MEN ARMY OF THE KHAN OF CRIMEA AT PODHAJCE.

THE FOLLOWING YEAR HE BECAME THE GRAND HETMAN AND WAS RECEIVED AS A HERO IN WARSAW. SEVERAL FUTURE CAMPAIGNS ESTABLISHED HIS NAME AS A BRILLIANT COMMANDER, AND THE VICTORY AT CHOCIM IN NOVEMBER.

### JOHN SOBIESKI KING

AT THE ELECTION OF 1669 ALL THE FOREIGN CANDIDATES, REPRESENTING THE MOST DIVERSE DYNASTIES, PRESENTED THEMSELVES IN VAIN.

THIS TIME THE RECENT MEMORY OF THE MANY INVASIONS AND THE MANY INTRIGUES AT THE COURT OF LAST VASA BROUGHT ABOUT THE REALIZATION OF AN IDEA WHICH HAD BEEN DISCUSSED SINCE THE FIRST FREE ELECTION; THAT OF RAISING TO THE THRONE A COMPATRIOT BELONGING TO THE RANKS OF THE POLISH NOBILITY.

IN MAY, 1674, HE WAS ELECTED KING OF POLAND AND GRAND DUKE OF LITHUANIA. AGAIN AND AGAIN HE RETURNED TRIUMPHANTLY FROM VICTORIOUS CAMPAIGNS BUT OFTEN WAS FORCED TO SEE THE ADVANTAGES HE GAINED OVER THE INVADERS FRITTER AWAY IN DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL INTRIGUES. IN 1682, THE TURKS ASSEMBLED AN IMMENSE ARMY, ESTIMATED AT 300,000 MEN AND MOVED NORTHWARD ACROSS THE BALKANS.

### THE GREAT BATTLE OF VIENNA

IT WAS, IN FACT, THE LATTER WHICH DECIDED THE GREAT BATTLE OF THE 12TH OF SEPTEMBER 1683. DESCENDING FROM THE HEIGHT OF THE WIENERWALD, ITS TERRIBLE CHARGE BROKE THE FURIOUS RESISTANCE THAT THE ENEMY WAS OPPOSING TO THE GERMAN TROOPS. BY THE EVENING, THE IMMENSE OTTOMAN ARMY WAS IN FLIGHT, AND AMIDST THE ENTHUSIASTIC ACCLAMATIONS OF A POPULATION DELIVERED AFTER GREAT SUFFERINGS, THE KING OF POLAND ENTERED THE WALLS OF VIENNA AS ITS SAVIOUR. EMPEROR LEOPOLD AND HIS COURT FLED VIENNA; THOUSANDS FOLLOWED.

COUNT STARHEMBERG WAS APPOINTED TO COMMAND THE DEFENSES OF VIENNA WHICH WERE REDCHED BY THE TURKISH CAVALRY ON JULY 13th AND FULLY ENCIRCLED BY ITS ARMY THE NEXT DAY. POPE INNOCENT XI WAS IN CONSTANT COMMUNICATION WITH SOBIESKI AND DISPATCHED URGENT MESSAGES. THE EMPEROR DID THE SAME.

IN THE MEANTIME THE ENEMY BUILT TUNNELS AND TRENCHES, AND CREPT CLOSER TO THE WALLS OF THE CITY EVERY DAY. ON AUGUST 8TH, BOTH HETMANS ST. JABLONOWSKI AND M. SIENIAWSKI REPORTED THAT 27,000 MEN WERE ASSEMBLED.

OF SEPT, 6TH, THE BRIDGES ON THE DANUBE WERE FINISHED AND THE CHRISTIAN ARMIES, APPROXIMATELY 70,000 STRONG CROSSED THE RIVER WITHIN TWO DAYS.

MOUNTAIN SLOPES ON THIS SIDE OF VIENNA WERE COVERED BY FORESTS.

ON SEPTEMBER 12TH, IN EARLY MORNING THE AUSTRIAN FORCES WERE CLOSEST TO REACH THE ENEMY LINES AND PRINCE CHARLES OF LORRAINE STARTED THE ATTACK ON THE LEFT WING. THE TURKS WERE PUSHED OUT FROM THE STRATEGIC POSITION AT NUSSBERG. THE KING WAS PERSONALLY THERE AND SERVED AT HOLY MASS CELEBRATED BY THE PAPAL ENVOY TO GIVE THANKS FOR THE FIRST SUCCESS.

## KING SOBIESKI DIED IN BATTLE

KING JOHN, WHO AT THE BEGINNING OF THE BATTLE HAD EXPECTED FOR THE DECISIVE ENGAGEMENT TO DEVELOP ONLY ON THE SECOND DAY, THE VICTORY WAS COMPLETE. THE TURKISH CAMP WITH ALL TENTS, ARTILLERY AND UNCOUNTED RICHES WERE LEFT BY THE FLEEING ENEMY. SOBIESKI WAS ENTHUSIASTICALLY GREETED BY THE PEOPLE OF VIENNA AND DECLARED "THE SAVIOR OF CHRISTENDOM" BY THE POPE. THE VICTORIOUS CAMPAIGN BROUGHT NEW INTERNATIONAL PRIDE TO THE POLISH KING AND ATTRACTED THE EYES OF THE WHOLE WORLD TO THE REPUBLIC. WE KNOW TO-DAY THAT SOBIESKI'S DECISION, GENEROUS AS IT WAS, WAS ALSO JUSTIFIED BY THE CIRCUMSTANCES, AND BY THE FACT THAT THE FALL OF VIENNA WOULD HAVE HAD FOR POLAND ALSO INCALCULABLE CONSEQUENCES. INDEPENDENTLY, BESIDES, OF ANY IMMEDIATE ADVANTAGE, THE VICTORY OF 1683 HAD A MORAL BEARING OF THE FIRST ORDER AND OF LASTING VALUE. IT RECALLED THE TRADITIONAL ROLE OF POLAND IN THE HISTORY OF CHRISTIAN EUROPE. KING JOHN SOBIESKI III DIED IN BATTLE ON THE MOLDAVIAN STEPPE, IN 1702 AT THE AGE OF 73. JOHN SOBIESKI WAS KING FOR 22 YEARS "1674-1696".

### BIBLIOGRAPHY; REFERENCES:

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HISTORY OF POLAND OF KING JOHN SOBIESKI.  
A THOUSAND YEARS OF POLAND.



*Jan Sobieski jako Marszałek Wielki Koronny w sile i spójności  
portretu.*

**Jan III Sobieski**  
**(1674-1696)**

THE REVERSE OF THE MEDAL FEATURES

DEPICTS THE LIKENESS OF POPES INNOCENT XI AND JOHN PAUL II. THE FIRST REIGNED IN 1683 AND WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN ORGANIZING AND FINANCING THE EFFORT TO STOP THE TURKISH ADVANCE, AND THE SECOND IS OUR POPE TODAY WHEN WE COMMEMORATE THIS EVENT. POPE INNOCENT XI DIRECTS HIS CONCERNED LOOK TOWARDS THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. STEPHEN'S-THE SYMBOL OF CHRISTIANITY IN VIENNA. THE CATHEDRAL IS SHOWN ABOVE THE COAT OF ARMS OF THE CITY.



THE OBERSE OF THE MEDAL FEATURES

THE BUST OF KING JOHN III SOBIESKI RESTING ON A SEMICIRCLE OF THE COATS OF ARMS OF THE PRINCIPAL CHRISTIAN COUNTRIES WHICH PARTICIPATED IN THE WAR AGAINST THE TURKISH EMIRE. IN THE CENTER IS THE WHITE EAGLE OF THE KINGDOM OF POLAND REPRESENTING THE LARGEST MILITARY UNIT AT VIENNA. TO ITS RIGHT IS THE DOUBLE-HEADED EAGLE OF THE AUSTRIAN EMPIRE, THAN THE COAT OF ARMS OF SAXONY AND THE MOUNTED KNIGHT OF THE GRAND DUCHY OF LITHUANIA. TO THE LEFT ARE THE ARMS OF BAVARIA, REPRESENTING THE 11,000 MEN ARMY FROM THAT COUNTRY, THAN THE THREE LIONS OF SWABIA AND THE WINGED LION OF THE REPUBLIC OF VENICE.



This Medal of King John III Sobieski was on display at the O.N.A.'s 983 Convention in Peterborough in April. It was judged as the best in its category.

THE PICTURE OF KING JOHN SOBIESKI OF THE COIN OF 50 ZLOTYCH  
IN 1683 AND 1682.



79. Jan III Sobieski  
na dukacie gdańskim  
z datą 1683.  
• 25 mm

78. Jan III Sobieski  
na dukacie  
z mennicy gdańskiej,  
z datą 1682.  
• 23 mm



1982 Canadian Mint Report

by  
Frank Fesco, City of Ottawa Coin Club

It has been some time since I have seen a mint report mainly because the Queen's Printer, later Information Canada, and Renouf's outlets for government publications ceased to stock it. And, as any good procrastinator knows, this inconvenience is enough to postpone indefinitely the chore of writing away for it. But now that our industrious secretary has obtained copies for our club members it seemed only right that I should read it. From that reading several thoughts arose which seemed important enough to comment upon. Thus this:

A decade ago, an inciting and exciting CNA member, Bob Aaron, made a significant contribution to numismatic literature by obtaining and reproducing a set of Royal Canadian Mint Reports from 1935 to 1972. Since I was accustomed to the refined informative tone and layout of those reports, the 1982 report was, to say the least, shocking! The report has become a glossy pictorial presentation of operations, similar to the arty financial reports of other industries. The camouflage principle - that when news is bad it should be concealed among gay colours, was well demonstrated. The contrast principle was also applied - when financial trends are downward, put on your best Sunday go-to-meeting suit to fool the neighbours. The efforts were pitiful.

From among the glitter and razzle dazzle, the following points were noted which might be of interest to collectors and numismatists, even though by now they probably are well known:

1. Two new sizes of gold Maple Leaf coins were introduced - 1/4 oz and 1/10 oz - of increased fineness, 0.9999 pure gold. 90% of the Maple Leaf production was purchased outside of Canada which offset the financial impact of a general production slump of 43%. This decision was supported by investors in 1982. Will they also save future years?
2. The shape of the one cent coin was changed from circular to twelve-sided and its weight was reduced by 11 percent, presumably to reduce material costs. There is no statement to offset the rumour of a near-miss conflict with Toronto's subway fares. Incidentally, does either the Mint's or the Bank of Canada's currency collections automatically receive examples of trial pieces? Or does the Mint follow the doctors' practice of buying mistakes?!
3. The composition of the five cent coin was changed from pure nickel to an alloy of copper and nickel. (The percentages were unstated). This is the first Canadian copper-nickel coin! 38% of the 1982 production was of the new coins. Incidentally, the new Cu-Ni coins can be distinguished because they are non-magnetic, have a distinctive chime and are not as deeply struck. They also may not be accepted as readily in coin-operated machines which include magnetic tests: (Q: Were tests made by machine vendors before this change?). No statement was made as to whether this change was by planned economic choice because of relative metal prices, or because of necessity due to the 1981 Inco strike. It also was not stated whether this alloy is planned to be continued in use, and extended to other nickel metal coins (10¢, 25¢, 50¢, \$1).

4. There is no information about what foreign coins were produced, and for whom, other than by photographic implication. In spite of the stated "competitive pricing, superior quality and timely deliveries" our production of foreign coins plummeted from 931 million pieces in 1981 to 222 million in 1982 - a reduction of 76%! This was attributed partly to the "cyclical characteristics of the market". This partial and unsatisfactory explanation is pap! Has the market turned to higher priced, inferior quality material with delayed deliveries?
5. An inane expression - NUMISMATIC COINS - occurs with painful frequency in the report. How any intelligent member of the Mint can so distort the English language and expect a reader to comprehend is beyond all reason! It is one thing to coin money but to coin phrases such as - "of coins and medals coins" or "coins of coins and medals" - is stepping outside the bounds of knowledge and expertise. Even the briefest reference to a good dictionary, encyclopedia, or numismatist would have avoided this display of ignorance and gobbledygook. If the expression is intended to refer to Non-Circulating Legal Tender, then the \$57 million revenues accrued must justify this bane to most serious collectors, this butt of the numismatic fraternity, this trap for the novice investor and this artistic gift of expected gain ("soap").
6. High relief designs of large medals and medallions, up to 10 mm (approx 4 inches) in diameter can now be struck by the Mint because of the recent purchase of a new 1,200 ton hydraulic metal press. Could we be heading for large \$5, \$10 & \$20 Trade Dollars?! Could this kill Frankie Laine's wild goose?
7. Over a third of the 25 cent 1982 production was issued to Ottawa; greater than the combined totals of Toronto and Montreal. Could it be that parking meters and OC Transpo bus fares are responsible?

A pathetic situation is disclosed in one of the notes supporting the financial statement. The Mint's management and legal adviser are on record as being of the opinion that a claim against the Mint for an alleged infringement of copyright is neither properly founded nor supported, and will not result in a loss to the Mint. Is such a statement, before official verdict, either legal, moral, ethical or necessary, in support of a decision not to establish a contingency fund? How do Lilliputian victims cope with giant intruders? For that matter how would the Mint stand legally regarding the use of the Canadian Coat-of-Arms for cufflinks (more soap!) a few years ago?

In conclusion, the Mint Report is judged to be a beautifully expensive piece of inadequacy which may win graphic arts awards, brownie points for its producers but only a leather medal, third class, from readers who search for information. Hopefully next year the 12-or-so feet of photographs might be replaced by more lasting information. It is rather sad, when the fine job and product the Mint is producing, are considered.

FESCO  
1983 10 01.

## Association News:

ATTENTION ALL NUMISMATIC AUCTIONEER'S

### Tenders for Coin Auction

The Ontario Numismatic Association are accepting tenders for a one (1) session Coin Auction on Saturday, April 28th, 1984. This Auction to take place in the City of Sarnia at the Guildwood (Best Western) Inn, at the O.N.A. 22 Convention.

All tenders will be held in strict confidence and all who submitted a bid will be notified if their bid was accepted.

Those submitting a bid should explain the number of lots to be auctioned and the commission they are willing to pay for the auction.

Deadline for receiving tenders - January 31, 1984.

Return letters to be marked:

Tenders - O.N.A. Auction

c/o Thomas Masters

823 Van Street, London, Ontario

N5Z 1M8



## MEMBERSHIP

All members should, by now, have received their 1984 dues notice and it would be appreciated if you would please return these notices with your applicable dues as quickly as possible. If you have not received this notice or lost it please feel free to send your cheque along without the notice. Dues rates are as follows:

### Notice of Motion

At the Ontario Numismatic Association General Membership Meeting in Peterborough on Saturday, April 9th, 1983, it was moved and approved that the Regular Membership for 1 year be increased to \$10.00 and that a Husband and Wife Membership be increased to \$12.00, effective January 1st, 1984.

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### Notice of Motion

At an Ontario Numismatic Association Executive Meeting in Waterloo, on Sunday, December 4th, 1983, it was moved and approved that a Life Membership be increased from \$50.00 to \$75.00, effective January 1st, 1984.

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### New Member

The following application has been received in November 1983 to the Ontario Numismatic Association. If no written objections are received, acceptance of membership will appear in February issue of the Ontario Numismatist.

1233 Mark Anthony, 51 Hesson St., Stratford, Ontario, N5A 6E9

Bruce H. Raszmann  
Membership Chairman

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## **CORRECTION**

In the July-August, 1983 issue of The Ontario Numismatist that an article was published under Terry Roit byline named "Bird Watchers Guidebook". I have been informed that this article was written and published by G. J. Dickie of Vancouver, B.C., in 1966.

I regret any inconvenience this may have caused as I received the article in good faith.

Bruce R. Watt  
Editor

Ontario Numismatic Association  
 1984 Coin Show — Convention Draw  
 Host Club: Sarnia Coin Club

Something New for You

THE 1984 CONVENTION DRAW LOOKS LIKE A REAL  
 WINNER.

**“DREAM VACATION”**

A \$1,000.00 Value on a Vacation of your choice.

Second prize will also be worthwhile as a Canadian  
 \$100.00 GOLD COIN will be awarded.

Five Consolation prizes will round out the prizes.

The O.N.A. Draw over the years has provided the funds to allow the various programmes to exist. Library, Audio Video, Educational Seminars and a Youth Scholarship. By your support in the selling of these draw tickets, you will enable us to continue our programmes.

Not only do these tickets provide the means for the ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION to carry out their programmes but, as an example, last year \$816.00 was paid out in Club Rebates. This support of Member Clubs is truly significant and has been a major factor in our draw scheme for several years. The rebates to Clubs has amounted to literally thousands of dollars and spread out to over 30 Clubs.

We truly need your support in the sale of the "Dream Vacation Tickets." Will you help??

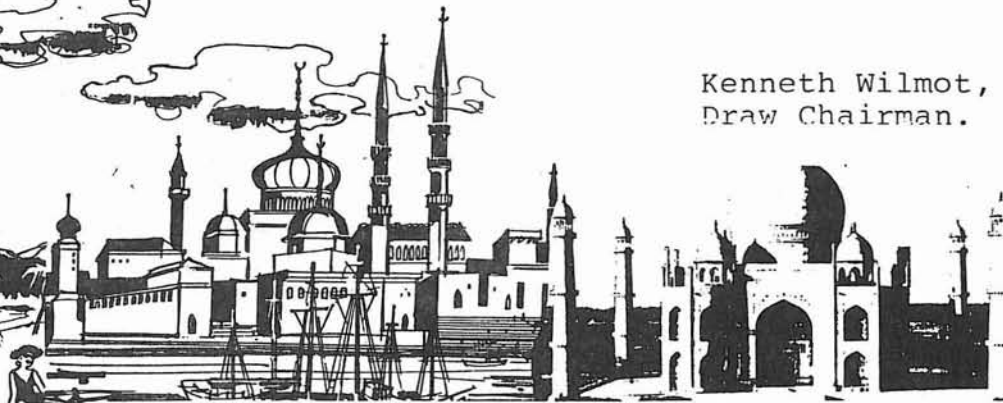
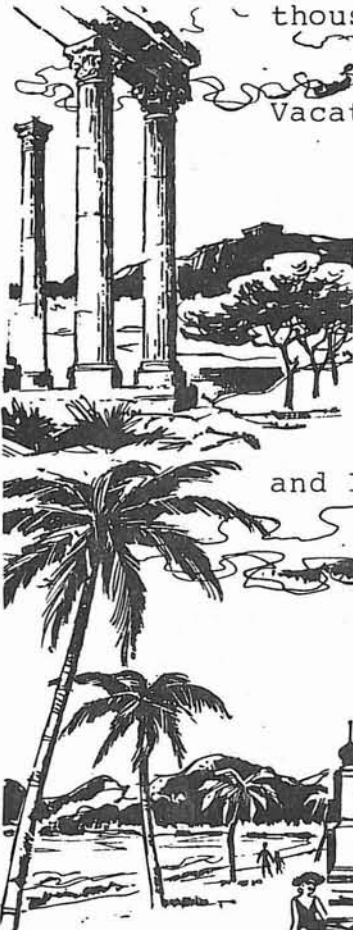
Ticket Stubs should be returned to

Kenneth Wilmot,  
 Box 76,  
 Sebringville, Ontario.  
 N0K 1X0

along with \$10.00.

If you can use two or three more books, let me know and I will forward them out by return mail.

Kenneth Wilmot,  
 Draw Chairman.



News & Comments

by

Frank Fesco  
City of Ottawa Coin Club

1. Some time ago I mentioned the proliferation of coin types, and the trend towards new coin designs each year. San Marino is a notable example, which can be seen from the following table:

<u>Time Span</u>	<u>No. of Years</u>	<u>No. of Coin Designs</u>
1862-1971	110	12
1872-1983	12	114

The design of each denomination (of which there now are ten) changes every year, and has done so far over a decade! I guess it is their way of supporting the arts, as well as their finances. This is reminiscent of my childhood reactions to the stamps of Liechtenstein.

2. Recently, ANA representatives visited China. Then the Chinese visited the ANA. The signs are ominous that China will adopt the US numismatic approach. It is hoped that Bian Yao Hui, Director of the Shanghai Mint, China Mint Co. and Cai Mingxin, Deputy Director will maintain some of the wisdom for which the Orient was once noted.
3. While browsing through the Coin World advertisements I noticed that one dealer was buying Canadian silver nickels. He warned that overgraded material would be returned at the sender's expense. Which sender? If he meant the original sender, how would he collect?...perhaps by holding the material for ransom!? Naturally I will not mention his name.
4. The October 1983 issue of the Canadian Banker has a short article on "The banknote that never was" by the printer who was personally involved in its production! It relates to the overprinting of a Japanese 1000 yen note as a \$1 Hong Kong note, during World War II. The end of the war and the arrival of British notes causes all the overprinted notes to be incinerated rather than issued. A few survived from a case of notes that was broached in transit from Kowloon to the Hong Kong bank.
5. It has happened so often now that I am beginning to wonder whether the fact that China is on the opposite side of the world, that everything Chinese is upside down. I know it is on the opposite side because I was told, long ago, that if you dug deeply enough you would arrive there. I must admit that at the time I was more concerned about how I could avoid falling out of the bottom of the hole than the fact the China would be upside down.

The latest evidence of this emerging theory are the inverted pictures accompanying Paul Nadin-Davis' account of his trip to the Orient, in the 4-18 Oct. 83 issue of Canadian Coin News. They illustrate a 50-cash coin mould of the Wang Mang Interregnum of the Han dynasty, a 50-tael square silver ingot of the Ch'ing dynasty during the Tao Kuang regnal period, and a Cieng Mai piece from early Thailand with the male member engaged. Only the first two are inverted - the last is omni-positional.

6. Graham Neale, in the same edition, writes about Indian Chief Medals, and refers specifically to a 3-inch Chief Medal and Military General Service Medal, with Chrysler's Farm clasp, awarded to "CAPTAIN JIM SHAGAUNNAHQODWABY, WARRIOR".

Aside from the fact that there were only 30 Indians present at the battle, where a British force of only 800 defeated an overwhelming army of 4000 Americans, and that only 10 Indians ever received the MGSM, other points intrigued me.

First, the rank of Captain. This was a great honour in itself, obviously a field commission granted for demonstrated ability to command and execute successful action in the face of an enemy with superior numbers.

(In Korea the Canadians started with an estimated 12:1, which reduced to a 5:1 ratio against, but had control of the air, and far greater and better artillery support). The awarding of officer rank to a native, is no doubt also rare in British military history.

Second, his name. No doubt this caused untold administrative problems to fit 18 letters on typical army forms - and also on the edge of the medal. He was probably called "Cap'n Jim". It would be interesting to know the literal translation of his name.

Third, and most significant was the affix - "warrior". There are few who merit this title. It has evolved to imply an experienced and distinguished soldier or fighting man, which no doubt Cap'n Jim was. Today there appear to be too few warriors to combat the rebels terrorists and disturbers of social order and progress. However, there is one recent Canadian, who may be classed as a warrior for his fight against apathy, despondency and disease - Terry Fox.

Yes, Graham Neale is extolling the value of fine hobby - medal collecting. By association with objects related to the finer qualities and valorous deeds of man, the collector cannot fail to have his soul stirred. Numismatics would benefit from more of this.

7. I just noticed another Chinese scripophilic item in the October 1983 issue of Bond & Banknote News. This time it is the duplicate of a 5% reorganization gold loan 1913 bond to raise £25,000,000 sterling. No doubt it was necessary to stabilize China's situation following the overthrow of the Empire, the start of the Republic, and the North-South differences between Yuan Shih Kai and Sun Yat Sen.



The Bond is in four languages - English, German, French and Russian and gives the denominations relationship at the time: Pounds - 20, Marks - 409, Francs - 505, Roubles 189.40.

Unfortunately, the print in the illustration was too small to determine the collateral supporting it, but the main Chinese Chop was quite impressive and is shown above.

8. Is anyone interested in acquiring a large foreign coin collection of over fourteen thousand pieces, from 430 BC to the present time, with a catalogue value of \$300,120? Information about this fine collection of the late Dr. Gerard Verniers can be obtained from Mr. Walter Verniers, Oostveldkouter, 40; B-9920 Lovendegem, Belgium.
9. One solution to the 5 X 5 grid puzzle (other symmetrical solutions exist):
- |    |    |    |    |    |                                                          |
|----|----|----|----|----|----------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | 5  | 10 | 25 | 50 |                                                          |
| 10 | 25 | 50 | 1  | 5  | All columns, rows and major<br>diagonals total 91 cents. |
| 50 | 1  | 5  | 10 | 25 |                                                          |
| 5  | 10 | 25 | 50 | 1  |                                                          |
| 25 | 50 | 1  | 5  | 10 |                                                          |
|    |    |    |    |    |                                                          |
10. New puzzle: Now that you know how to arrange five coins, try the same thing with four coins. That is, given a 4 X 4 grid and four each of 1¢, 5¢, 10¢, 25¢ coins; place one coin on each square of the grid so that each row, column and main diagonal will total 41 cents.

11. The Thursday, November 3, 1983 edition of The Citizen newspaper of Ottawa printed a Moscow (Reuter) report of the discovery by two Russian boys from Gorky of 72 gold and silver coins dated 1811. These, plus some silver jewellery had been baked into a building brick. They came tumbling out when the brick was broken. The news item states that under Soviet law a finder is entitled to a reward worth 25% of the value of his trove. The rest goes to the state.

K.M does not indicate that any Russian gold coins had been struck in 1811, but that silver roubles of Tsar Alexander I were.

The former name of Gorky was Nijni-Novgorod, and is located at the junction of the Volga and Oka rivers. It was a prosperous trading centre between Turkestan and Moscow. It seems logical that the people of this city would be concerned for their wealth as Napoleon approached Moscow in his 1812 campaign. As it turned out they were safe - but never did retrieve this particular hoard.

12. "Anyone who collects coins learns a great deal in an entertaining manner: the history of various epochs and countries, facts about economic crises and periods of inflation (which there have always been), fashions, customs, the influence of religion on the life of a people, and so on".

This an extract from an article entitled: "Once a royal pastime, now a popular hobby" by Dr. G. Giacosa, Head of the Numismatics Department of the Credit Suisse Monetarium of Zurich in the August 1983 English edition of their banking bulletin.

Credit Suisse also has a Berne branch. These Monetararia are at the service of coin collectors for valuations and counselling, as well as purchases and sales. They also organize coin auctions. Their contact address is: Dept. Pvz, P.O. Box 8021, Zurich.

13. Spink Coin Auctions demonstrate their international flavor by their cross-referenced grading and rarity tables, e.g:

<u>Grades of Preservation (English)</u>	<u>Degrés de Conservation (French)</u>	<u>Erhaltungs- angaben (German)</u>	<u>Gradi di conservazione (Italian)</u>
Proof	Flan bruni	Polierte Platte	Fondo specchio
Uncirculated	Flew de coin	Stempelglanz	Fior di conio
Extremely fine	Superbe	Vorzüglich	Splendido
Very fine	Très beau	Sehr schön	Bellissimo
Fine	Beau	Schön	Molto bello
Very good	Très bien	Sehr gut	Bello
	conservé	erhalten	
Rare	Rare	Selten	Raro
Very rare	Très rare	Sehr selten	Molto raro
Extremely rare	Extrêmement rare	Von grösster seltenheit	Di extrema rarita

14. "The question of what shall we do to get rid of the circulation of Canadian Currency is one which is now vexing the minds of our business men", is the opening sentence in an editorial by the editor of the Pembina Pioneer, reprinted in the Daily Alert - both North Dakotan newspapers - in 1881. It is quoted in an article by Forrest W. Daniel in the Sept/Oct 1983 issue of Paper Money, the bimonthly publication of the Society of Paper Money Collectors.

The story of the Red River Valley's activities and influence, the opening of, and ultimate collapse of the First National Bank of Pembina, make interesting reading.

China had the same problem for many years of the 19th century with the "Dollar Mex" - the ubiquitous "Pieces of Eight" which became a major currency throughout the country. Many of these pieces survive today, distinguished by the affirming "chopmarks" of the native money changers. A series of dragon dollars helped to displace some, but it was not until the prolific issuing of Sun Yat Sen and Yuan Shih Kai "Yüan" (dollars) that Chinese coins ultimately prevailed.

15. The 1983 Gold and Silver coins price list of the Swiss Bank Corporation raised questions in my mind. Was there any historical reason linking a Swiss canton with Chinese Canton? particularly when the Chinese name was Kuangchou (Wade-Giles). Could an early mariner in the Swiss navy have been involved in its christening? I don't recall having read so. Now, had it been Cantuan, there could be a Pidgin English linkage with "Can do, sir", from which violent reaction may occur - so enough of this typically inane journalistic conjecture.

16. Editorials usually make good reading, and those of the perceptive editor of the CNA are no exception. I do not propose to enter the Nov. 83 CNA Journal discussion on naming of silver alloys nor regretting never-to-be-regained youth. However, I had a twinge of envy when he mentioned "that delightful sound of silver coins in circulation". Not only do I also miss it because they no longer are in circulation, but I cannot even enjoy the ring of those pieces that I salvaged from the Ag-boom. I guess I stayed too long in association with the Artillery in Korea (2 RCHA fired 297,000 rounds in twelve months of action, with 24 guns!).

There was a time when I could distinguish between the rings of the 80% and 50% silver coins of 1968 - but no longer. As a matter of interest, when the "mining of the banks" was getting underway a few years ago, a machine was being designed to sort 50 Ag, 80 Ag & Ni coins automatically. One of the methods proposed was by metallurgical X-Ray. I suggested to one of the miners that accoustical resonant frequencies also be considered, which he noted with interest. I never did hear whether the plans materialized so I do not know whether I abetted this unsavoury but apparently profitable venture.

Postscript: There are some benefits from not hearing what you do not want to hear!

17. Have you heard of Ballingall of Ottumwa? I just could not resist that question! No, it is not a play on words. According to an article in the TAMS (Token and Medal Society) August 1983 Journal, Mr. Peter G. Ballingall of Ottumwa, Iowa (formerly of Montreal, Port Hope, and Brighton) issued some unlisted merchant's tokens in 1890, featuring a Coal Palace (Similar in design to the former Ice Palaces of Montreal).

This is one of several informative articles which TAMS' excellent journal presents (It is up to Vol. 23 so far). There is even an illustration and paragraph on the 1983 Coin Week Canada Wooden \$2 arranged by Scoop Lewry.

18. I have an ally. Mr. David G. Briggs wrote a letter to the editor of the ANA Numismatist in the October 1983 which included the following:

"It is always jarring to find coin illustrations printed topsy-turvy... Knowing which side is up, numismatically speaking, is an often difficult but learnable art". Hear! Hear!

FESCO  
1983 11 17

Small print notice. It has been suggested that I state that the views which are expressed in these comments are my own, and do not reflect the opinions of the City of Ottawa Coin Club or its other members. I hereby do so. If anyone takes exception, or is in accord with my views, please feel free to write a letter to the editor at the Club's P.O. Box. I am not attempting to stir up journalistic controversy - I am merely encouraging free expression of ideas and opinions. The items are intended as a commentary on the news. It is hoped that the news informs more than the comments offend.

Frank Fesco



TORONTO  
INTERNATIONAL  
COIN FAIR

*Toronto's prestigious coin show.*  
DEALERS TO BE PAMPERED AT SPRING TICF

If one had to pick one show in North America preferred by Dealers for the quality and service provided, the TORONTO INTERNATIONAL COIN FAIR would certainly rate at or near the very top!

So say a number of Dealers interviewed following last year's Spring and Fall shows. "Its success will not be tampered with", vows George Fraser, Bourse Chairman.

In addition to a well-lit bourse room, high publicity and a well layed-out show, Dealers will receive the following perks at the Spring 1984 Show scheduled for March 23 to 25, 1984 at the Lakeshore Inn, 2000 Lakeshore Blvd. West, Toronto, Ontario:

- the loan of like-new All-State metal display cases no charge.
- the use of swivel lamps with clamps no charge. These are top-of-the-line Luxo lamps preferred by Dealers.
- the loan of extension cords.
- free light bulbs, even for a Dealer's own lamps.
- a lined plastic garbage container which is emptied each day -- no more leaky soft drink cans in a paper bag!
- glass cleaned on all Dealer's display cases during the three days.
- complimentary breakfast for all Dealers registered at the Hotel. This includes a full breakfast of bacon & eggs, sausages, juice, toast, coffee and tea.
- complimentary coffee served Friday morning in the bourse room.
- pre-show set-up time and professional bourse from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Thursday and from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Friday.
- a Dealer reception featuring hot canapes and a full open bar.
- a telephone message service where messages are brought to the Dealer's table.
- access to a telephone for personal or credit card approval calls.

- 24-hour security provided by well-trained, full-time professionals, starting at 6:00 p.m. Thursday and running right through to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday.
- good surveillance by both plain-clothed and uniformed members of the Metropolitan Toronto Police Department.
- a convenient snack-bar within the confines of the Show area, as well as a coffee shop and dining room in the Convention hotel along with room service.
- a full-feature Show -- bourse, auctions, competitive exhibits with large cash prizes, half-hourly door draws for valuable prizes, admission souvenirs, educational programs, meetings of hobby organizations, fun and fellowship, and lots more sure to attract the collector.

Application for bourse space for the Spring 1984 TORONTO INTERNATIONAL COIN FAIR can be made through George Fraser at P.O. Box 973, Station "B", Willowdale, Ontario M2K 2T6.

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## ***NEWS FROM AROUND THE CLUBS***

TORONTO COIN CLUB C79

Nominations for officers were accepted and closed during the November meeting of the Toronto Coin Club, reports the nominating committee.

Dr. George Gale is the nominee for president, while Al Bliman is the candidate for first vice president and Robert Aaron is the nominee for second vice president. B.B. Chinn is running for secretary and Ron Postill is the candidate for treasurer.

Candidates for the board of directors are George Dunn, Ron Zelk, Jack McArthur.

Featured speaker during the November meeting was George Fraser, who discussed the serial numbers and prefix letters used on Canadian bank notes. Fraser noted that the secrecy of private Canadian bank note firms forces collectors and syngraphists to deduce or speculate the significance of certain features.

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## CITY of OTTAWA COIN CLUB C19

The 186th Meeting of the City of Ottawa Coin Club was held on Monday, November 28, 1983 at the National Archives Building on Wellington Street, with 14 members and 2 guest present. Bad weather was the blame for the low attendance.

The door prize was won by Tom McFerran and the 50-50 draw was won by Johnny Johnston.

The nomination committee submitted the following names as candidates for election to the Executive for the year 1984: President..... Sue Nadin-Davis, 1st Vice-President..... Stanley Schiff, 2nd Vice-President..... Al Davies, Treasurer..... Ron Cheek. The president then called for nominations from the floor. As there were no further nominations the slate of officers as submitted was declared elected by acclamation. In view of the absence of the nomination of a member to fill the position of secretary Frank Fesco volunteered to fill the position on a temporary basis. Ed Burt agreed to continue to look after the attendance register and to welcome members and visitors to the meetings and Tom McFerran agreed to continue to look after refreshments.

Paul Nadin-Davis gave a very interesting talk on Ancient Coins. This was followed by an auction of nearly 100 lots of Numismatic Books, Catalogues, Pamphlets, etc. Paul Nadin-Davis donated 31 of these lots. The club received \$48.50 for that donation.

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## CHAMPLAIN COIN CLUB C21

The December meeting was the Christmas meeting and it was a very good programme. The best Christmas meeting yet, according club editors. Santa Clause handed out presents next a pretty Christmas Tree.

The 50-50 draw was won by Gordon Pim who received \$11.50. Lloyd Carney, Harry Booth, Gordon Horne and Henry Goss won the extra Christmas Prizes.

The meeting was held in the St. Davids Anglican Church, James Street, Orillia.

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## ST. CATHARINES COIN CLUB C13

Santa Claus welcome 53 members and guests to the 244th meeting of the St. Catharines Coin Club on December 18, 1983.

Past President L. Shepard who was Nominating Chairman presented his report. The 1984 Executive is as follows: President Jan Nielsen, Past President Gary Oblinsky, Vice President W. Panko, Secretary R.N. Voaden, Treasurer Fred Barley, Reception Carl Szick, Membership H. Hill, Historian G. Waite, Librarian G. Oblinsky, Directors W. Nielsen, R. Pizzacalla, Ian Morris, Tim Orlik. Past President R.N. Voaden inducted the 1984 Executive.

President Oblinsky called on the new President and presented him with the gavel. The first function of the new President was to present outgoing President Gary Oblinsky with a lucite pen holder with the 1983 coins in the pen holder.

Draw winners were (chicken) Bill Gray, (duck) Glen Waite and (turkey) Bill Panko.

Lloyd Dorsey conducted the auction assisted by Hilda and Lawrence Shepard.

The 1984 Coin Show and Banquet is to be held September 15th, 1984 at the U.A.W. Hall 124 Bunting Road, St. Catharines.

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#### BRANTFORD NUMISMATIC SOCIETY C15

The December Meeting was the annual Christmas Party, held December 11th, 1983, 8:00 P.M., Woodman Community Centre, Brantford. It was a fun night, enjoyed by all. It was announced that the 1984 membership will be \$5.00.

The President wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Joyfull New Year.

The December News Letter was supplied with the courtesy of John Barchino.

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#### OSHAWA & DISTRICT COIN CLUB C37

The December Meeting of the Oshawa & District Coin Club was a very enjoyable Christmas Party. Helen and Alex Majers donated the lunch. Many thanks to Alex and Helen was announced by Wayne Goring the out going President. The Club supplied a large party cake and refreshments.

The Nomination Committee Chairman Robert Porter assisted by Al Kasman, Ray Pleau and Bobby Larmer made their Nomination report. The following names were nomonated and was put in the following offices by acclamation:

President... Bruce R. watt, Vice President... Ray Pleau, Past President... Wayne Goring, Secretary... Nina G. Watt, Treasurer... Terry Campell, Editor... Ed. Keetch, Librarian... Alex Majers, Directors... Al. Kasman, Bobby Larmer, Helen Majers, Harvey Farrow, Murry Baigent, Ken Harrison, Robert Porter, Auctioneer... Henry Burke. For information about meeting contact Box 212, Oshawa, Ontario, L1H 7L1.

MIDDLE ATLANTIC NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION 33rd CONVENTION REPORT  
by TOM KOSZTALUK

The 33rd Annual Middle Atlantic Numismatic Association Convention was held at the Sheraton Hotel and Exhibition Center in New Carrollton, Maryland, October 21-23, 1983. New Carrollton is about ten miles from Washington, D.C.

This was my first visit to Maryland State and Washington.

I went to this convention with my good friend, Paul Johnson from Toronto. It took us eleven and half hours to drive by car. We stopped at Williamsport, Pennsylvania for the first night. This is where the Little World Series is played each year. We got New Carrollton early Friday morning. The hotel had to send Paul and I plus fifteen other registered guest to another Sheraton, as they had over booked the hotel, they picked up the tab for the night.

The Convention had over 135 Dealers from all across the United States. Admission to the Bourse Floor was by registration, they issued a round wooden \$1.00 to all that registered.

What I liked best about the Convention was on Friday night, was the educational forum. The speakers were: Dr. G. Hunter of the U.S. Mint. He spoke on the first U.S. Gold Coins in 50 years. Ken E. Bressett of the Numismatics Kagin's , Numismatic Investment Corp. The were 75 collectors attending the forum. There was a special issue edition of a flat of wood issued for this occasion.

Paul and I spent Saturday touring the U.S. Capital Buildings in Washington, D.C. On Sunday they had the Awards Breakfast every exhibitor attended at no cost to him or her. The Breakfast was hosted by Stephen R. Taylor of Dover, Delaware.

There were over 65 cases on display. 1st, was a 5 cases of War Medals, 2nd, 4 cases display of The Royal Crowns, 3rd, 3 cases display of Ireland Crowns. The Best of Show was won by Paul Johnson, a 4 cases display of Silver Coins of Queen Elizabeth 11 1953-1968. I received a Appreciation Award.

This was a very good Convention to attend, and we have a long way to go in our displays to complete in the large U.S. Conventions.

**Keep that CLUB NEWS coming in, folks!!!**

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# SHOW AND BOURSE

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FEBRUARY 11th, 1984

BARRIE, ONTARIO.....HURONIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

COIN, STAMP & ANTIQUE SHOW

Bayfield Mall, Bayfield St; N;

Barrie, Ontario.

Diaplays are welcome (cash prizes)

Info.. P.O. Box 243, Barrie, Ont.,

L4M 4T2

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MARCH 17th, 1984

WILLOWDALE, ONTARIO..... NORTH YORK COIN CLUB'S

ANNUAL COIN SHOW & EXHIBITION

North York Community Hall,

5090 Yonge St., Willowdale, Ont.

Info.. Harvey Farrow, President

P.O. Box 294, Station 'A',

Willowdale, Ontario, M2N 5S9

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MARCH 23-25, 1984

TORONTO, ONTARIO..... TORONTO INTERNATIONAL COIN FAIR  
SPRING SHOW

Lakeshore Inn, 2000 Lakeshore, W.,  
Toronto, Ontario.

Inf.. P.O. Box 973, Stn "B",  
Willowdale, Ontario, M2K 2T6.

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APRIL 28 - 29th, 1984

SARNIA, ONTARIO..... ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION'S

TWENTIETH - SECOND ANNIVERSARY

CONVENTION

Guildwood Inn (Best Western)

Sarnia, Ontario.

Info.. T. Masters O.N.A. Convention

Chairman

823 Van St., London, Ontario,

N5Z 1M8.

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MAY 25 - 27th, 1984

TORONTO, ONTARIO..... SPRING TOREX 84

Harbourfront Centre, 222 Queens Quay, W.  
Toronto, Ontario.

Info.. Al Bliman, P.O. Box 3145, Stn D  
Willoedale, Ont., M2R 3G5

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SEPTEMBER 15th, 1984

ST. CATHARINES, ONTARIO.....ST. CATHARINES COIN CLUB'S

Annual 1984 Coin Show & Banquet  
U.A.W. Hall, 124 Bunting Road,  
St. Catharines, Ontario.

Inf.. P.O. Box 1492,  
St. Catharines, Ontario,  
L2R 7J9

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NOVEMBER 9-11, 1984

TORONTO, ONTARIO..... TORONTO INTERNATIONAL COIN FAIR  
FALL SHOW

Lakeshore Inn, 2000 Lakeshore, W.,  
Toronto, Ontario,

Inf.. P.O. Box 973, Stn. "B"  
Willowdale, Ontario, M2K 2T6

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# Robbers pistol-whip coin dealer

An elderly coin dealer says he'll "never open the door to anyone again" after he was pistol-whipped and robbed by a man he mistook for a pushy postman.

"He was dressed like a mailman, with a jacket, cap and mailbag," Lloyd Carney, 63, ONA Life Member, said Saturday January 7th, 1984 from his Kinghorn Ave. home.

"But when I opened the door, he pushed his way in and hit me with a revolver. I thought for sure he was going to kill us."

Lloyd and his wife, Maisie, 66, who's recovering from a lung operation, were still in shock Saturday after the Friday morning attack.

Lloyd said after the man pushed his way in, "I tried to push him out."

The man pulled a gun and hit Lloyd across the face, sending him reeling into the kitchen.

The couple's hands were bound with electrical cord and they were forced into the bedroom where their feet were bound together with tape and their heads covered.

Police said the gunman and another man search the house and found several suitcases containing rare coins.

But as the robbers waited on the street for a getaway car, Maisie freed herself and activated a security alarm.

Police from Toronto 12 Division forced a car containing four men to stop a few blocks away. They recovered the coins and a loaded 9-mm automatic handgun.

Lloyd was taken to Northwestern Hospital and treated for cuts to the face and hands. Maisie, released from hospital a week ago, did not require treatment.

Charge with robbery and use of a firearm during the commission of an indictable offence are Thomas Reginald Ramier, 26, of Broadview Ave., East York; Kenneth Gordon Goobie, 35, of Stephenson Ave., Toronto; Paul Thomas Rogers, 28, of Calvington Dr., North York; and Greg Winston Seymour, 36 of Goodwood Park Cres., East York.

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For Sale

COINS of GREAT BRITAIN... Hammered Coins from 1066-1662.  
Milled Coins from 1662-1982. Also Scottish Coins from  
1124-1707 and seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth  
century English Merchant Tokens. I have a wide variety  
of types with prices ranging from \$1 - \$1000.  
Want lists are gladly serviced. I am also interested in  
purchasing nice British Coins, preferably pre-1911 in VF  
or better. For free price lists, Please write:

ROSS D. KING  
Box 571, Chesley  
Ontario, NOG 1L0.

MEMBER of ONA, CNA, ANA.

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