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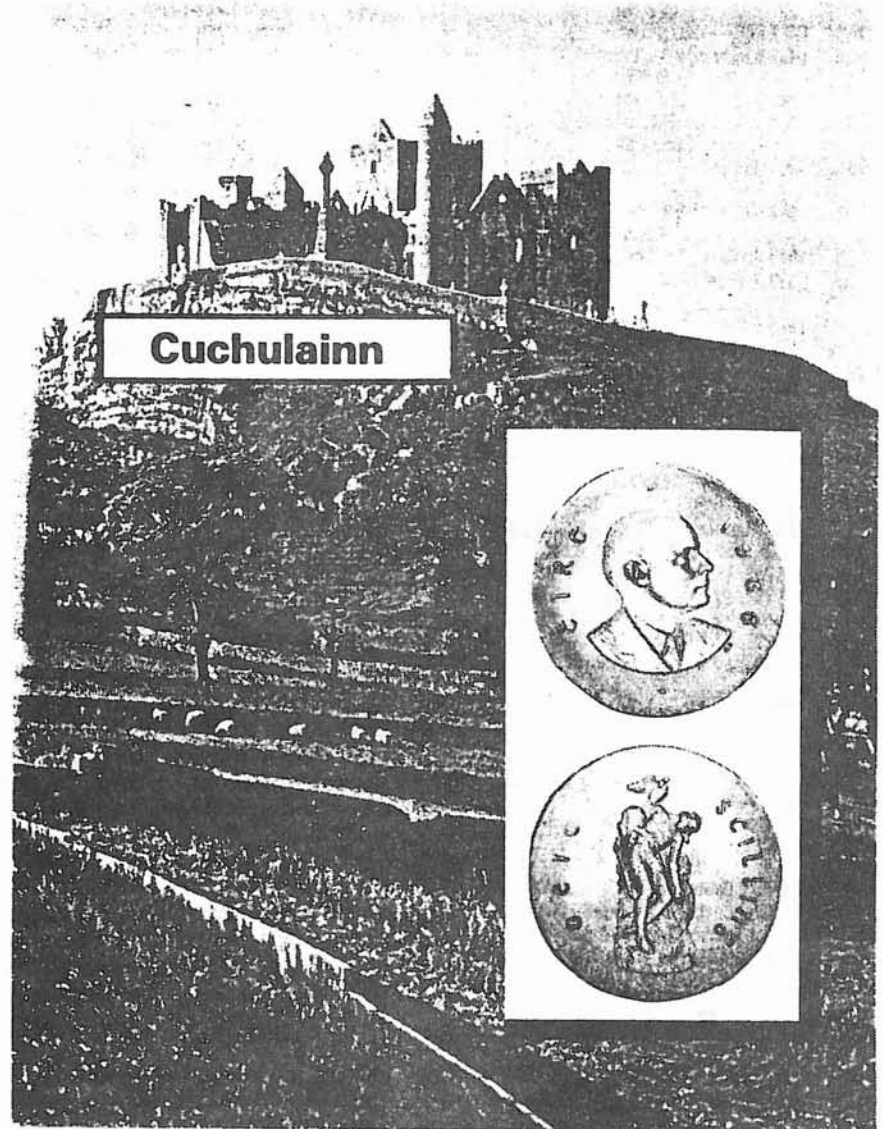
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Cuchulainn

(pronounced Coo-hoo-lin)



Ireland's first, mightiest hero

By John Semeniuk

Through novels, movies, magazines, and even comic books, such ancient Greek, Roman and Scandinavian heroes/gods as Zeus, Neptune, Hercules, Thor, Achilles, and Odin have been characterized and caricatured, and are familiar enough to most people. Less well known, though equally colorful, are such mythological personages as Ler, Manannan, Goibniu, Morrighu, Bodb, Lugh, and Ogma, heroes and gods from the wondrous, magical Gaelic/Irish world of Celtic mythology and lore. It is an enchanted world of marvelous adventures, valiant heroes, beautiful maidens, monstrous prodigies, magical cauldrons, mysterious castles — in short, a world where a modern fictional character such as Conan the Barbarian would feel perfectly at home.

Of the various mythological Gaelic heroes, few were the equal of Cuchulainn (anglicized pronunciation: "Cuhoolin"). He has been compared to Achilles and to Hercules, and an apt, pithy description of this ancient, legendary Irish hero might be the enigmatic reference in Genesis 6:4 to "mighty men which were of old, men of renown."

The reverse side of Ireland's 1966 10-

shilling commemorative coin (Y-17) carries a likeness, taken from a statue, of Cuchulainn at his moment of death, a crow perched upon his shoulder. How the mighty hero of Irish lore came to this pitiable end is the story this story will tell.

The coin was issued to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Easter Rising of 1916, an unsuccessful uprising against British rule which nonetheless helped pave the way towards eventual Irish independence. The coin bears an appropriate edge inscription which reads, in Gaelic: "Eiri Amac Na Casca 1916" (The Easter Rising 1916).

The front side of the .833-fine silver coin (which was issued in proof and uncirculated versions) bears a right-facing bust of Irish hero Padraig (Patrick) H. Pearse, the country's Gaelic name ("Eire"), and the date. The reverse shows the statue of Cuchulainn. According to *Coins and Tokens of Ireland*, the original statue, the work of Oliver Sheppard, stands in the Dublin Post Office. Also on the reverse side is the denomination in Gaelic.

The coin proved unpopular with the public, and more than half of the coins were recalled and melted down.

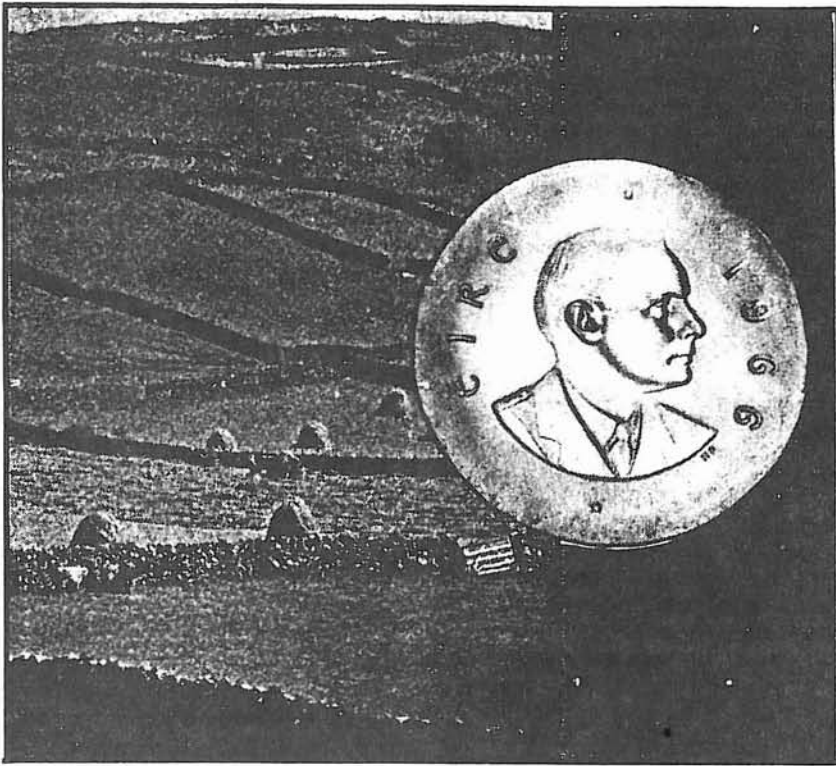
The story of Cuchulainn belongs to the second cycle of Gaelic mythology, that revolving around the heroes of

Ulster.

The historical Ireland of these tales was a pastoral society stratified into a number of classes: a warrior aristocracy, the "learned" class (which consisted of druids, bards, jurists, and skilled craftsmen), the various freemen who comprised the bulk of society, and a slave underclass.

This social division was reflected in the tales, which inevitably revolved around the various heroic exploits of the warrior class. Feasting, boasting and combat — for personal glory perhaps even more than for territorial conquest — were important elements in the lives of these warrior aristocrats. Severed heads, which constitute a common motif/theme of Celtic art and literature, were the gruesome trophies of their warfare. With grim, pointed levity, these severed heads were euphemistically known as "Macha's acorn crop," after Macha, a Gaelic goddess of battle.

The tales of the Ulster cycle are set in a prehistoric (pre-literate) period called the "Coiced" (Fifth Part), when Ireland was divided into four, possibly five, chief kingdoms. The people were collectively known as Erainn. Though the contemporary names of the political divisions are lost in history, they corre-



For a coin that featured one of Ireland's most revered modern heroes (Padraig Pearse, left) and one of its oldest, the 10-shilling commemorative was remarkably unpopular.

sponded to the areas of Ulster in the north, Connaught in the west, Munster in the south, and Leinster in the east. A separate Kingdom (Meath), with the capital at Tara, may have existed in the middle.

St. Patrick introduced writing to Ireland in the fifth century, but by the time of the earliest written historical records, the Coiced belonged to an era already long extinct.

Until they were set down in writing, the old myths and tales were passed on from generation to generation by word of mouth. The oral tradition was especially highly developed in ancient Ireland, and the various tales comprised a corpus of "living memories" of the past, embellished and overlaid with supernatural elements.

The bards and poets charged with the important task of transmitting these stories in pre-literate Ireland were known as "filid." Their influence as conveyors of tradition lasted until at least the seventh century, when the tales started to be written down.

Like a number of other heroes of ancient Indo-European lore and mythology, Cuchulainn had the distinction of being descended from the gods, semi-divine.

More than mere mortal, yet not quite a god himself, Cuchulainn was the grandson, on his mother's side, of the Dagda, a sort of father-figure type of deity and the nearest to a universal god that the ancient Irish had.

Cuchulainn's father was Lugh of the Long Hand, the Gaelic sun god and

master of all arts. Appropriately enough, many of Cuchulainn's attributes appear to have a solar symbolism.

Just as King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table gathered around Camelot, Cuchulainn and his fellow heroes of the Ulster cycle of Gaelic tales were centered around Emain Macha (now Navan Fort), located about two miles from the present city of Armagh in County Ulster. Lording over the heroes at the seat of power was King Conchobar MacNessa of the House of the Red Branch.

Conchobar gathered around him a galaxy of luminaries the likes of which Ireland had never seen before or since. Proudly these Ultonian heroes called themselves "Champions of the Red Branch." Each man was a formidable hero in his own right, but all paled in significance before the awesome, august splendor and magnificence of Cuchulainn.

The boy's preternatural qualities manifested themselves early. Originally named Setanta, he acquired his heroic name of Cuchulainn ("Culann's hound") after he slew with his bare hands the fiercest hound in all Ulster.

This beast belonged to Culann, Ulster's chief smith, and to placate the man's anger and grief at the loss of his faithful, favorite dog, the young hero vowed to train another hound, equally as good, for the smith. Until that day, the boy pledged to guard the smith's home as though he were a dog himself — hence, Culann's hound.

Not content with mere child's play, Cuchulainn took up arms at seven and,

true to the warrior spirit of his surroundings, fought the enemies of Ulster. That same evening he came back with the heads of three enemy champions.

This remarkable feat of heroism set the hearts of all the women in Ulster aflutter with admiration and desire, so much so that the Ultonian warriors grew as green with jealousy as the verdant countryside of the Emerald Isle, and demanded that a mate be found for the redoubtable youngster — posthaste.

Now, most seven-year-old boys are scarcely aware of, let alone romantically attracted to, sweet young lasses; but Cuchulainn, remember, was more than mere mortal.

He knew exactly who made his brave little heart beat quicker, and that was the beautiful Emer, daughter of Forgall the Wily.

In all of enchanted Eire, no other colleen was the equal of fair Emer. She excelled above all others in the "six gifts:" beauty, voice, sweet speech, needlework, wisdom, and, not the least, chastity.

Cuchulainn set out to conquer the girl's heart but, alas, the maiden laughed him off for his youthfulness and his inexperience as a warrior. Then and there the spirited tyke swore that he would make his name renowned wherever heroes were spoken of. Emer, in turn, promised that if he succeeded in spiriting her away from her bellicose kin, she would indeed marry him.

Not without good reason had Emer's father earned the appellation Wily. When he learned of his daughter's pledge, he was determined to put an end to the fanciful dreams of the two. His scheme was to trick the boy into going off to the war school of Scathach the Amazon, in far-off Scythia, east of Alba, ostensibly to learn the martial skills which would render him invincible before any and all foes.

(CUCHULAINN, Next Page)

CUCHULAINN

(From Page 243)

Forgall figured the boy would never survive the journey, for though the way to Scythia was danger-fraught enough, the way back was more menacing still.

His artifice worked. Cuchulainn set out for mysterious Scythia. His journey took him across the Plain of Ill-Luck, through the Perilous Glens and over the foreboding Bridge of the Cliff, but he finally reached his destination. Once there, he quickly took matters into his own adolescent hands, forcing Scathach to teach him all the martial skills she possessed (the obvious contradiction appears to have gone unnoticed). Despite the fact that he beheaded one of her sons, she taught Cuchulainn her "three feats," secrets she had never revealed to anyone. Cuchulainn remained with Scathach for one year. After that he went to the castle of Scathach's rival Aoife, the most famous female warrior in the world. Cuchulainn stayed with Aoife for two years, during which time she bore him a son; quick work for a mere lad.

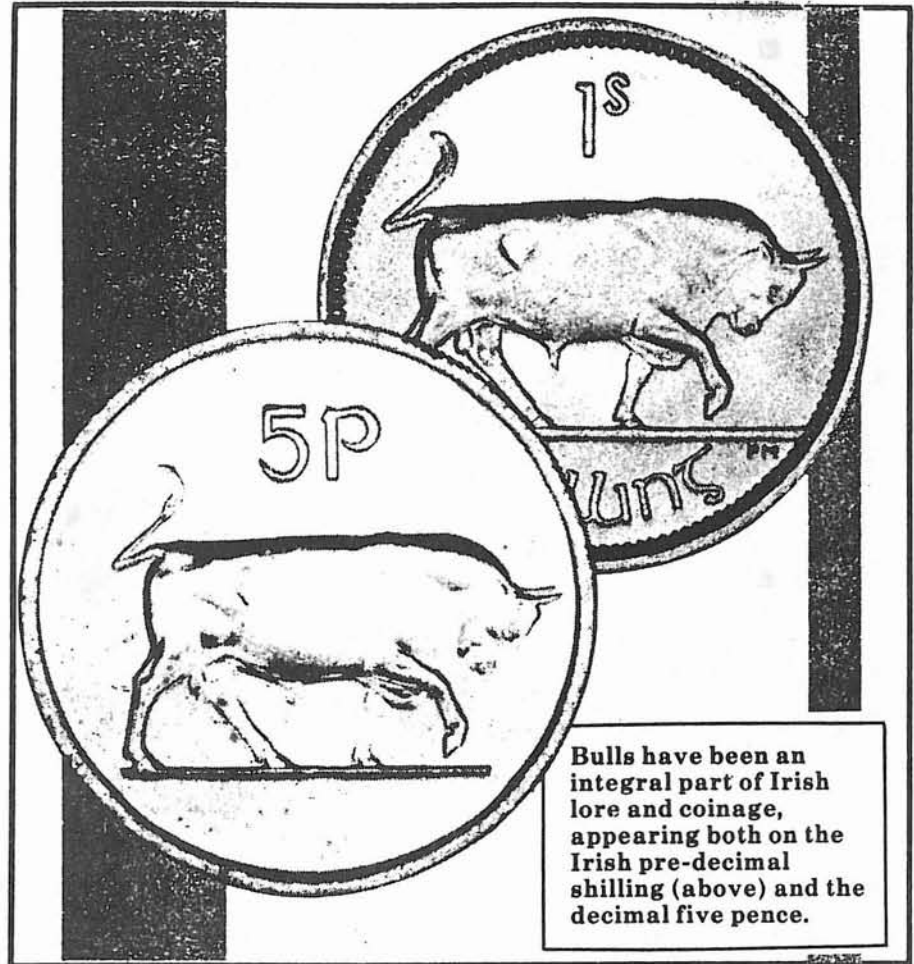
His education completed, his deadly martial skills honed to perfection, Cuchulainn returned to Ireland, determined to claim the beautiful Emer.

After wreaking havoc at the palace of Forgall the Wily, who lost his wily life in the fracas, Cuchulainn snatched Emer and whisked her away in his chariot to Emain Macha. There the two young lovers were wed, and became preeminent among the glitterati of the epic court.

Of the various tales about Cuchulainn, none can match the *Tain Bo Cualgne* (translated variously as the "Raiding of the Cattle of Cooley," "The Cattle-raid of Cooley," and "Cooley's Cattle Raid"). The story revolves around the attempt by Queen Medb of Connaught to gain possession of the Brown Bull of Cualgne.

The earliest written version of this epic tale, in which Cuchulainn performed his greatest feats of strength and heroism, is found in the so-called "Book of the Dun Cow" (in Gaelic, "Lebor nah-Uidre"), which dates from the beginning-of the 12th century. The oral tradition, however, reaches back centuries earlier. Because of its Homeric qualities, the *Tain* has been called the Irish *Iliad*, and has been characterized as Ireland's national epic. It supposedly gives an invaluable glimpse into Celtic life during the Iron Age.

Both Queen Medb and the *Tain Bo Cualgne* have been the subjects of frequent Irish numismatic commemoration. A portrait of Medb, with an eerie, distant look in her eyes and frizzed,



Bulls have been an integral part of Irish lore and coinage, appearing both on the Irish pre-decimal shilling (above) and the decimal five pence.

somewhat unkempt hair, appears on the front of the current one-punt (pound) note of Ireland. The light-green portrait appears against a background of script from a manuscript of the *Tain Bo Cualgne*. The reverse side of the note also reproduces an excerpt from the great Irish epic.

The Brown Bull of Cualgne was one of two bulls of supernatural pedigree. They were descended from two fairy swineherds who were ever quarrelling, fighting and, so as to better conduct their ongoing feud, transforming themselves into different animals — ravens, sea-beasts and finally eels. In their last form, they entered separate bodies of water, from which they were eventually swallowed by two cows, one belonging to a certain Daire of Cualgne (in Ulster), the other to Queen Medb. From these two cows were born the two enchanted bulls: the Brown Bull of Ulster and the White-horned Bull of Connaught.

Everything would have been hunky-dory if the Queen's bull, male chauvenist that he was, hadn't deemed it below his dignity to belong to a female. Indignantly, he took his proud hooves for a walk and transferred himself to the herd belonging to Queen Medb's husband, Ailill, king of Connaught.


Proud woman that she was, Medb was not about to accept a position of affluence inferior to that of her husband. She

thus sent heralds laden with gifts and compliments to Daire, asking that he lend her his Brown Bull for one year. An understandable enough fellow, Daire was prepared to grant the queen's request. However, he learned that one of Medb's messengers, his tongue loosened by spirits (liquid-type), was overheard boasting that the queen had been prepared to use force if Daire hadn't agreed to give the bull up.

Daire recanted. The threat got his Irish up, and he swore he'd never, ever, under any circumstance, let the queen have his magnificent bull.

Medb, needless to say, was enraged by Daire's decision, and she vowed to force the issue — take the bull by the horns, in a manner of speaking. Mustering all the armies and heroes of the rest of Ireland, Medb prepared to march against Ulster.


Medb's decision was far from rash. She timed the campaign to coincide with that period of the year when all the heroes of Ulster lay incapacitated by a mysterious magical spell, a *cess*, brought about by a curse laid upon them long before by a goddess who had been offended by one of King Conchobar's ancestors. The queen was looking forward to an easy victory. Little did she know, however, that Cuchulainn was immune to the effects of the magical weakness.



**ADVANCED
DUNGEONS & DRAGONS™**

**SPECIAL REFERENCE
DEITIES & DEMIGODS
CYCLOPEDIA**

by James M. Ward with R. Edwards
Edited by Lawrence
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CU CHULAINN(hero)

ARMOR CLASS: -1
MOVE: 15"
HIT POINTS: 150
NO. OF ATTACKS: 2
DAMAGE/ATTACK: 4-10 (+8)
SPECIAL ATTACKS: Nil
SPECIAL DEFENSES: See below
MAGIC RESISTANCE: 20%

SIZE: M (6'4")
ALIGNMENT: Neutral good
CLERIC/DRUID: Nil
FIGHTER: 18th level ranger
MAGIC-USER/ILLUSIONIST: 12th level illusionist
THIEF/ASSASSIN: Nil
MONK/BARD: 8th level bard
PSIONIC ABILITY: Nil
Attack/Defense Modes: Nil
S: 20 (+3, +8) I: 17 W: 16 D: 19 C: 18 CH: 17

Cu Chulainn in battle always uses his spear called Gae Bolg, made from the bones of a sea dragon. The spear is a 4-d weapon, and when holding it he cannot be surprised. None but Cu Chulainn can wield Gae Bolg. It does 4-10 points of damage. In battle, he shines with a brilliance that makes it impossible for his mortal enemies to look directly at him (-4 on their chances to hit).

The hero exists to fight giants and right wrongs all over the countryside. He often appears when all hope is lost.



Time has done some strange things to Cuchulainn and his nemesis, Queen Medb. The queen, tangled and distracted, graces Ireland's one-punt (pound) note, while Cuchulainn turns up as a superpowered heavyweight hero in the fantasy role-playing game Dungeons and Dragons.

It thus fell upon the young Cuchulainn, a strapping youth of 17, to single-handedly defend Ulster against Medb's entire invading army.

A great series of single combats resulted in which the heroes of Medb squared off against Cuchulainn. One by one they fell before the young warrior from Ulster.

Nonetheless, while Cuchulainn was preoccupied with dispatching the invaders to the Land of Promise, the queen sent men to scour the countryside for the famed Brown Bull of Cualgne. They found it and drove it and 50 heifers to the queen's camp.

Despite a supernatural pedigree, Cuchulainn eventually started to feel the wear and tear of the prolonged combat. Just in time, the other Ultonian warriors awoke from their supernatural stupor and joined the fray to help their embattled hero. A tremendous battle followed, the likes of which had never before been witnessed in Ireland. Ultimately, the forces of Ulster triumphed, repelling the enemy.

However, Queen Medb had the last word on the fate of the redoubtable Cuchulainn. Neither forgiving nor forgetting the humiliation he had caused her years earlier, she continued to scheme to bring about his demise.

Medb again timed her move to coin-

cide with the yearly magical siesta which befell the heroes of Ulster.

Cuchulainn had with him three special spears, each of which, it had been foretold, would slay a king. Knowing that popular belief held it unlucky to refuse anything asked by a druid, Medb recruited three druids to request Cuchulainn's spears.

This each druid did in turn; sure enough, Cuchulainn showed them the popular respect by giving each one of them a spear in turn — right through he gut!

Nonetheless, the first spear was retrieved by Lugaid, a blood enemy of Cuchulainn's, who flung it back, killing Cuchulainn's charioteer, Laeg, the king of chariot drivers.

The second spear was recovered by Erc, king of Leinster and ally of Medb, who threw it back, mortally wounding Cuchulainn's famed steed, the Gray of Macha, the king of all war horses.

Finally, the third spear was recovered by Lugaid, who hurled it back at Cuchulainn. His aim was precise and deadly. The spear skewered the great hero of Ulster, mortally wounding him, the king of heroes.

In his death throes, Cuchulainn developed an overpowering thirst. He made his way to a nearby lake where he drank and bathed. Upon emerging, he discovered the power in his legs had left

him. In one last act of defiant heroism, he bound himself with his belt to a nearby stone pillar, determined to die standing upright on his feet, not lying ignobly at the feet of his enemies.

But it was too late, much too late; the hero light which had earlier shone so brightly around Cuchulainn's face was gone. The champion of Ulster was no more. A crow could light upon Cuchulainn's lifeless form (the scene depicted upon the 10-shilling coin), and his enemies closed in on the fallen hero like a pack of filthy vultures.

Centuries later, the spirit of Cuchulainn was resurrected after a fashion by the isle's early Christian missionaries. A tale called "The Phantom Chariot" relates how Cuchulainn was called forth from the world of the dead by St. Patrick to bear witness to Jesus Christ before Laogaire the Second, the King of Ireland. The former demigod preached with such eloquence and fervor that the skeptical monarch was finally won over to the new faith.

Later Irish tradition was equally kind to Cuchulainn's female nemesis, the formidable Queen Medb. She was transformed into the regal matron of the *sidhe*, the prehistoric burial mounds which abound in Ireland, and which were believed at one time to be inhabited by supernatural denizens. ■

NEW ISSUES

A new Royal portrait

THE coin trade had been generally expecting that on the occasion of the 60th birthday of Queen Elizabeth II in 1986 there would be a new coinage portrait. We were all taken by surprise when a mysterious invitation was received for a press reception at the Royal Mint last August. Lo and behold, a new portrait of the Queen was revealed, and it has been widely acclaimed.

The portrait, in two versions, is by sculptor Raphael Maklouf, and it was chosen from 38 models submitted by 17 artists. It was also announced that this new portrait would be used on all UK coins minted from 1985.

This will be the third portrait of the Queen to be used on UK coinage. The first was by Mary Gillick and was in use from 1953 up to decimalisation, the last coin dates being 1970 although these were only issued in a proof set. The Arnold Machin portrait was introduced with the decimal series which commenced in 1968 and the last dates for UK coins, at least, will be 1984. There are two other coinage portraits of the Queen but these have not been used on any UK coins. Many of the smaller Commonwealth countries have used the crowned portrait by Cecil Thomas thus following the tradition in some overseas territories that the monarch must be depicted with a crown as a symbol of her authority. The fifth portrait type, which has only appeared on one coin, was from New Zealand who introduced a new portrait by James Berry on its 1979 \$1 crown piece.

Collectors of modern UK coins can already own examples of coins with the new portrait by purchasing any of the 1985 issues. There is a wide choice with a four piece gold proof set or individual gold sovereigns and half sovereigns; the seven piece base metal proof set from £1 to 1p or the same set in uncirculated standard; and finally the 1985 £1 coin with the Welsh reverse design in silver piedfort, silver proof or base metal versions. But what about the coins in your pocket? Well, 1985 dated £1 coins can already be found in circulation but so far that is the only one we have seen, although it is possible that some 50p pieces have been released. If any reader comes across other denominations in his change, please write and tell the editor.

Are other British Commonwealth territories changing to the new portrait? Whilst many of us expected to see an almost universal changeover this year to the new portrait, this has not actually been the case in the past. If we go back to the last century, there were three basic portraits of Queen Victoria in use on British coins — the Young Head, the Jubilee Head and the Widow Head. None of the dozen or so Colonial territories issuing their own coins ever changed to either the Jubilee or Widow Heads, and the only example of a later head is a version of the Jubilee Head to be found on four new Cyprus silver piastre pieces introduced in 1901 after the Queen had died. The Young Head portrait (or its Gothic version) was thus in use throughout the Queen's reign on all Colonial coinage.

So far in the present reign, we can see that even when the Machin portrait was introduced on British coins many of the

Commonwealth territories retained the crowned Thomas portrait.

We asked the Royal Mint what plans there were to introduce the new portrait on the new coins they strike for many of the Commonwealth territories. A spokesman told us that it was entirely at the discretion of the issuing authority. If a small island only required a fairly modest number of new coins, then the tooling costs to introduce the new portrait on perhaps four to six denominations would be quite considerable.

It would seem therefore that there will be no general changeover this year and this at least makes it much easier on the pocket of the collector who perhaps wants to start a new collection with this range of coins. So what new portrait coins can we find so far outside this country, first of all in the general circulation coins?

Starting near to home with the **ISLE OF MAN**, the new portrait has been introduced on all 1985 coinage. This makes a total of nine ordinary coins from £5 to ½p. Incidentally the Isle of Man is now the only country with a ½p coin, and this is expected to be the last year. So this 1985 issue will be the only ½p coin with the Maklouf portrait. Make sure you get it now! The Isle of Man has also introduced the new portrait on its platinum Noble and gold Angel bullion coins.

Moving south to the Channel Islands, we note that **GUERNSEY** has issued a new range of seven ordinary coins from £1-1p (see **COIN & MEDAL NEWS** July 1985 p. 17). These all bear the new Maklouf portrait on the obverse along with a miniature States Crest. This is the first time that the Royal portrait has appeared on Guernsey's ordinary coins. **JERSEY** is retaining the Machin head for the time being although it has used the new portrait on the 50p Liberation commemorative recently issued, some of which will surely find their way into general circulation.

Of the other Commonwealth countries, only **AUSTRALIA** has so far issued all its 1985 coinage with the new portrait. Proof and uncirculated sets of six coins from \$1-1c have recently been issued, and collectors should be able to purchase them from their usual new issue dealer. Collectors in Australia say that they have not yet seen any of the Maklouf coins in circulation but no doubt later in the year some denominations will appear. Perhaps some of our Australian readers will let us know. We asked the **NEW ZEALAND** High Commission what plans New Zealand had for this year and were told that the Machin Head would be retained for the present. **CANA-**



DA has also retained the Machin effigy as work had commenced on the 1985 coins before the new effigy was announced. There could be a change from Canada next year.

1985 dated ordinary coins have already been minted for **FALKLAND ISLANDS** and **TUVALU**, but the Machin portrait has been retained so there was only a date change. We understand that new coin designs depicting fish were introduced in the **BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS** earlier this year, but we do not yet know which portrait has been used. We will of course keep in touch with all these new issues and provide readers with a periodic update.

Turning to Commemorative coins, there are two choices of the new portrait available; the couped (cut off above the shoulders) version as used on ordinary coins and an uncouped version more suitable for use on a larger piece. To date we have seen four commemorative crowns and both types of portrait have been used. The first commemorative was the giant size £25 coin from **FALKLAND ISLANDS** to commemorate 100 years of self sufficiency and this used the uncouped version. Many UK collectors sadly did not have the opportunity to purchase this coin as marketing arrangements made at a time when the US\$ was particularly strong meant that most of the issue was sold in North America. Unusually UK dealers were not offered any discount by the Royal Mint so there was no incentive for them to stock the coin. As recorded in last month's **COIN & MEDAL NEWS** both **GUERNSEY** and **JERSEY** have issued crowns for the 40th Anniversary of the Liberation. Guernsey has used the same uncouped portrait as for the lower denomination coins, whereas Jersey has chosen the couped version. Just announced is a second commemorative from **FALKLAND ISLANDS** for the Opening of Mount Pleasant airport by Prince Andrew, and this also has the uncouped Royal portrait.

This completes the story of the new Maklouf portrait so far, but no doubt over the next few years the range of coins will become very extensive. If you are looking for a new area to collect, why not start with these new portrait coins. If you find the silver pieces beyond your means, just collect the ordinary circulation pieces and in a few years you will have a fairly extensive collection covering a wide global area which will not have cost you very much to put together. And provided you remember to keep purchasing your monthly copy of **COIN & MEDAL NEWS** you will not miss our new issue listing of these new types.

PAPER MONEY

RARITIES FROM THE EAST

by Colin Narbeth

COLLECTORS of paper money of Hong Kong and the Far East have a Red Letter day coming up on October 3. Nearly 500 lots of seldom-seen specimens and proofs are to be auctioned by Christie's at their rooms in 8 King Street, St. James's, London, on that day. They are the duplicate archive material of Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co. Ltd., the famous security printers who, in the 19th century, were responsible for printing a great many of the world's banknotes.

During the re-building and modernisation of their plant Bradburys decided that rather than box up the duplicate archive material and store it away where it would never be seen, they would let collectors have an opportunity to acquire them.

Many of the notes from the Far East are superb examples of the engravers' art. It should be remembered that the top portrait engravers have often undergone a period of training lasting 25 years — such is the search for perfection.

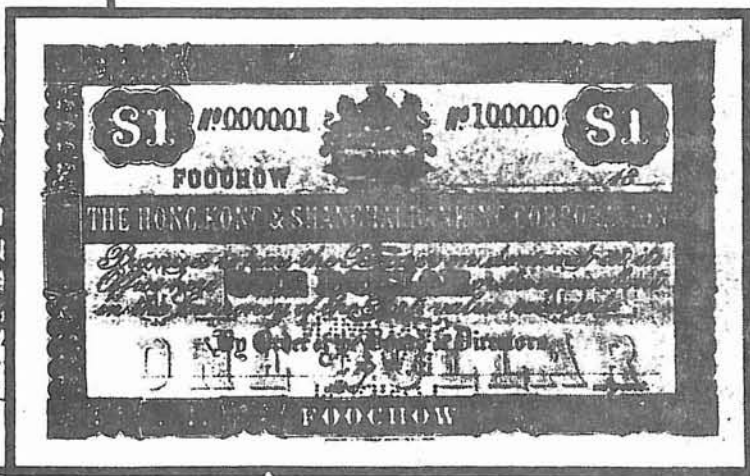


Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co. Ltd., have a long history as banknote printers. William Bradbury was born at Bakewell in 1799 and after a period in Lincoln came to London in 1824 where he formed a printing firm with his brother-in-law, William Dent. A few years later the company became Bradbury and Evans and this was a partnership which was to last for over forty years and collectors do come across notes bearing this imprint.

William Bradbury's eldest son, Henry, quickly built up a reputation as an exceptional engraver. He went to the Imperial Printing Office in Vienna at the age of nineteen and when he returned to England he had many new ideas to inject into the family business.

Aware of the dangers of photography for counterfeiting, Henry addressed the Royal Institution in 1856 on "The Security and Manufacture of Bank-Notes". In 1860 he wrote "Specimens of Bank-Note Engraving" published by Bradbury and Evans, but in the same year he died prematurely at the age of 30. The company was then controlled by his brother, William Hardwick Bradbury, but his interests lay more in the publishing aspects of the firm.

The Wilkinson family came from Lincolnshire, and Henry Wilkinson, born in 1795, was trained in the printing business, and his son, Robert, became a superb copperplate engraver. The exact history of the firm is lost because so many of the Bradbury Wil-



PAPER MONEY



kinson and Co. Ltd.'s archives were destroyed during World War II bombing, but it is believed that Robert Wilkinson worked with Henry Bradbury at the time of his death, and that association led to the formation of Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co. in 1861, with the aid of Bradbury and Evans' capital.

It seems that the early banknote printings of the new firm were done on Bradbury and Evans plates. The business made a loss in its first year but it soon forged ahead as the predominantly South American-based business spread world wide. In 1871

the company received its largest order since its formation, for six million notes for Uruguay. They delivered the order the same year. Indeed, 1871 was an important year for the company as it also started its first postage stamp work for the State of Hyderabad, and began its long association with the Crown Agents.

The auction catalogue of the duplicate archive material is expected to be available at the beginning of September and is profusely illustrated. It will be worth having on collectors' bookshelves as a record of some of the

world's rarest banknotes.

Some of the Hong Kong specimens are not listed, such as the Asiatic Banking Corporation \$100 18--, and portrait notes of Queen Victoria.

Singapore, whose early notes are always in demand and without exception very rare, is represented with several previously unknown notes. There is a New Oriental Bank Corporation Ltd. \$118-- (1849). Pick catalogues the \$10 and \$100 and states "other denominations are reported, but not confirmed". A similar note to that of the Hong Kong issue of the Asiatic Banking Corporation, but for \$500 issued at Singapore will also attract attention.

But the real strength of the Far East material is in China. There are some beautiful examples of the Netherlands Trading Society, \$10, \$50 and \$100; the latter not listed. These all have a magnificent engraving of a mediaeval oriental warrior and a scene of a bridge spanning a river. But what is going to attract a lot of attention is the way these notes are numbered. Instead of the normal 000000 for a Specimen note, they have numbers indicating the print run. For example the \$10 is numbered 00001/50,000 and the \$50, 0001/8000.

Other foreign banks in China will be represented in the auction and include several sets, or part sets, of the Banque Industrielle De Chine. These notes are catalogued from Hankow, Peking, Shanghai and Tientsin — though mostly with no price. However, two of the sets in the auction are from hitherto unrecorded places, Moukden and Swatow.

Some of the notes of the Kiangsu Bank have delicate reverse engravings like the \$10 with its pagoda and bridge scene and seldom come up for sale.

High denomination notes of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation include the \$100 of Hankow for 1921. This was never issued and only exists as a specimen note.

There is a strong section of notes from the Russo-Asiatic Bank — including extreme rarities in gold fen of the Kuld'Sha, Chuguchak and Kashgar Branch, and the Russo-Chinese Bank. Unusual denominations such as Hong Ping Hua Pao Taels; and some that have not been recorded will appeal to specialists. The dragon motives on many of these notes are magnificently engraved and demonstrate the quality of art that can be achieved through the medium of paper money. A fine example of the dragon engravings is seen on the 100 Mexican Dollar note of the Russo-Chinese Bank issued at Shanghai.



By Fred Borgmann

EAST GERMANY

NEW TYPES: 5 mark 1985, KM-104, copper-nickel-zinc, 29mm, 12.2 grams, edge lettered. Berlin mint, mintage 56,000 unc and 4,000 proof. Theme: Caroline Neuber. Estimated value unc \$4, proof \$25. Obverse: state emblem above denomination. Reverse: woman with jester in theatrical scene.



20 mark 1985, KM-105, silver .500 fine, 33mm, 20.9 grams, edge lettered. Berlin mint, mintage 41,000 unc and 4,000 proof. Theme: Ernst Moritz Arndt. Estimated value unc \$20, proof \$60. Obverse state emblem above denomination. Reverse portrait partially to the right between dates and above name.

(Courtesy Deutsche Handelsbank, East Berlin, East Germany)

INDIA

NEW TYPES: 50 paise 1985, KM-681, copper-nickel, 24mm, 5.08 grams, edge security type. Bombay mint. Theme: Reserve Bank of India Golden Jubilee. Issue prices: unc at face value, proof as part of a set. Obverse: Ashoka pillar, denomination and legend. Reverse: tiger and palm tree above dates.



2 rupees 1985, KM-682, copper-nickel, 31mm, 12.5 grams, edge security type. Bombay mint. Theme: same as KM-681. Issue prices: proof as part of set.

Obverse and reverse: similar to KM-681.



10 rupees 1985, KM-683, copper-nickel, 39.2mm, 24.7 grams, edge reeded. Bombay mint. Theme: same as KM-681. Issue price: unc \$18, proof as part of a set only. Obverse and reverse: similar to KM-681.



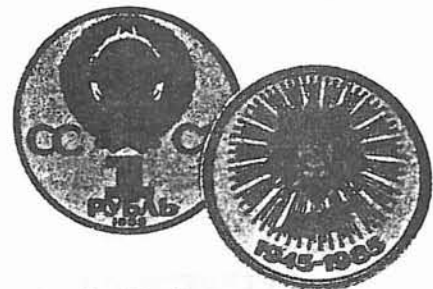
100 rupees 1985, KM-684, silver .500 fine, 44mm, 35 grams, edge reeded. Bombay mint. Theme: same as KM-681. Issue prices: unc \$38, proof \$43. Obverse and reverse: similar to KM-681.

Sets and issue prices: four piece proof set KM-681-684: \$98. Two piece proof set KM-683&684: \$58. Two piece unc. set KM-683&684: \$48. Orders accepted until Oct. 31, 1985 and purchasers should allow up to one year for delivery!

(Courtesy G.R. Kahate, General Manager, India Government Mint, Shahid Bhagat-singh Road, Fort, Bombay 400023 India)

RUSSIA

NEW TYPES: 1 rouble 1985, Y-197, copper-nickel, 31mm, 12.65 grams, edge lettered. Moscow mint. Theme: Lenin. Estimated value \$4.50. Obverse state emblem above denomination and date. Reverse portrait left.



1 rouble 1985, Y-198, copper-nickel, 31mm, 12.65 grams, edge lettered. Moscow mint. Theme: 40th anniversary of the victorious conclusion of WWII. Estimated value \$4.50. Obverse same as Y-197. Reverse radiant Order of the Patriotic War star above laurel branch and dates.

(Courtesy Coin Invest Trust, Vaduz, Liechtenstein)



NEW TYPE: 1 rouble 1985, Y-199, copper-nickel, 31mm, 12.65 grams, edge lettered. Moscow mint. Theme Moscow Festival. Obverse state emblem above denomination. Reverse festival symbol and legend.

(Courtesy Valery I. Khorshev, Moscow, U.S.S.R.)

SAN MARINO

NEW TYPES: 500 lire 1985 Y-177, silver .835 fine, 29mm, 11 grams, edge lettered. Rome mint, mintage limit 80,000. Theme: music. Issued price about \$6. Obverse: crowned coat of arms and legend. Reverse: seated woman playing a portable pipe organ.



1000 lire 1985 Y-178, silver .835 fine, 31.4mm, 14.6 grams, edge lettered. Rome mint, mintage limit 80,000. Theme: music. Issue price about \$12. Obverse same design as Y-177. Reverse portrait of J.S. Bach. (Courtesy Rep. of San Marino, Azienda, Autonoma Di Stato Numismatica, Casella Postale 1, San Marino)

NEW POLISH COINS

The Narodowy Bank Polski will release new coins for sale in convertible currencies starting July 15, 1985.

There will be silver coins (legal tender and pattern) and cupronickel coins (legal tender), coins from the "Polish Kings" series, bearing the image of the King Przemyslaw II.

Przemyslaw II was born on October 14, 1257, as the posthumous son of Przemyslaw I. He was brought up by his uncle Boleslaw Pobożny (Pious).

Already at the age of 20, he ruled over the Poznan principality, and after his uncle's death in 1279 became prince of all of the Great Poland. In 1282 he signed a treaty with Prince Msciwój II of Pomorze Gdanskie at Kepno, by which that principality would become part of Poland after the death of Msciwój. In 1290 Przemyslaw assumed rule in Cracow, but had to withdraw in 1291. After the death of Msciwój II in 1295, Przemyslaw assumed rule over Pomorze Gdanskie and became the most powerful of the Piast princes. This created the possibility of reuniting the Polish principalities in one state.

His coronation in Gniezno on June 26, 1295 stressed the idea of unified Poland. The task of a full reunification was not accomplished, though, as Przemyslaw was murdered in Rogozno on February 8, 1296 on orders from Brandenburg margraves.



1000 ZLOTYS

P A T T E R N

Dia: 32 mm.

Weight: 16.5 g.

Silver: .750

Issue: 2,500 Pattern



If you search the world for happiness, you may find it in the end, for the world is round and will lead you back to your door.

□ □ □

The silver coins will be in the denomination of 500 zlotys (legal tender) and 1,000 zlotys (pattern), weight: 16.5 g, diameter: 32 mm, plain edge, silver fineness: 750/1000, quality: proof. The issue will consist of 2500 pattern coins and 8000 legal tender coins.



500 ZLOTYS

Legal Tender.

Dia: 32 mm.

Weight: 16.5 g.

Silver: .750

Issue: 8,000 Legal Tender.



The cupronickel legal tender coin will be in the denomination of 100 zlotys, with diameter: 29.5 mm, weight: 10.8 g. edge: milled. The issue will be of 2.9 million pieces.



100 ZLOTYS

Legal Tender

Dia: 29.5 mm.

Weight: 10.8 g.

Edge: milled.

Issue: 2,9 millions



All the coins will bear 1985 as the year of issue.
The reverse of the coins has been designed by Stanisława Watrobska-Frindt.

While attending my parents' Golden Wedding Anniversary recently, I heard what I believe to be one of the most gracious compliments ever given to a wife.

We were discussing various religions when the subject of reincarnation was mentioned. Turning to my elderly father, I asked, "If you could be reincarnated, who would you like to be?"

Without hesitation, the spry old gentleman replied, "Your mother's next husband."

□ □ □



**We, The Willing,
 Led by the Unknowing,
 Are Doing the Impossible
 For the Ungrateful.
 We Have Done So Much
 For So Long
 With So Little
 We Are Now Qualified
 To Do Anything
 With Nothing!**



Cheerfulness is the atmosphere in which all things thrive.

□ □ □

A businessman had been trying to reach the house by phone for over an hour and kept getting a busy signal. He finally asked the operator if she could cut in on the line. Told that this could be done only in a case of life or death, he replied, "Well, I can tell you this much — if it's my teenage daughter on the phone, there's going to be a murder!"

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**FABULOUS BRETON TOKENS, DOLLARS
TO BE SOLD IN TORONTO AUCTION**

A Breton token collection of almost unparalleled importance is among over 800 lots scheduled to be sold by Nadin-Davis Auctions at the Toronto International Coin Fair, November 22-23.

The auction commences with a smaller group of Breton material, some 89 lots, largely commoner pieces but of high quality. Following these an old Quebec collection of Breton tokens, described by the auctioneers as "of the greatest importance" will cross the block.

Rarities contained in this collection include three of the famous "Side View" tokens of the Bank of Montreal, a "Front View" Penny of 1842, Proof, in its original metal case of issue, and no less than 5 of the rare transportation tokens from the series Breton-530-545. Immediately following these a complete Proof set of Montreal Bridge Tokens, Br-546-557, is offered. Ex. McKay Clements Sale (1976), where the set made \$2,500, the tokens are lightly toned but very attractive. While the pre-sale estimate has been set at \$5,000, the auctioneers indicate that given growth in this market over the last decade a hammer price in excess of \$10,000 would not be unduly surprising.

Two examples of the rare "Vexator Canadiensis" token, Br-558 and 559, are offered, followed by the desirable Br-560a, Lauzon Ferry token counterstamped " J McK ". Nadin-Davis have had this token on several want-lists for years and expect extreme competition for the token.

Encased postage is represented in the sale, with a single example of the 5¢ denomination, Br-568c, in VF or better. The piece is again ex McKay-Clements.

The offering is remarkable not only for its rarities, but also its completeness. Superb groups of various commoner pieces are offered, including the LeRoux and related issues, the Quebec Merchants, Bouquet sous, Ottawa tokens, CMBA tokens, Dairy Tokens, Nova Scotia coinage, New Brunswick and Hudson's Bay tokens, Territorial pieces, Wellington tokens, etc. etc. Following some lots of duplicates from the same holdings, the auctioneers will offer three groups of "Ships, Colonies and Commerce" tokens cataloged according to Lees, some interesting groups of communion and numismatists' tokens, and a selection of Canadian medals.

The Friday evening session concludes with an offering of ancient coins. Ancient Ceylon, China, Persia, Greece and Rome are represented, with excellent offerings in the areas of Imperial silver (a portrait collection distinguished by the superior nature of the obverses) and a group of high-quality silver antoniniani.

DECIMAL STARTS SECOND SESSION

Canadian decimal coins commence the second session, on Friday November 23rd. A small offering of minors includes a superb original 1935 10¢ piece expected to bring \$2,000. The date is rarely offered in original condition.

Heralding several excellent groups of dollars is the extremely rare presentation set of two 1949 Specimen dollars. Estimated to bring \$2,000 to \$3,000, the set is described in the catalog as follows: "A most interesting and extremely rare official set of two Specimen 1949 dollars, in a small red leather case, Canadian Coat of Arms impressed on upper

lid, Royal Canadian Mint logo on inside cover, "Made in England" impressed on bottom lid. Only one similar case is known, in the National Currency Collection of the Bank of Canada, but it lacks the "Made in England" inscription. Undoubtedly issued as a presentation set to dignitaries associated with the entry of Newfoundland into Confederation, possibly to the Governor of Newfoundland himself. The two dollars are lightly marked from handling but are very attractive specimens."

Following the dollars a number of gold coins are offered, including several examples of Canadian sovereigns (1911, 1913 and 1914), five pieces of \$5 gold, and 9 examples of the Newfoundland \$2 gold issue. British, United States, Australian and other gold coins are offered in the same section, an interesting highlight being the Belgian gold medal issued in 1967 to commemorate 1000 years of minting in Brussels. It displays the first known Brussels coin on its reverse.

Newfoundland paper money, which performed extremely well at Nadin-Davis's last auction, is again out in force, the highlight being a £1 note of the Island of Newfoundland, 1850, with two signatures and the stub still attached, in Choice UNC condition. In other Canadian paper the outstanding offering is a \$5 note of the Metropolitan Bank of Toronto, signed by Moore. The piece is of the highest rarity and is here offered in Fine condition.

As normal for Nadin-Davis auctions, foreign coins are well represented. Offerings include two groups of world Crowns of varying vintages, and a run of Australian proof sets from 1955 to 1971, with additional Perth Proof copper. Heralding in an offering of numismatic literature, there are smaller offerings of miscellaneous material, including exonumismatic items, military medals and Confederate States' paper money.

Perhaps the most interesting item in a long offering of literature is the Lyman Low catalogue of the "Kingsford Collection". This, say the auctioneers, is the "rarest catalog we have ever sold. John W Adams, United States Numismatic Literature, gives the clue to its rarity as follows. On Page 127, he states: "Low ... issued seventeen sales before closing his shop in June 1887." In a footnote, however, he says "Actually eighteen sales, if one counts the 658 lot R E Kingsford Collection, cataloged in November 1885. This material was sold privately and the sale catalog never released." In Lyman Low's 1905 Auction, lot 529 was "Unique Low catalog (Kingsford Collection, which never sold". In other words, this catalog was rare enough in 1905 to merit a single lot number in a Low sale, and was called unique by Low himself. The coins from the Kingsford Collection were subsequently cataloged and sold again by Low, this time in June 1915. However the number of lots is different, thus establishing that this catalog is the early, unpublished one. Disbound, Very Fine, rare." The catalog is expected to sell for approximately \$250.00.

A long run of literature, including journals and books, from the library of a Toronto numismatist, is also offered. While the world is covered, perhaps the most bidding interest will be centred around a copy of LeRoux's Atlas Numismatique du Canada, copy No. 15, 1183, one of only 15 to 18 copies which survived a fire.

Nadin-Davis can be contacted at PO Box 95, Stn A, Ottawa, Ont Canada K1N 8V1. Copies of the catalog for this sale are available at \$3.00. Copies of the prices realized will be published in a future catalog of the company.

SHOW AND BOURSE

Second Sunday of each Month Ottawa Coin & Stamp Dealers' Association Show

Neapean Sportsplex, Nepean, Ontario;
Hours, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Dealers, enquiries welcome!

Last Sunday of Every Month except December

Central Ottawa Show

Nadin-Davis Numismatics, Hotel Roxborough, Downtown at Metcalfe/Laurier Sts.; Admission, free; Hours, 10-4; Additional info, 1-613-744-4077; Contact, P.O. Box 95, Stn. A, Ottawa, Ont. K1N 8V1

Third Sunday of each Month (except July and August)

Quebec Exposition

Numisbec Enr., Holiday Inn Downtown. Admission free, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., 10 dealers. Call 1-418-849-7683 or write C.P. 7094, Charlesbourg, P.Q., G1G 5E1.

Oct. 27, 1985

23rd Annual

Stratford Coin Club, Kiwanis Community Centre, Lakeside Drive. Free admission, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., 10 dealers. Door prizes, Stratford Coin Club 25th Anniversary 1960-1985. Contact Box 262, Stratford, Ontario, N5A 6T1.

Two long-haired boys gave their dad a surprise birthday gift — a box filled with their sheared locks and a card that read, "Dear Father, forgive us our past tresses."

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POLISH AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY
Established in 1981
P.O. BOX 47 • EAST DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48021

invites you to

THE 30th ANNUAL

**MICHIGAN STATE NUMISMATIC SOCIETY
FALL CONVENTION AND COIN SHOW**

It will be hosted by the Polish American Numismatic Society,
Downriver Numismatic Association and Paper Money Collectors of
Michigan. It will be held at . . .

**HYATT REGENCY HOTEL
DEARBORN, MICHIGAN**

November 29, 30 and December 1, 1985

We extend our heart warming welcome and fellowship to all who attend!

**TORONTO
INTERNATIONAL
COIN FAIR***Toronto's prestigious coin show.*

September 25, 1985

TO: ALL NUMISMATISTS

I am pleased to invite you to enter a competitive exhibit at the upcoming Fall 1985 TORONTO INTERNATIONAL COIN FAIR.

Attached are the total rules governing the competitive exhibits at the Show to be held at the Lakeshore Inn, 2000 Lakeshore Blvd. West, Toronto, Ontario on November 22 to 24, 1985. Basically, THERE ARE NO RESTRICTIONS so as to allow you the freedom to put your talent and ideas to the test.

Note that in addition to an attractive participation certificate for ALL exhibitors, special rosettes will be awarded to the best exhibits, accompanied by a beautiful plaque suitable engraved.

I look forward to receiving your exhibitor application.

Numismatically yours,



Walter Ciona
Exhibit Chairman

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1 copy of Exhibitor Rules & Regulations
- 2 copies of Exhibit Application



EXHIBITOR RULES & REGULATIONS

1. There are no restrictions as to exhibiting rules whatsoever. These include a) the size of cases if exhibitor-supplied, b) the number of cases per entry, c) the number of entries per exhibitor and d) presentation of material (i.e. props such as signs, maps, charts or flags may be placed outside of the exhibit case if the exhibitor assumes responsibility for them). So as to allow you to give vent to your creative ideas, we repeat: **THERE ARE NO EXHIBITING RESTRICTIONS WHATSOEVER!**
2. Set-up time is between 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. on Thursday and between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. on Friday of the Show weekend.
3. There will be no category system for the judging. All entries are judged against each other for the awarding of cash prizes and plaques.
4. ALL exhibitors will receive an Appreciation Certificate.
5. Judging will be on the basis of the following point system:

Eye Appeal	15%
Neatness and Originality	15%
Information conveyed to the viewer	25%
Numismatic material (condition, rarity and completeness)	15%
People's Choice	30%
	100%
6. Judges representing the numismatic hobby and the graphics industry as well as convention-goers will judge exhibits on the following basis:

Graphics Representative:	
Eye Appeal	15%
Neatness and Originality	15%
Numismatic Representative:	
Numismatic Information	25%
Numismatic Material (condition, completeness, rarity)	15%
People's Choice	
Judged on the basis of 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Exhibit with the most votes of the general public participating in the judging will be allocated 30%. Runners-up will receive a percentage proportionate to the number of votes received.	30%
	100%
7. Prizes will be awarded as follows:

The three top exhibits, as judged by the above point system, will receive a beautiful plaque, suitably engraved, as well as a rosette indicating 1st, 2nd or 3rd place finish.
8. Decision of the judges is final. (The names of the judges will be announced in the numismatic press prior to the Show and in the T.I.C.F. Programme.)
9. Winners will be announced at the Banquet on Saturday evening.
10. Teardown of exhibits will commence at approximately 4:30 p.m. on Sunday.



EXHIBIT APPLICATION

TO: WALTER CIONA
 EXHIBIT CHAIRMAN
 P.O. BOX 973, STATION "B"
 WILLOWDALE, ONTARIO
 M2K 2T6

- SPACE: I will need space for _____ cases total for all my entries. (I understand there are no restrictions as to the number of cases I may enter, in one or more entries.)
- CASES: I am supplying my own display cases. Each case is _____" wide x _____" deep outside.
- I will need T.I.C.F. to supply _____ standard size cases (28-1/2" x 16-3/4" inside clear dimensions).
- LOCATION: Because of my ideas in exhibiting, I will definitely need wall space for _____ cases.
- SET-UP: I expect to set up my displays between 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. on Thursday.
- I expect to set up my displays between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. on Friday.
- ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: I confirm that I will be on hand at the Banquet on Saturday evening to accept my _____ award and rosette if one of my exhibits is judged in the top three.
- (It is not compulsory to be present when winners are announced at the Banquet. Rosettes will be placed on the winning exhibits on Sunday.)
- SECURITY: Reasonable security measures will be provided throughout the convention. Exhibitors are warned that the presence of security personnel and systems does not guarantee against loss, a policy of insurance or a promise to indemnify in the event of loss by fire, theft or otherwise.

PLEASE PRINT: NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

DATE _____ SIGNATURE _____

FILL IN ONE COPY OF THIS EXHIBIT APPLICATION FORM AND RETURN TO US.
 KEEP ONE COPY FOR YOUR INFORMATION. THANK YOU.



65th ANNIVERSARY
OF THE
BATTLE ON THE VISTULA
COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL



In August of 1920 the newly established independence of Poland was saved when the Soviet invasion was stopped during the battles along the river Vistula and the enemy was forced to withdraw from the country. The Soviet Union lost their first attempt of European conquest due to the determination of the Polish Nation under the brilliant leadership of Marshal Jozef Pilsudski. The turn of events was so unexpected and of such importance that it was later called "The Miracle on the Vistula."

The Polish American Numismatic Association will issue a medal on the 65th Anniversary of this historical event. On the obverse the medal features Marshal Jozef Pilsudski with the Polish White Eagle in the background representing the country which stood united under his guidance during these difficult times.

On the reverse is the Madonna of Czestochowa, considered for ages to be the Queen of the Polish crown, overseeing from starry heavens the turn of events on earth. Below we see the siren of Warsaw symbolizing the Nation with a sword directed at the enemy and the date of victory — August 15, 1920, resulting from the action of that sword.

The cross of the ancient military order "Virtuti Militari" represents the feat of the Polish Army which shielded the country and the rest of Central Europe against the invasion of the Soviet Union.

The medal was designed by a prominent Polish-American artist, Mr. Leon Kawecki and will be minted at the Medallic Art Company of Danbury, Connecticut, renowned for their medal issues. The size will be 2½ inches (63 mm.), the same as all previous PANA historical medals. The issue will contain fine silver (.999), light bronze and antique finished dark bronze medals. Silver medals will be serially numbered and will be delivered in special plush boxes. In order to obtain the needed funds a presale period is established until August 1, 1985 with special reduced prices. The medals will be minted after August 1st and delivered before the end of the year. The prices during the presale and after the August 1st date are indicated on the order form at the bottom of the sheet. Due to changing prices of silver PANA reserves the right to change the price of silver medals without notice.

The Polish American Numismatic Association is a non-profit organization, all the officers donate their time and efforts in order to promote Polish cultural and historical heritage.

To order the Jozef Pilsudski medal, please fill out the form below and mail it with your remittance to the Polish American Numismatic Association, P.O. Box 1873, Chicago, Illinois 60690.

PLEASE SEND ME THE FOLLOWING MARSHAL PILSUDSKI 1985 MEDALS

	BEFORE AUGUST 1st, 1985		AFTER AUGUST 1st, 1985		TOTAL
	PANA Members	Non-Members	PANA Members	Non-Members	
Fine Silver at	\$120.00	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$130.00	\$
Dark Bronze at	\$18.00	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$25.00	\$
Light Bronze at	\$18.00	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$25.00	\$
Postage, Insurance and Packaging	...\$3.00		for each Silver Medal ...\$		
		\$1.50	for each Bronze Medal ...\$		

MARSHAL JOZEF PILSUDSKI

The history of Jozef Pilsudski's life is inseparably connected with the rebirth of Poland after World War I and the history of the Republic. Pilsudski became the symbol of the Polish desire for genuine independence. His brilliant mind analyzed and correctly predicted World War I and its results long before it started. He organized the Riflemen's Association which developed into the Polish Legions and became later the basis for the Polish Army when it was mostly needed. It was instrumental in establishing and maintaining the country's independence during the turbulent days after World War I ended with the fall of the three great Empires of Europe. This profoundly affected the structure of Central and East Europe. Austro-Hungary ceased to exist as a dominant power, Germany was weakened to a point that for more than a decade it was not able to play any significant role. Poland and other central European Nations regained their independence. The revolution in Russia resulted in a prolonged civil war. When it ended in 1920, a new power emerged — the Soviet Union. Sensing the vacuum in Central Europe, the Soviet Union sent its armies for conquests westward. At first it appeared that they will be able to march successfully into the heart of Europe. But they were not only stopped at the gates of Warsaw but forced to a speedy retreat.

Since 1918 Pilsudski was the "Chief of State" in Poland with almost unlimited authority. Immense difficulties had to be overcome during the first years of the newly created Polish Republic. Economic and political problems internally and on international fields needed immediate attention but Pilsudski never forgot his earlier prediction that the Soviet Union will turn to the west when they will finish their domestic war. Despite internal political pressures and advice from western powers he did not agree to reduce the newly organized army and was preparing for the coming attack. He made an alliance with the national Ukrainian leader, Petlura, in a joint effort to create an Ukrainian Independent State and occupied Kiev on May 8, 1920. In the meantime the Soviet forces defeated the White Russian adversaries and assembled four armies on the western front under the command of Mikhail Tukhachevsky and a large army on the southern front which included the famous cavalry corps of four divisions of Marshal Budienny. Budienny moved fast, blew up railroads, raided towns and villages, destroyed supply de-

pots, burned and murdered. The Polish Army did not have enough cavalry to deal with them. Tukhachevsky moved with his masses of infantry slower but steady. The Soviets were convinced that in a short time they will destroy the Polish Army and march into Germany. The Western Powers sent to Warsaw a mission of Generals and Diplomats and advised to negotiate with the Soviets who demanded a complete surrender. Pilsudski knew that the Polish Army was in exhausting retreat for several months, but was not defeated. He devised a plan to concentrate several of the best divisions to the south of Warsaw and to drive in a wedge into a gap between the Soviet Armies approaching Warsaw and those of the Southern Front.

It was organized in complete secrecy and on August 15th, when Tukhachevsky was sending telegrams that Warsaw is captured and everybody was convinced that the war is lost, the Polish divisions under Pilsudski's personal command started the offensive and within two days of battles encircled the two Soviet Armies of the center, cut their supply and communication lines and forced them into a disorganized retreat. Over one hundred thousand enemy soldiers were captured or forced to cross to East Prussia where they were interned. Tukhachevsky pulled up all reserves and made an attempt to hold in the old World War I defense lines along the river Niemen. Pilsudski resumed the advance in September. An army of several infantry divisions pinned the enemy down in their defense lines. Then from the north emerged two brigades of crack cavalry, followed by several infantry divisions. They swept behind the Red Army defenses and the Bolsheviks were forced into another disorderly retreat. They lost all their heavy equipment. The Polish Army marched eastward and occupied Minsk. This time the Soviets requested an armistice. The peace treaty was signed by the end of the year.

Pilsudski became the undisputable hero. For the remainder of his life he was a strong man in Poland and also in most of Central and East Europe, he was considered as one of the most outstanding statesmen. He passed away in 1935. On the steps of the Cracow Cathedral the President of Poland ended his farewell address with the words: "He gave Poland freedom, boundaries, power and respect . . ." In 1985 we also commemorate the Fiftieth Anniversary of that date.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE..... ZIP CODE

IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE THAT WOULD BE INTERESTED IN THIS KIND OF BOOK, PLEASE FILL IN THE NAME & ADDRESS