



THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIST

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

WANTED

DEAD OR ALIVE

REWARD

Wanted - Dead or Alive! - Books of "Dream Vacation" draw tickets are roaming around or hiding out in top drawers of some members. These tickets are being hunted down for their date with destiny on March 27th, 1988, when one will be chosen for its banishment to Paradise Island.

The Reward is great with a bounty of \$2.00 for each book being awarded to the Club of your choice.

Due to the Statute of Limitations, these books must be turned in for the Reward A.S.A.P. and definitely prior to March 26th. The Reward can be claimed by returning books as directed on the cover.

Your immediate attention is requested to help track down these villains before our deadline. So members, I appoint you my deputies in order that we may corral these fugitives and have them returned to their rightful place, where justice will be done.

One will be sentenced to a \$1200.00 Dream Vacation of their choice, another the supreme sentence of the \$100.00 Canadian gold coin,- and don't forget those other five who will be given time on their hands when they receive the \$1000.00 numismatic money clock.

You - my deputies - must get busy. Shine up those badges, capture those missing books, and return to me pronto, for their ultimate fate.

Your Reward is to know that justice has been done!

EL PRESIDENTE.....



EDITORIAL

How many of our readers or members have never attended a major Coin Show and Convention? How many of those who have not attended don't think it is worth while? For those who have answered the above two questions in the negative, I would like to direct these next few remarks and observations.

Let's deal with the first question. At the major Coin Shows you see everything done on a largerscale than the local Coin Shows. Usually the local shows draw the bourse dealers from the immediate area, and in the densely populated area of Southern Ontario you see some of the same dealers at each show. These major shows in the large cities draw dealers from across the country and the U.S. also. If you have been searching for a hard-to-find coin for your collection, these shows provide you a better opportunity of finding that piece. The reason for that is, there are three or four times as many dealers, and because these shows run for more than one day, they bring a much larger supply to fill the needs of you the customer. Also, these dealers are always looking for more material and you have a better chance of selling some of your unwanted collection. Here we find three reasons for you to attend a major Coin Show,- more dealers to choose from, more coins to select from, and more dealers for you to sell those unwanted coins.

Have you ever wondered who attends these shows? Possibly you have read or heard about people in the hobby, but have never met them in person. Here is your opportunity to meet and talk with some of these people. Those meetings could expand your knowledge about the hobby and your particular phase of the hobby. Most major shows feature an auction, and to attend one of these (whether a buyer or not) could enrich your knowledge of just how these auctions are conducted. You will find a startling difference between this auction and the one that is conducted at your Coin Club. It could be that here you will be able to obtain that elusive coin or paper script that will enhance your collection. At most of these shows you can attend the educational forums that are provided. At these sessions many noted numismatists are willing to share with you a wealth of numismatic information. To attend one of these forums could be worth the journey to attend a major show.

No, we are not finished yet. At many of these shows the National and Provincial organizations hold their meetings, and your attendance at these meetings could enhance your knowledge of the matters these organizations have to deal with to promotenumismatics across our country.

At Club breakfast meetings you can hear outstanding speakers and the problems that Clubs face today. The banquet is another feature where you can satisfy your appetite and hear notable speakers. All during these Conventions you can rub shoulders with men and women from all walks of life. Some of the fascinating stories about numismatic finds that are overheard will remain with you for the rest of your days.

These are just a few of the reasons for you to attend one of these major Coin Shows. I could go on and relate to you many more, but I hope I have whetted your appetite enough to want to find those reasons for yourself.

The Toronto International Coin Fair has always been regarded as one of the Major Shows in Ontario and possibly in Canada, and this year the O.N.A. are fortunate that the T.I.C.F. is hosting our Convention. This gala affair covers all the points and more that I have brought to your attention. I invite everyone to attend and after your visit with us, if you believe it wasn't worthwhile, I believe you are in the wrong hobby!

T. Masters

MY VISIT TO THE NEW ENGLAND NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

BY O.N.A. Director Tom Kostaluk

The 43rd Annual New England Numismatic Association Convention was held at Holiday Inn in Dedham, Mass., October 23-25, 1987. Dedham is about 25 miles from Boston, Mass.

This was my 3rd visit to the New England Convention. I left London on Friday morning by air-bus and flew in to Boston. I arrived about 3:30 p.m. and took an airport service bus to Dedham and my Hotel and got to the Hotel by 4:30p.m.

The Convention had over 30 dealers from all across the New England State. Admission to the bourse floor and display was \$1.50 a day or \$3.00 for the 3 days, or if you paid for your 1988 membership.

On Saturday they had educational speakers - five in all-- Arthur Fitts III, Jim Stone, Herman Krajewski, William Jones, and Robert Moffatt. Spent a few hours touring and doing some shopping.

There were over 45 display cases of exhibits.

I was fortunate to win the Anthony Krajewski Memorial Award for best exhibit of Polish material, and a second in U.S. coins.

The banquet guest speaker was Stephen R. Taylor, the new President of the American Numismatic Association. It was a privilege for me to attend this Convention and the speech by Stephen Taylor was an inspiration that was enjoyed by those in attendance. With Steve's permission, I would like to have all O.N.A. readers enjoy his banquet address.

The following is a text from that address by Stephen R. Taylor, President of the American Numismatic Association.....

It's a great honor to become the President of the American Numismatic Association and will have to go down as the highlight of my short numismatic life. I've been told that I could not have picked a worse time to assume this role for OUR A.N.A. (and I stress those words OUR, because it is OUR organization, not something far off in the distance). Now, I've also been told that these next two years are going to be the most exciting in my hobby life. I honestly believe that it is going to be the latter.

I've had no formal training for this position other than my six previous years on the board!! I think each person is allowed to draw their own conclusions as to what the general responsibilities of the President are, other than act as Chairman of the Board. In less than seven weeks, it is apparent to me that the President is to act as an ambassador for our A.N.A. However, more importantly than that, I think the Prez should be a sounding board - listening to members' complaints and suggestions and see to it they get back to headquarters for action.

I have already been brow-beaten several times with some excellent suggestions as legitimate complaints. I've had a number of people write me about the Numismatist, with some excellent suggestions which I have passed along. Another dealer wrote me about the poor bourse hours, and that has already been corrected for next year's Convention. So, I do listen when people talk with me and try to get their message back to Headquarters. Obviously, I'm speaking to the members of our A.N.A., and if you feel left out, I do have some extra applications with me.

Since being installed about seven weeks ago, I did manage to have seven days at home to rest up after spending a very exhausting ten days in Atlanta. Since the rest period, I don't think I've had seven days at home! Last week I was fortunate and had four days, the week before it was fifteen hours and the one before that, it was two days! But it's exciting!!

Really! My first official duty as our A.N.A. President was to attend the 50th Anniversary Congress and Exhibition of Fidem. It was fascinating

STEPHEN R. TAYLOR (Cont'd)

to be able to talk with artists, sculptors, mint masters, museum curators, and just plain collectors from around the world - people involved in medallic art. It's a part of our hobby that's just beginning to come into its own. This was the first time their Congress was ever held in the U.S. and some of these people were making their first trip. Some of them didn't even speak English, but we managed to communicate fairly well.

One evening at dinner, I had the pleasure of sitting with a Dutch artist and his wife - giving me a chance to see rural life in Holland. Thatched roof!

One afternoon, I had spent some time with the Conservator of the Belgium Mint, suggested we have breakfast, etc.

The first weekend of this month, I went to Salt Lake City to visit their 45 dealer bourse and was asked why I would come all the way out there for their little show. I mentioned that we had a big midwinter out there in 1986 and then walked away. I didn't want them to think we had forgotten them. The Friday evening I was there, my friend indicated that he had two tickets and would I like to see the BYU-UTAH STATE football game? Naturally I jumped at the idea. It turned out that I was part of a record crowd in more ways than one as far as I was concerned. There were almost 67,000 fans attending (their largest crowd ever) and 67,000 people who didn't smoke!!!!

On the way home from Salt Lake City and Mormon country, I stopped off in Colorado Springs for an all-day staff meeting called by the employees committee. That too, turned out to be an interesting experience, being the first board member ever to attend an employees meeting, and were they ever ready with the questions - very pointed and to the point questions.

There appears to be a lot of little things undone that need completing and we're working on these. Then hopefully I can work on getting something done with my set of goals! We need to work on areas that I have listed as goals, such as.....

- YOUNG NUMISMATISTS: Develop programs useable by coin clubs to get into the schools.
Also, follow the H.S. graduate through college.
- SENIOR CITIZENS: Let's not overlook this group as prospective members. We need to educate and avoid any rip offs.
- BALANCE THE BUDGET! A major effort is needed because of the desperate need for funds for projects for the membership.
- A TRAVELING BOOTH: Similar to Krause Publications and Coin World. Our A.N.A. should be at every major convention-meet and listen to our members and talk to the non-member collector.
- SEMINARS: How about one for training officers of local Coin Clubs to help them organize and run a better meeting?

Finally, let's eliminate the negative attitude because that's all you read about in the news. Let's talk about the good things our A.N.A. represents. My mother once said "If you can't say anything good about somebody or something, don't say anything at all".

You know, this is a collectors organization and it's supposed to be a fun hobby. Let's put the fun back into it - I plan to continue having fun with my hobby and I hope you do too. I have always felt that I, as an individual, should support my local Club, the State Organization (of course Delaware is too small to have one), the regional group and finally our national organization. I would hope that I can count on you for your help

STEPHEN R. TAYLOR (Cont'd)

and support. Our A.N.A. is the national voice and they can do many, many things that my local Club can't do. Will you help? It will be very much appreciated, I assure you.

Thank you for the opportunity to break bread with you and do have a super day tomorrow.

IMPORTANT NOTICES:

Received too late to be included this issue in the Convention Calendar.
October 2, 1988 - Sarnia Coin Club - Best Western Guildwood Inn - foot of Bluewater Bridge, Sarnia. Free Admission. Info: Sarnia Coin Club, P.O. Box 62, Sarnia, Ontario, N7T 7H8, (519) 337 9191.

All "O.N.A. DRAW TICKETS" must be returned before March 25th, or bring to the Convention and return to draw Chairman Ken Wilmot, or any member of the O.N.A. Executive.

Deadline for submitting articles and show notices for the May-June issue of the Ontario Numismatist is May 16, 1988. Those received after that date will appear in the July-August issue.

BRITISH 1933 PENNY POSES A MYSTERY

Among the famous rarities in British coinage is the 1933 bronze penny of George V. Unlike other coins which have achieved rarity through loss, destruction or the natural attrition in numbers that comes over a period of years, the 1933 penny was born rare.

Only six were struck, according to mint records; of these, four are said to have gone into cornerstones while two were retained by the mint.

Through the years a small mystery has developed around the coins. A British numismatic writer points to the claim of London coin dealers that three other 1933 pennies exist beyond the mint's recorded six. The extra three are supposedly in private collections. The supposition may or may not have gained a degree of confirmation from a story that made the rounds a year or two ago, a story that a London youth had put a 1933 penny on the market after receiving it as a gift from his coin collecting uncle. A Royal Mint authority was quoted as saying the coin was worth a small fortune. But there the story ended. A similarly undetailed story of about 15 years ago had a 1933 penny in circulation, placed there by someone who had no knowledge of its value.

And what would its value be -- if there were one? Well, several years ago when a fake 1933 penny showed up in London, dealers said a genuine George V penny of that year could be worth anywhere up to \$80,000.

Krause's World Coins list the coin as 8 known, but no price given - just very rare. Until one of these coins is offered on the market, a true price cannot be quoted.

Then when the mint records indicate only six being struck and other records say eight - we'll let you be the judge.

Is there an extra 1933 British penny at large? If so, where? And what's it worth?

You pays your penny and you takes your choice.

CONVENTION CALENDAR

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1988 dates for Metro Toronto Coin Exhibition at the Bond Place Hotel, 65 Dundas Street East Toronto, are as follows: April 24, May 29, August 28, September 25, and December 4. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Admission \$2.00. Info: Ingrid K. Smith, P.O. Box 865, Adelaide St. P.O., Toronto, Ontario, M5C 2K1. (416) 920 6461.

- March 20 Marysville, Michigan Coin Show, American Legion Hall, Marysville, Michigan, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Free Admission. Info: Charles Springborn, 395 St. Clair, Marysville, Michigan, 48079.
- March 25-27 O.N.A. 26th Annual Convention - Hosted by the Toronto International Coin Fair, Lakeshore Inn, 2000 Lakeshore Blvd. W. Toronto. Info: P.O. Box 973, Stn B., Willowdale, M2K 2T6 or Phone (416) 229 COIN.
- April 9 North York Coin Club 28th Annual Coin Show - North York Community Hall, 5110 Yonge St., 10:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Info: P.O. Box 294, Stn. A, North York, M2N 5S9.
- April 23 Hamilton Coin Club Semi Annual Coin Show - Royal Canadian Legion Br. 58, 1180 Barton St., E. (upstairs), Hamilton, Ontario (across from Centre Mall) Free Admission. Info: Terry McHugh, P.O. Box 9271, Stoney Creek, Ont., L8G 3X9.
- April 30 Oshawa & District Coin Club Annual Spring Coin-a-Rama, Oshawa Centre, King Street West, Oshawa. Displays - Bourse. Information tables. Free Admission. Info: Oshawa & District Coin Club, P.O. Box 212, Oshawa, Ontario, L1H 7L1. Telephone (416) 728 1136 or (416) 576 6332.
- April 24 Kent Coin Club 20th Annual Coin Show - Wheels Inn, Keel & Richmond Street, Chatham. Displays invited. Info: L. K. Wagenaer, 27 Peter Street, Chatham, Ontario, N7M 5B2.
- May 1 Windsor Coin Club Show & Bourse - Knights of Columbus, 1140 Goyette St., Windsor. Info: G. Stamcoff, 1165 Lincoln Road, Windsor, N8V 2H6. Free Admission.
- May 7 Thistletown Coin & Stamp Show - Etobicoke Community Centre, 1485 Albion Road, Rexdale, Ontario, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Free Admission. Info: Norman Belston, 37 Neames Cresc., Downsview, Ont., M3L 1K8.
- May 7 Cannington Show, Bourse, & Banquet - at Rebekkah Hall, 24 Laidlaw St., Cannington - 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Admission Free. Banquet - \$8.00.
- May 14-15 Atlantic Province Numismatic Association - Fredericton Inn, Regent Street at TransCanada Hwy, Fredericton, New Brunswick. Info: Fredericton Numismatic Society, P.O. Box 445, Fredericton, N.B., E3B 4Z9.
- June 3-4-5 Canadian Association Wooden Money - Park Hotel, 4960 Clifton Hill, Niagara Falls, Ontario. Info: N. Belston, 37 Neames Cresc., Downsview, Ontario, M3L 1K8.
- June 12 Brantford Numismatic Society 28th Annual Coin Show - Woodman Centre, 491 Grey St., Brantford. Info: B.N.S. P.O. Box 351, Brantford, Ontario, N3T 5N3
- June 18 (Torex - Ramada Hotel, 111 Carlton St., Toronto. Info: Ingrid
- October 29-30 (K. Smith (416) 920 6461 or P.O. Box 865, Adelaide St. P.O., Toronto, Ontario, M5C 2K1.

- July 21-23 Canadian Numismatic Association Annual Convention, C.P. Prince Edward Hotel and Convention Centre, Charlottetown, P.E.I. Info: Prince Edward Island Numismatic Association, P.O. Box 2921, Charlottetown, P.E.I., C1A 8C5.
- September 10 Huronia Numismatic Association - Check info on their Spring Show of February 13 shown above.
- October 15 Hamilton Coin Club Coin Show - Royal Canadian Legion, Br.58, 1180 Barton St. E. (upstairs) Hamilton, Ontario, (across from Centre Mall). Info: T. McHugh, P.O. Box 9271, Stoney Creek, Ontario, L8G 3X9.
- October 16 Tillsonburg Coin Show - Memorial Centre (Fair Grounds). Info: W. Baxter, 462 Queens St., Tillsonburg.
- October 22 St. Catharines Coin Club Annual Coin Show & Banquet. Info: Later Date.
- April 22-23 1989 O.N.A. 27th Annual Convention - Quality Inn, Woodstock, Ontario, Junction 59 Hwy and 401. Hot Clubs - Ingersoll, Tillsonburg, and Woodstock. Info: Chairman T. Masters, 823 Van Street, London, Ontario, N5Z 1M8 (519) 438 2402.
- July 27-30, 1989 C.N.A. Annual Convention - Quebec City, P.Q.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

MEMBERSHIP

The applications which appeared in January-February issue on page 2-88 of the Ontario Numismatic Association have now been accepted. No further applications have been received to date.

O.N.A. Lapel Pins are still available in a limited number at \$4.00 each plus a handling and postage charge of \$1.00. Order from:-
 O.N.A. Lapel Pins, P.O. Box 33, Waterloo, Ontario, N2J 3Z6, or at the T.I.C.F.-O.N.A. Convention, from O.N.A. information table, or any Executive Member.

The O.N.A. congratulates Lou Wagenaer of the Kent County Coin Club, who was re-elected as their President for 1988. Lou has served as President of the Kent Club for over 20 consecutive years, and has been a driving force in the success of that Club and their Annual Spring Shows.

This record will not be challenged for many years (or ever) and should be an inspiration to other Executive Members of various Clubs to follow.

The O.N.A. invites every member to attend their 26th Annual Convention in conjunction with the T.I.C.F. in Toronto on March 25-26-27, at the Lakeshore Inn.

The program of events was outlined in the Special Convention Issue that was mailed to you recently. Members are urged to attend the General Membership meeting, and Clubs are asked to register their "Delegates" to the breakfast on Saturday morning. Your participation can and will make this the most successful Convention to date.

O.N.A. MEDALS - REVERSES

In 1962 the Founding Convention of the ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION was hosted by the Waterloo Coin Society. The reverse of this medal is the Club's insignia, showing a coin collector holding a coin with a Maple Leaf in the background, with his hand resting on a coin.

The first Annual Convention was hosted by the St. Catharines Coin Club. In the Club's formative years the St. Catharines Coin Club met at Davis Lumber Company. On the premises stood a Totem Pole. The Club adopted this Totem Pole as their insignia, using it on the Club's stationery, as well as the reverse of the first Annual Ontario Numismatic Association Convention medal.

A centre theme, with a Maple Leaf surrounded by four C's and Capital City Coin Club, was the selection of the Capital City Coin Club for the reverse of their medal.

The London Numismatic Society has depicted a historical old Court House on the 1965 Convention Medal. Erected in 1830, this building was modeled after Malahide Castle, near Dublin, Ireland. The castle is one of the best specimens of Norman architecture in the British Isles.

City of Windsor crest has a beaver denoting the workers of the area. The steam ferry boat denotes transportation between Windsor and Detroit. Buck heads are on either side of the crest. Two cornucopias are above the date. Locomotive means transportation. Per Mare Per terras - by land and sea.

The Waterloo Coin Society hosted their second Ontario Numismatic Association Convention in 1967, selecting the City of Waterloo crest for the reverse. In the upper left the buildings represent industries and insurance companies. The lower left, the houses represent the home owners of the city. Upper right, the water and trees represent the Waterloo parks. Lower right shows some of the early settlers of Waterloo who came from Pennsylvania by covered wagon.

Kitchener Coin Club were the hosts for the 1968 Convention, selecting the crest of the City of Kitchener for the reverse. The beaver denotes the workers of the area. Oak leaves denoting the German element, the Canadian element being depicted by the Maple leaves. This year there were two medals struck, the first being an error medal with a reversed 5 (Oct. 5-6-1968). This meant that a second medal had to be struck.

Hosting their second Ontario Numismatic Association Convention, the St. Catharines Coin Club selected the City of St. Catharines crest for the reverse of their medal. The beehive depicts industry, scroll is industry alluding to economic activity and productivity, liberality being free and generous. Heraldic figures are a sailing ship depicting navigation. Cornucopia is horn of plenty, rich fruitlands, Millstone is early grist mills. Steam ship with sail indicates early shipbuilding in the area.

The Huronia Indian is the insignia of the Huronia Numismatic Association, which appears on the reverse of the 1970 Convention medal. The Huronia Indians frequently made camp in Barrie and surrounding area on their many portages across land to Georgian Bay.

Nickel Belt Coin Club to publicize Sudbury as the Nickel Capital of the world, used the International Nickel Company smelter on their medal in 1971.

Niagara Falls Coin Club hosted the 1972 Convention, using the City

O.N.A. MEDALS - REVERSES (Cont'd)

crest for the reverse of the Convention medal. The crest has a beaver in one corner which indicates builder of the frontier. The turbine indicates part of the North American Continent Power Supply. The famous Niagara Falls which is on the crest is one of the seven wonders of the world. There are two blanks on this crest which is for some future phase of history.

The Waterloo Coin Society has selected a stylized "W" for the reverse of the 1973 medal. The symbol represents the newly formed Region of Waterloo. The symbol was designed by Kitchener artist Douglas Ratchford. The symbol is composed of a continuous line stylized "W" and seven pointed maple leaf. The two bands contained by the "W" represent the two tiers of government incorporated in the new municipality. The seven points of the leaf represent the seven municipalities and acts as the crown of the tiers. The continuous line is representative of the continuity and solidarity of the new region. The symbol will be adapted to use on all regional stationery, police vehicles, uniforms and all visual forms denoting the Regional Municipality of Waterloo.

In 1974 the Niagara Falls Coin Club hosted their second O.N.A. Convention. The reverse of the medal depicts the Rainbow Bridge with cataracts at Niagara Falls showing nature at its most awesome. Men have constantly fought to subdue it to their will. In 1938 the Niagara River again proved its temporary mastery when its massive ice pressure tore the old Falls View Bridge (Honeymoon Bridge) from its shorings and flung the twisted steel into the gorge. In 1939, King George VI dedicated the site of the present Rainbow Bridge. The great steel arch has a span of 950 feet. This was the largest hingeless arch bridge in the world until the completion of the Queenston-Lewiston Bridge in 1962. Today the Rainbow Bridge is a symbol of International friendship and co-operation, and so is an appropriate symbol for our O.N.A. Convention.

The Stratford Coin Club hosted the 1975 O.N.A. Convention. They chose as a reverse for the medal the Stratford Shakespearean Festival Building. The idea of holding Shakespeare's plays in Canada's namesake of the English poet's birthplace was conceived by Tom Patterson, a Stratford born Journalist. The original plan called for a simple open air presentation, but eventually it was decided to construct a tent theatre. This decision stemmed from the advice of the late Sir Tyrone Guthrie who had been called in to advise on the project. Sir Tyrone visited Canada in July of 1952 and spent two weeks, not only investigating the suitability of Stratford as a site for such a project, but also the current state of theatre in Canada. He agreed to be associated with the venture if a star and experienced theatre personnel were employed, if a closed in theatre or tent were constructed, and if a revolutionary open stage were built, instead of the conventional proscenium type. Negotiations were completed with Alec Guinness and Irene Worth to head the company. The fame of the theatre has spread throughout the world.

The North York Coin Club hosted the 1976 O.N.A. Convention. The reverse of their medal shows the arms of the Township of North York. A shield showing a sheaf of grain and scales, surmounted by a beaver and crown, and border of maple leaves on right and left hand sides, the whole surrounded with the words "Progress With Economy".

Oshawa Coin Club hosted the 1977 O.N.A. Convention. They selected as the reverse of their medal the reverse of the Canadian Dollar. This design shows a voyageur (travelling agent for a fur trading company) and Indian paddling a canoe with an islet bearing two wind-swept trees in the background. The canoe also carries several bundles. On the front bundle are the incuse initials HB. These signify Hudson's Bay Company, which played a significant role in Canada's history.

O.N.A. MEDALS - REVERSES (Cont'd)

St. Catharines Coin Club hosted their third O.N.A. Convention in 1978. Mr. Grape was selected for the reverse of the medal this year. Mr. Grape was introduced in 1976 to the Grape & Wine Festival for their 25th Anniversary Festival. Mr. Grape promotes this 10 day Grape & Wine Festival held here in St. Catharines.

The Hamilton Coin Club hosted the Ontario Numismatic Association Convention in Hamilton on June 1-2-3, 1979. The reverse of the medal is the Old City Hall, the corner stone was laid in 1888, with construction being completed in 1889. The style was French Romanesque.

City of Ottawa Coin Club hosted the 18th Ontario Numismatic Association Convention on May 23-24-25, 1980. The reverse of the medal bears the logo of the Bank of Canada Museum scheduled to open to the public in 1980.

Niagara Falls Coin Club hosted the Convention in 1981. There was no medal for this year's Convention.

The 20th Anniversary Convention was held in Toronto, on May 12-13-14, 1982. The reverse of the medal this year depicts the Royal Ontario Museum. This is the Museum's 70th year.

The 21st Convention of the Ontario Numismatic Association took place in Peterborough, on April 8-9-10, 1983. Reverse for this year's medal features the Lift Bridge which is the only one in the world.

Sarnia Numismatic Society hosted the 22nd Convention of the Ontario Numismatic Association, on April 28-29, 1984. There was no medal this year.

On April 19-20-21, 1985, the 23rd Annual Convention of the Ontario Numismatic Association, was held. This year's medal depicts the Festival Theatre, same as the 1975 medal.

The 24th Annual Ontario Numismatic Association Convention was hosted by the Brantford Numismatic Society, on April 19-20, 1986. The medal features the bust of Chief Captain Joseph Brant. Brantford takes its name from the legendary Mohawk Chieftan, Joseph Brant - "Thayendanegea".

The North York Coin Club hosted the 25th Annual Convention of the Ontario Numismatic Association, on April 24-25-26, 1987, at the Westbury Hotel. The reverse of the medal shows the arms of the City of North York. A shield showing a sheaf of grain and scales, surrounded by a beaver and crown, and a border of maple leaves on right and left hand sides, the whole surrounded with the words "Progress With Economy".

R. N. Voaden - O.N.A. LM 16 - C.N.A. 7622

COVER:

Foreign collectors will recognize this coin as the Commemorative 50 Schilling of Austria, minted in 1969. This Commemorative series began in 1959 and each coin was minted in .900 fine silver.

The series honoured colleges, universities, churches, banks, palaces, political events and figures, and musical composers.

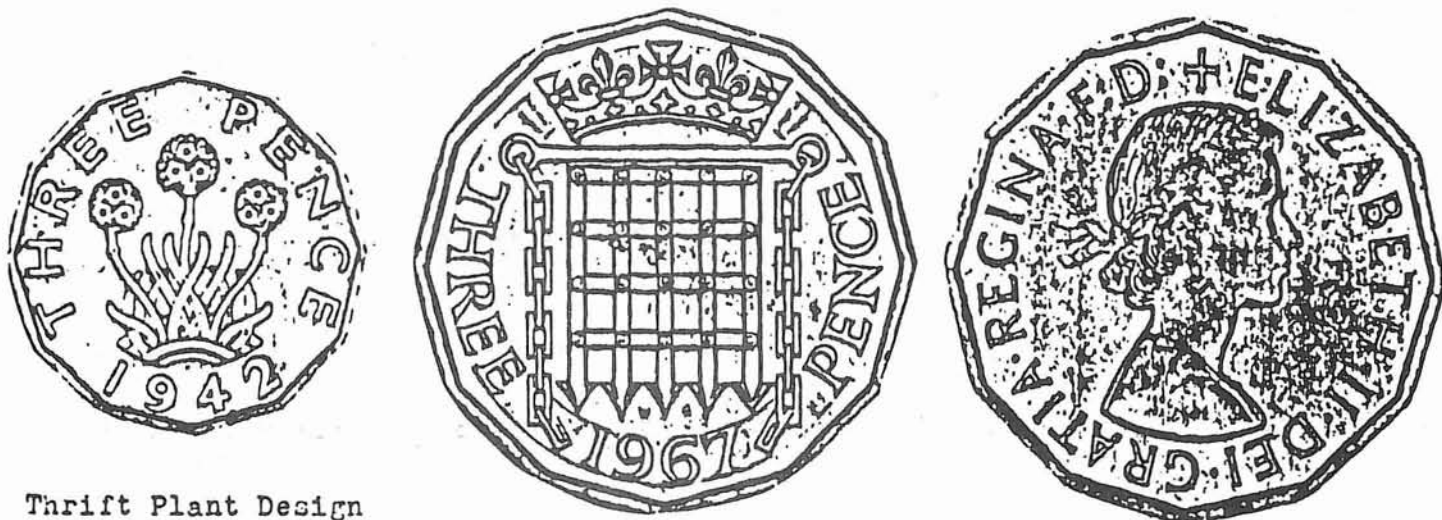
The value is also incused on the coin's edge, and in most cases all have the common reverse which incorporates the Federal and nine Provincial Shields. The Commemorative 25 Schilling struck in .800 fine silver began in 1955 and features many favourite sons and daughters as well as special events and national institutions.

This 1969 coin features Maximillian I, Emperor of Germany, born in 1459. Most of his years as Emperor he warred with Burgundy, Switzerland, Rome, Venetian Territories. Three years before his death in 1519 he lead an unsuccessful attempt to conquer Milanese.

The Brass Threepence of Britain

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BY SAMUEL WAYNI



Thrift Plant Design

The yellow nickel-brass threepence so familiar in Britain combines the latest qualities of modern coinage with historical allusions reaching all the way back to the first Queen Elizabeth. It is anomalous that a country so known for its adherence to tradition would depart so radically from the type of threepence that went before.

The traditional threepence was a small silver coin about the size of the old U.S. half-dime or Canadian five-cent silver. It weighed just about half as much as a dime and was fairly easy to lose.

Because of the usefulness of this denomination in everyday life (even though the type of coin left a lot to be desired), the Royal mint introduced the current type in the form of a few very rare patterns for Edward VIII in 1936. Besides the king's portrait on the obverse, with the traditional motto, the coin had a reverse featuring a thrift plant. This was a rather subtle bit of whimsy, influenced by the fact that the threepence was a popular coin for saving. People in England and Scotland put it away in jugs and jars just as Americans save cents and dimes.

The plant has a slightly stylized portrait on the coin. In real life it has white, yellow, blue, or lilac-colored flowers and is popular as a perennial in rock gardens.



The pattern threepence of 1937 for King Edward VIII

of the more modernistic pieces issued at the time it appeared; the other coins tended to follow the traditional designs of shields, crowns, roses, thistles, and so on. The coin's 12-sided shape (to prevent confusion), had a very pronounced "upset" rim, which gave the impression of a sort of bent ring around the design.

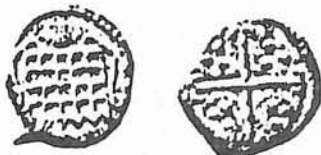
The British found that an alloy of brass with a very slight addition

The first threepence for general circulation made some changes in the reverse. Too, the king's portrait was changed to that of George VI after Edward VIII, his brother, abdicated. The design issued from 1937 had the value above and around the plant, and the date below.

This coin demonstrates that beauty is in the eyes of the beholder; some people think it quite attractive, others disagree. It was one

of nickel (one percent nickel in a 79-copper 20-zinc mixture) suited their purpose, and thus the nickel-brass threepence came about. It proved popular so it was no great hardship when the government stopped making silver threepence in 1946. The coin has one very distinctive feature: when dropped, it does not ring and bounce but tends to clatter and clunk probably due to the relatively heavy weight of the coin in proportion to its size.

The second issue, under Elizabeth II, produced the most antique design now in common use. For the reverse, it featured a medieval portcullis flanked by chains and topped by a wide, flattened, royal crown. The portcullis in ancient times, was used to seal off the entrances to castles and was just what it looks like on the coin, a heavy iron grating. At the time Elizabeth II came to the throne there was considerable optimism in Britain that things would get better. Since the old Elizabethan Age had been a golden one for England, this design was considered a good omen. Britain was still suffering from the after-effects of World War II, and some people thought things had to get better since they couldn't get much worse.



Elizabeth I Portcullis
silver half penny

Good Queen Bess, back in the last half of the sixteenth century, had issued a silver half-penny bearing a portcullis on its reverse. A gold double noble of her day also had one as a minor feature of the design. She also approved a silver issue featuring a portcullis on its reverse for use overseas. James I, when he followed her as king, kept a similar design for his early halfpence. So the modern queen's threepence has an ancient design.

The most common of the two George VI types - the change coming from change of title in 1949 - is the earlier, which has him as Emperor of India. The Elizabeth obverse, which names her "Queen of All Britain", lasted only one year, being changed in 1954.

To this writer the term nickel-brass leaves something to be desired. If you look at a threepence, you will see it has a yellow color typical of a copper-zinc alloy. You can't tell that it has any nickel in it. It would seem logical just to call the coin brass and let it go at that, but the custom is now to mention nickel, perhaps to make it seem a nobler coin than it is.

This difference in alloy means that the brass three pence darkens differently than the farthing, penny and halfpenny. The smaller values take on the characteristic brown hue of bronze or high-copper alloys, while the threepence is quite distinct from them, tending to a lighter shade. Some say that for this reason the threepence is far preferable in new condition, and indeed there is much to be said for a brand-new coin. The threepence is struck in cheap metal, it is not a prestige coin, and it is fairly common, but a glistening, yellow coin or one that is not yet badly discolored does have a certain charm. Put such a coin near some brand new pennies or the other British bronze and you have a very pretty group. The different colors complement each other.

The British threepence has four types and two major designs, and Britain also has issued a similar coin for the Channel Islands. Whether or not the Jersey threepence should be classed with the others is a matter for the individual collector to decide for himself.

The brass threepence represented the first obvious debasement of a common denomination. The silver coinage had been downgraded to half silver,

half alloy, in 1920, but the brass piece was much more apparent in its change.

In a way, it was too bad that the original reverse was changed when the queen's coinage appeared. Certainly there was no question that the thrift plant was appropriate. However, Elizabeth's threepence now conforms to the traditional design, and there is something to be said for it. The portcullis is something that instantly reminds the viewer of the many English traditions and landmarks still in daily use. It suggests the Tower of London and many more places and events associated with the Crown.

The coin has the only value which has not been altered in metal content since it appeared. The silver coinage gave way to nickel, and even the bronze coins had their composition changed to reduce the tin content drastically. On the other hand, the nickel-brass alloy of the threepence spread all over the empire, replacing many coins struck in other metals.

The Jersey threepence began as a round coin of the same diameter as the British piece of that value. The obverse has the queen as portrayed on certain colonial pieces, that is, wearing a crown and with the legend surrounding the portrait as QUEEN ELIZABETH THE SECOND. The reverse has the Jersey coat-of-arms with its three leopards or lions and the value as ONE FOURTH OF A SHILLING. In subsequent issues the planchet was made 12-sided like the home island's threepence to eliminate confusion with the gold sovereign. These coins of Queen Elizabeth fit in with the medieval motif of the threepence in Britain, recalling the heraldry of chivalry and knight-hood.

The British threepence is by no means a hard coin to obtain for a type set, and is fairly common as far as most dates are concerned. The years just after World War II saw some small issues in the series, notably 1946 and 1949. There are no doubt a great many of the early George VI issues scattered throughout U.S. which were brought back home by that great accumulator of foreign coins, the American G.I.

There has been considerable conjecture about what will happen to the English coinage when that country switches over to the decimal system. Until then, however, the threepence seems pretty well established among the traditional coins in use.

Silver Stater of Corinth



This coin was in use from the fourth century B.C. until the time of the Apostle Paul. It was widely circulated throughout the Ancient World, thanks to Corinth's prominence as a trading centre at the crossroads between Europe and Asia.

The Silver Stater carries the images of Pegasus, the winged horse of mythology, and the goddess Athena - both linked by legend with the city of Corinth. Athena, favourite daughter of Zeus, was the goddess of wisdom, skills and warfare, and protector of cities and civilized life.

One Silver Stater was a day's pay for the average worker in ancient Corinth. To be sure of an income in the event of being unable to work because of serious illness or accident, a Corinthian would have had to save many of these coins for a rainy day - probably no easy task.



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Scotiabank announces sale of new Britannia gold bullion coin

News Release

TORONTO -- The Bank of Nova Scotia today announced the availability to the public of the new Britannia gold bullion coin. The coin has been declared legal tender in the United Kingdom by a Royal Proclamation of July 21, 1987 and The Bank of Nova Scotia has been appointed exclusive distributor in Canada.

The Britannia is being struck in 22 carat gold in four sizes containing respectively 1 oz., 1/2 oz., 1/4 oz. and 1/10 oz. of fine gold. The price will vary from day to day, based on the daily gold price, plus a competitive premium to cover the cost of minting and distribution.

The obverse of each coin bears an effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II by Raphael Maklouf while the reverse bears a standing figure of Britannia, the nation's symbol, by Philip Nathan. The edge of the coin is milled.

The public will be able to order the Britannia through Scotiabank branches across Canada.



ANTHONY D. GARRETT
New Deputy Master
British Royal Mint

The British Royal Mint announced the appointment of Anthony D. Garret as their new Deputy Master. He replaces Dr. D. Jeremy Gerhart, who retired on December 31, 1987.

Garret brings to the Mint a wealth of experience in marketing, finance, and manufacturing. One of the first intentions of the new Deputy Master is to visit the U.S. where the British Mint hopes to improve their coin market with the newly launched British gold bullion coin.

The Canadian Mint has announced that they will begin producing 1988 Loon Dollars within the next week. They also announced that they still have a stock pile of 85 million of the 1987 Loons on hand. The new production is a hedge against an expected high demand for the Loon later this year.
