



ONTARIO NUMISMATIST

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION ISSN 0048-1815

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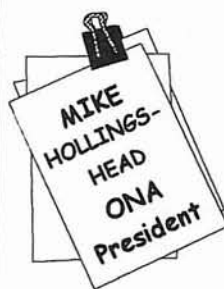
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Have you contacted your Area Representative for ideas of how to improve your Club? Have you written an article for the ONA Numismatist?

*available only evenings and on week-ends

VOLUME 39 - SEPT./OCT. 2000 - PAGES 125 - 142

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Numismatists across Canada are now welcoming the start of the Fall coin show session. After a break of a few months, when there are fewer shows to attend, we are back to the season where it seems you can attend a coin show every weekend without too much of a drive.

Coin shows are an excellent means of building a club, in terms of getting existing members working together for a common goal, and creating a public presence for the club as an outreach into the community, thereby,

enticing new members into your club.

Collectors should be encouraged to get out to as many shows as possible for the opportunity of discovering a treasure for your collection or renewing acquaintances with friends in the hobby that you don't run into often. The coin collecting hobby is a chance for friendships to develop with the common thread being a collecting bent, but allowing people to get to know the other interests in each other's lives.

Congratulations to the CNA on a "Really Big Show" in Ottawa. I was unable to attend, but from all accounts it was well run and truly a millenium event.

Get out and get to the shows!

Most sincerely,

Mike Hollingshead
ONA President

EDITOR'S MESSAGE



After publishing 36-page bulletins for most of this year, it is rather difficult to accept the fact that we never promised more than 18 pages each issue. What a bonus ONA membership brought this year!

Although this issue is only 18 pages, we will certainly cap the year off with another 36-page bulletin for the November/December issue.

So much material. So little space!

John Regitko
ONA Editor

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*available only evenings and on week-ends

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Regular Membership - \$15 per year
Husband & Wife (1 Journal) - \$17 year
Junior (up to age 18) - \$5 year
Club Membership - \$20 year
Life Membership - \$150
(Life Memberships are accepted only
after one year of regular membership)

Send Membership Applications (with cheque
payable to the ONA) to the ONA Treasurer.

LETTERS TO EDITOR

Dear John:

For many months now I have been meaning to write you to congratulate you and to thank you in your position as editor of the Ontario Numismatist for producing such an interesting, informative, very well written and eye appealing journal every two months.

Thanks to your efforts in gathering such interesting and complete data and information on current numismatic activities concerning the Ontario Numismatic Association, its member clubs, and its individual members, all ONA members are for the first time aware of what is going on and happening in numismatics in Ontario. The information in the Ontario Numismatist is of interest and use to ONA member clubs and ONA members, aiding them to get more out of our wonderful and fun-filled numismatic hobby. It also informs ONA members how to meet other ONA members at their local coin club meetings and coin shows.

More important still, is the fact that the Ontario Numismatist is a cohesive force that binds all ONA members together in a close relationship as possible.

Somebody once told me that over 40% of Canadian collectors of coins, tokens, bank notes, medals, woods, etc. reside in Ontario. The informative articles in the Ontario Numismatist on the activities of the many Ontario coin clubs, coin shows and individual collectors as well as some Ontario-issued numismatic tokens and medals of the current year, is of great aid to coin clubs and clubs in other provinces as it gives them more new ideas for them to have a more interesting and dynamic hobby, if only they would join the ONA.

In conclusion, John, thank you so much for such a detailed report on all facets of the 2000 ONA Convention, which took place in Toronto on April 14 to 16. It keeps members of the ONA, who were unable to attend, up-to-date on what took place at the Convention.

John, keep up your great job as editor and writer of the Ontario Numismatist.

Jerry Remick

ONA #1239

"Fellow" of the ONA

(Editor's comments: Thanks for those kind words. We published the above letter to get all ONA members thinking what it is about the ONA Numismatist that they enjoy. Then if they would only write or e-mail me with their thoughts, I can expand, reduce, delete or add anything they might wish.

Some slight changes have occurred in the Ontario Numismatist since I took over as Editor. I feel quite comfortable with the general contents with a few exceptions. For example, there have been very few reports of new Trade Dollar issues, however with Jerry's help, we will be publishing regular articles about new issues in Ontario from now on. This will also include transportation tickets and tokens and souvenir medals.

I have asked members for their opinions before. When I brought up the subject of content of the Ontario Numismatist at a previous ONA General Membership Meeting, the only feedback I received was to continue in the direction that I have been. Now is the time for members to be a little bit more critical and tell us what else they might want...or not want...in their bulletin.

Let me hear from you!

SHOW TIME UPCOMING

A column intended to entice ONA members to attend each others coin shows

**September 16
Hamilton**

Royal Canadian Legion
1180 Barton Street
(Across from Centre Mall)
Hamilton

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Bourse Dealers
Admission \$1.00

Info: Nancy
(705) 788-3159

**September 17
London**

Ramada Inn
817 Exeter Road
(Just off Highway 401)
London

9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Bourse dealers - Displays
Restaurant on premises

Info: Ted
(519) 472-9679

**Sept. 29 - Oct. 1
Oakville**

The TICF
Ramada Inn & Conv. Centre
360 Oakville Place Dr.
(Trafalgar Rd. at QEW)
Oakville

Over 40 Bourse Tables
Moore Auction Sat. 3 p.m.
Free Parking - Door Prizes

Info: Trajan Pub.
(905) 646-7744

**October 7
Pickering**

Durham - Coin 2000 Show
Oshawa and District Coin
Club Annual Show
Pickering Town Centre
Pickering

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Draws - Free parking
Free admission

Info: Earl
(905) 728-1352

**October 14
Burlington**

Brant Hills Community Centre
2300 Duncaster Ave.
(Off Brant Street)
Burlington

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Over 50 tables - Draws
Free Admission

Info: Nancy
(705) 788-3159

**October 28 & 29
Toronto - Torex**

Primrose Hotel
111 Carlton Street
Toronto

Sat. 10 - 5; Sunday 10 - 3
Huge Bourse - Meetings
Friday evening & Saturday
afternoon auctions

Info: Brian
(416) 861-9523

**November 5
Guelph**

Col. John McCrea Legion
York Rd. & Hwy. 7, Guelph

9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

40 bourse dealers
Hosted by three area clubs:
Waterloo Coin Society,
Paisley Road School Coin
Club and South Wellington
Numismatic Society

Info: Don Robb
(519) 888-9655

**November 5
Windsor**

Caboto Club
2175 Parent Ave.
Windsor

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
\$1 Admission includes Hourly
Draws and Grand Prizes
Children under 12 Free

Info: Margaret
(519) 735-0727

**November 25
Niagara Falls -N.I.C.F.
Coin-A-Rama**

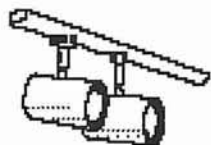
Our Lady of Peace Hall
6944 Stanley Avenue
Niagara Falls

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Large bourse
Free gold draw
\$1.00 admission

Info: (905) 356-5006

SPOTLIGHT ON PEOPLE

A column in praise of active Ontario collectors



ONA MEMBER APPOINTED ASSISTANT CURATOR OF NATIONAL CURRENCY COLLECTION, OTTAWA

ONA member Barry McIntyre has been appointed to the position of Assistant Curator of the Bank of Canada's National Currency Collection in Ottawa.

Barry started collecting in 1969 at the age of 6, with a hand full of coins that were found in the base of a dresser chest during a move. He was attracted to the designs and questioned why some coins had birds or fish on them and why does the nickel have a "V" or buildings on them. His father gave him a book on minor varieties by Hans Zoell. He was able to find many of the die breaks illustrated in the book in his horde in the dresser. A second book by Hans Zoell, which his father also gave him, whetted his appetite even more.

His first contact with a local Ottawa coin dealer turned out to be a disappointment at first, since they did not sort the coins by the Zoell catalogue listing, nor did they have any interest in die cracks. He did find out they had such a thing as a mint set with a high price for coins that he thought he could find in change. He admitted to being confused. He purchased a coin book and a numismatic newspaper and one of the things that caught his eye was grading and how important it was to pricing. He therefore purchased a grading guide. He went back to the coin dealer to see some unusual things such as large cents and five cent silvers! He purchased a large cent for about 15 cents but the small nickel was out of his price range at over a dollar.

When Sears opened a coin and stamp department, he purchased some blue folders to hold one cent pieces and started filling in the holes. His father told him that "they told me if you fill in all the spaces, they would pay you \$23.00 for the folder when you returned it." "Neat," he thought, "you only have to spend about 5 years at 1 dollar per month and you would get back less than half your money! Why bother with it?" He went on filling the holes for a year or two, and found out the new price book had gone up in values. He thought that it was going to get expensive if he didn't finish up before the next book moved the price up again! Logic prevailed, since he realized that the value of some of his coins went up also. He also realized that the more expensive ones went up the most in the high grade. His discussion with a dealer brought up the word "investment." The dealer showed him a key date large cent in a higher grade selling for \$10.00 and suggested he purchase it on the layaway plan. He only had \$2.00, which led into the payment layaway plan. In hindsight, Barry thinks that was one of his smartest moves, although he did not really want the coin. Instead of asking the dealer to lay away that particular coin, the dealer was impressed when Barry asked him to put away the same date but in shiny red UNC condition, at \$18.00. They agreed that Barry would pay \$2.00 down and come back after his birthday when he expected some Birthday money. His last payment of \$2.00 was made in less than a year. The dealer was so impressed with young Barry that he put the first dollar down on his next selection. He still has that key large cent that made a genuine collector out of him.

He took a sabbatical and returned to the hobby in the late 1980s, after his teen years, when he joined the CNA. At his next membership renewal, he signed up for the CNA/NESA Correspondence Course, receiving his graduation certificate a short time later. He was appointed the Correspondence Course's Administrator in 1996 and held the position until 1998. He was also appointed CNA Club Services Chairman in 1998, a position he still holds.

Barry served as Co-Chairman on the 1998 ONA Convention. He is currently Vice-President of the City of Ottawa Coin Club for a second term. He was Vice-Chairman of the CNA 2000 Convention. He earned his collectors badge from the Scouts.

He was offered a position recently that no collector could refuse, that of Assistant Curator for the National Currency Collection, Bank of Canada, in Ottawa.

He and his wife, Irene, have 2 children (Julie, age 6 and Kevin 4) with a third expected shortly.

THE NATIONAL SCENE

A look at what is happening beyond Ontario's border



CATC ISSUES ANOTHER TERRIFIC BULLETIN

Once again, we are impressed with Harry James' efforts as Editor of "The Canadian Token," official publication of the Canadian Association of Token Collectors (CATC). The 55 pages of the September 2000 issue contains excellent articles concerning the Belleville Mint of Lower Canada, an article on a token of the Grand Union Hotel of Sombra, Ontario, a listing of Ontario general merchants tokens, a listing of unreported dairy and bakery tokens, new municipal trade dollar issues, and more. What impressed us most, however, is the phenomenal research by Len Buth for an article on automotive and related items by Len Buth. The more than 100 pieces illustrated, which do not include the close to 50 Municipal trade dollars that depict either an automobile or truck, are mainly from Len's own collection.

Although we have printed their address in previous issues, their \$15.00 annual membership dues make it worth repeating again: Gord Nichols, Secretary-Treasurer, CATC, Box 28039, 600 Ontario St., St. Catharines, Ont. L2N 7P8.

CANADIAN COIN *News* Since Canadian Coin News is published every 2 weeks, we can hardly recap what has been included in the past 4 issues since our last ONA Numismatist went to press. Let it suffice to say that each and every issue has a lot going for it: ONA member Brian Cornwell's regular column on the fine points of grading, ONA member Harold Don Allen's column on Canadian paper money, ONA member Jerry Remick's columns on municipal token issues and world paper money, ONA member Terry Campbell's Questions & Answers column, ONA member Chris Boyer's column Starting Out featuring tips for the beginning collector,

Also included is Gordon Kump's column on Ancient coinage, Ron White's column on Commonwealth coinage and Ken Potter's column on (mainly) U.S. coin varieties. Each issue of CCN also contains a First Impressions page on new issues from around the world, news about new issues from the Royal Canadian Mint, write-ups on new books and late-breaking information such as the post-convention news on the recent CNA Convention.

THE 2000 INTERNATIONAL COLLECTORS' FAIR

SEPTEMBER 29, 30 & OCTOBER 1, 2000

Over 40 tables of Coins, Medals, Tokens, Paper Money & Much More

Ramada Inn & Convention Centre

360 Oakville Place Dr., Oakville, Ont. (Q.E.W. & Trafalgar Road)

Friday, September 29	5:00 to 9:00
Saturday, September 30	10:00 to 5:00
Sunday, October 1	10:00 to 4:00

Charles Moore Numismatic Auction - Saturday 3:00 p.m.

Free Parking - Great Door Prizes - And More

Presented by The Trajan Publishing Corporation, publisher of Canadian Coin News

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CALL (905) 646-7744

T H E R O Y A L C A N A D I A N M I N T

Striking Impressions of the Royal Canadian Mint - Part 3



THE BLANKS: GARBAGE IN, GARBAGE OUT

by John Regitko

Although the Mint stopped producing their own blanks, instead purchasing them from outside sources, at one point, the raw material for coins was produced in Ottawa in very small cast ingots, in very large quantity.

There was sometimes less care taken in cutting the edges or the ends square. The limited number of ripple tables or vibrating screens that enabled any complete blanks to fall through were old fashioned and of slower, older technology.

Although these machines were designed to allow incomplete blanks to drop through, they were often overloaded to the point where not all blanks had the opportunity to pass directly over the holes. So cut blanks, funny ragged edges and other configurations such as round or curved or elliptical clips, straight edges or ragged edges occurred. In other words, incomplete blanks in one way or another.

There was not the rigid quality inspection throughout the system of the strip and blanking processes, and probably the relationship between the quality control and production people was not one of harmony. When one group is responsible for quantity and another for quality, there are bound to be differences of opinion.

And then there were the old finger-feed presses! Finger-feed presses will feed almost anything into the press for striking and will take almost anything away during the ejection phase. You can have very bad blanks -- very bad in every description -- and the blank would get struck into a coin nevertheless. Both the mechanism and the slow speed of the coining presses favored that.

When quality assurance became a number one priority at the Mint, dramatic changes were made. The changes started right with the raw materials that the Mint uses in the production coinage. For example, when the Mint started to buy their copper strip from either Arrowhead or Noranda, the ends had to be squared off. No ragged ends were tolerated!

The strip is rolled at the Mint to a very precise gauge, the thickness of course depending on the ultimate thickness of the coin it will be used for. Tolerances were minute! There could be cut diameter variations, gauge variations, but the cut diameter variations and gauge variation were controlled so that the resulting blank weighed as close to the nominal coin as possible. The weight variation in the 1 cent ran about 5% of the strip gauge or 5% on the cut size.

In the rolling mill, there were two long devices with many little suction cups. The rolling mill takes thick bars down to thinner bars. As the thickness is reduced, the bar gets longer. The long tables at each end of the rolling mill machines are the automatic forwarding system attached to the rolling mill, so when the bar is rolled, it comes out of one end where those little suction cups latch onto the strip and they stack it; first on one end, then on the other end as it passes through the rolling machine again. When perhaps 20 bars are down to the required thickness, all are fed, one at a time, each progressive time closing the gap so that the bar will be rolled thinner and thinner. The bars pass up to eight times before they are the required thickness. After each of those passes, the suction cups move it into a stack at either end of the rolling press, waiting until all bars in the stack at the other end have passed through, so that the thickness is uniform and consistent for the whole batch.

Here's an idea of the weights that were handled routinely. The weight of a roll for 1c blanks was between 3,000 and 4,000 lbs. Workers liked 4,000 lbs. because there is less handling and the machines can handle that weight.

The machines that cut the blanks from the strip were of modern vintage, designed for high volume and high speed. Misfeed of the strip that used to cause overlapping when the cutting dies cut the blanks from the strip has been virtually eliminated!

T H E R O Y A L C A N A D I A N M I N T - C O N T I N U E D

These blanking presses ran at 450 strokes a minute, with 22 to 24 punches. That works out to over 10,000 blanks per minute on each blanking press. And those presses ran about 400 minutes per day. The operation was massive! The room was "pressured up" to keep unwanted dust and grease out.

There was what looked like a house around the blanking press. This enclosure was strictly a noise enclosure to bring the noise level down. Unless you stood right near the press as the operators and inspectors did, you might not appreciate how noisy it could get chomping through strips of metal.

But all that changed when the Mint started purchasing blanks from outside sources. The specifications for the blanks were of a compressed powder type. Because International Nickel has a patent on its manufacture. U.S. and Mexican suppliers cried foul under the North American Free Trade Agreement because they were shut out from quoting on the specs referred to in the Mint's tenders.

That problem took care of itself when the Mint recently opened its own plating facility in Winnipeg, where they are manufacturing their own plated blanks for future coins.

The last time we had some new error types come out of the Mint...either through the front door or the back door... was when they started striking foreign coins and, later, when they used two pieces to make the blanks for the \$2.00 coins. This gave us Canadian coin designs on blanks intended for foreign coins and some very unusual errors of missing or off-center centers. Watch for some new errors to rear their ugly head with the new Winnipeg blanks!

YOU ARE INVITED!

A MAJOR COIN SHOW HOSTED BY THREE ACTIVE ONTARIO COIN CLUBS

Date: November 5, 2000

Location:

**Colonel John McCrea Legion
York Rd., Highway 7, Guelph, Ontario**

Your Hosts:

**Waterloo Coin Society, Waterloo, Ont.
Paisley Road School Coin Club, Guelph, Ont.
South Wellington Numismatic Society, Rockwood/Acton, Ont.**

Information: Don Robb

Telephone: (519) 888-9655 E-mail: donrobb@ionline.net

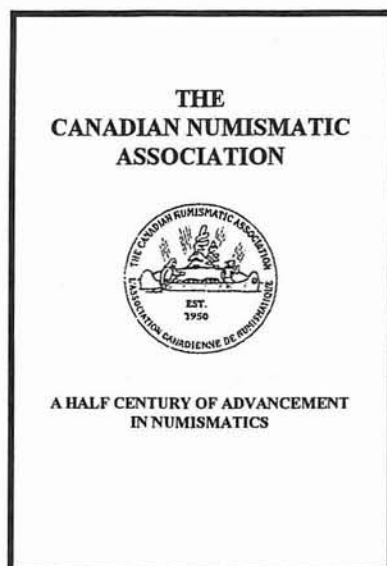
Mailing Address:

**Box 22062, Westmount P.O.
Waterloo, Ont. N2L 6J7**

THE NATIONAL SCENE

A look at what is happening beyond Ontario's border

NEW BOOK FEATURES 50 YEARS OF CNA HISTORY



The CNA has done a lot to promote the hobby throughout Canada over the past 50 years. Now, ONA members can read all about its rich, varied history and the people behind it.

The hardcover book was unveiled at the recent 50th anniversary CNA Convention in Ottawa. It was indeed fitting that a book covering the history of the CNA should be introduced in Ottawa, since that is where it all began.

For the past couple of years, former Ontarian Stanley Clute, CNA Archivist, has diligently worked on the project, whipping 148 pages of facts together, spending hundreds upon hundreds of hours gathering up information, corresponding with many people who could contribute. For his hard work, he received a special Presidential Award at the Convention.

Assisting him in the capacity of proofreader, advisor and someone Stan could turn to whenever he needed assistance, was Earl Salterio, Chairman of the CNA's Golden Anniversary Committee who originally appointed Stan to write the book.

The book traces the history of the CNA from events leading up to its inception in 1950 to the Golden Anniversary Year of 2000. A hard covered, nine by six inch 148 page book, is chock full of not only widely known facts, but covers much little known and/or unpublished material along with an abundance of photos, some of which have not been published before. An Official Launch and Author Book Signing was held at the Convention in Ottawa, giving those in attendance the opportunity to have their copy personalized by the author.

Stan is no stranger to most members of the ONA. He resided in North York, Ontario, until job opportunities took him to Calgary and High River, Alberta. He was very much involved with the local numismatic scene, including serving on the Executive of the North York Coin Club. He was also a member of the Executive of the Young Numismatists Association and assisted on their coin shows.

He has served as Chairman of Coin Week Canada, as well as serving on various Coin Week Canada Committees in the 1980s under the Chairmanship of Al Bliman and Louis "Scoop" Lewry. He has been involved with educational forums and discussion panels for the CNA and has served as the CNA Archivist/Historian since 1989. He is also a contributor to the 54-page publication "*Exhibits and Judging in Numismatics*" and to the CNA "*Club Organization Handbook*."

Stan was awarded the Guy Potter Literary Award in 1981. He has also served on the Committee of the museum in High River, Alta.

In 1981, he was elected by acclamation to the position of CNA Second Vice-President. At the 1983 General Membership meeting, it was announced that he had pulled off a coup, having been elected as the CNA's First Vice-President against the ever-popular Louis "Scoop" Lewry.

He let his name stand for the Presidency for the 1985-87 term, beating out the popular numismatic columnist Robert Aaron. (ONA Editor John Regitko served as Chairman of the Election Committee to Elect Stan Clute as President of the CNA.)

ONA members can order the book from the CNA, P.O. Box 226, Barrie, Ont. L4M 4T2, at a cost of \$18.00, which includes postage to Canadian addresses. If 5 or more books are ordered at one time and shipped to the same address, the cost will be reduced to \$15.00 each. Having had the opportunity to review the book, we recommend it highly.

CNA CONVENTION NEWS

A look at what happened at the recent CNA Convention

CNA PRESENTS AWARDS AT CONVENTION

A number of awards were presented to deserving individuals at the recent CNA Convention held in Ottawa August 2-6. We are pleased to summarize their accomplishments below.



At the CNA Banquet on Saturday evening, August 5, Ronald Greene, Chairman of the Board of Awards of the J. Douglas Ferguson Award, presented Earl Salterio of Calgary, Alta. with the highest award presented by the CNA. The award is an engraved gold medal featuring the likeness of J. Douglas Ferguson on the obverse with the recipient's name and year of presentation on the reverse. The written citation accompanying the award

reads: "J. Douglas Ferguson Award 2000 Earl Salterio. By the authority of the Board of Award, it is our privilege to inform you that you have been awarded the J. Douglas Ferguson Award for distinguished service to Canadian numismatics. We note that you have contributed to numismatic knowledge by publication of a number of well researched articles on subjects previously untouched by other writers, such as your articles on R.B. Bennett and His Contributions to Numismatics and Education and The Canadian Numismatic Arts Society. Your service to the hobby has been lengthy and significant. On the local level you have served as President of both the Fredericton Numismatic Society and the Calgary Coin Club. Over a 15 year span, you have served the Canadian Numismatic Association in such positions as a member of the Coin Week Canada committee, as a Club Services Chairman, the Awards and Medals Chairman, Second Vice-President, First Vice-President, President and most recently as Chairman of the Golden Anniversary Committee. In each of these roles, you have made important contributions. We are proud to present to you the J. Douglas Ferguson Award for 2000, the highest award of the Canadian Numismatic Association."

Two CNA members were inducted as "Fellows of the CNA," namely Stan Clute of High River, Alta. and Ingrid Smith of Toronto, Ontario.

At the Golden Anniversary Launch on August 3, Earl Salterio of Calgary received a Presidential Citation from CNA President, Tom Kennedy. The citation was in the form of a plaque stating "For his Guidance, Insight and Suggestions as the Chairman of the Golden Anniversary Committee, celebrating the 50th Anniversary of The Canadian Numismatic Association 1950-2000."

Stan Clute also received a Presidential Award from Tom Kennedy, for all the work he did on writing and editing of the 148-page hardcover 50th anniversary souvenir book that is written up elsewhere in this issue.

At the CNA Annual Awards Presentation Ceremonies on Saturday, August 5, the President of the American Numismatic Association, Robert Campbell, presented Earl Salterio, who is the ANA Country Ambassador to Canada, with an ANA Presidential Award. The award was in the form of a desk plaque, a lapel pin and a certificate stating "Presented to Earl J. Salterio Honored by H. Robert Campbell, 51st ANA President for Outstanding Contributions to the American Numismatic Association and the Coin Collecting Community."

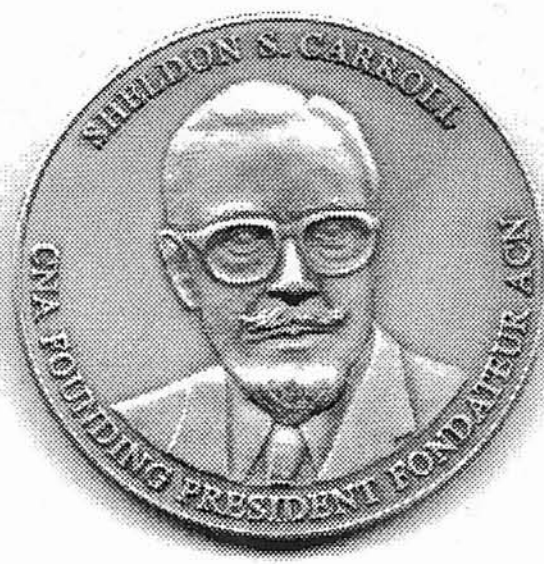
The Guy Potter Literary Award, for the best article published in the CNA Journal during 1999, was awarded to Wayne Jacobs for his article "Saga of the Pistareen."

CNA CONVENTION NEWS

A look at what happened at the recent CNA Convention

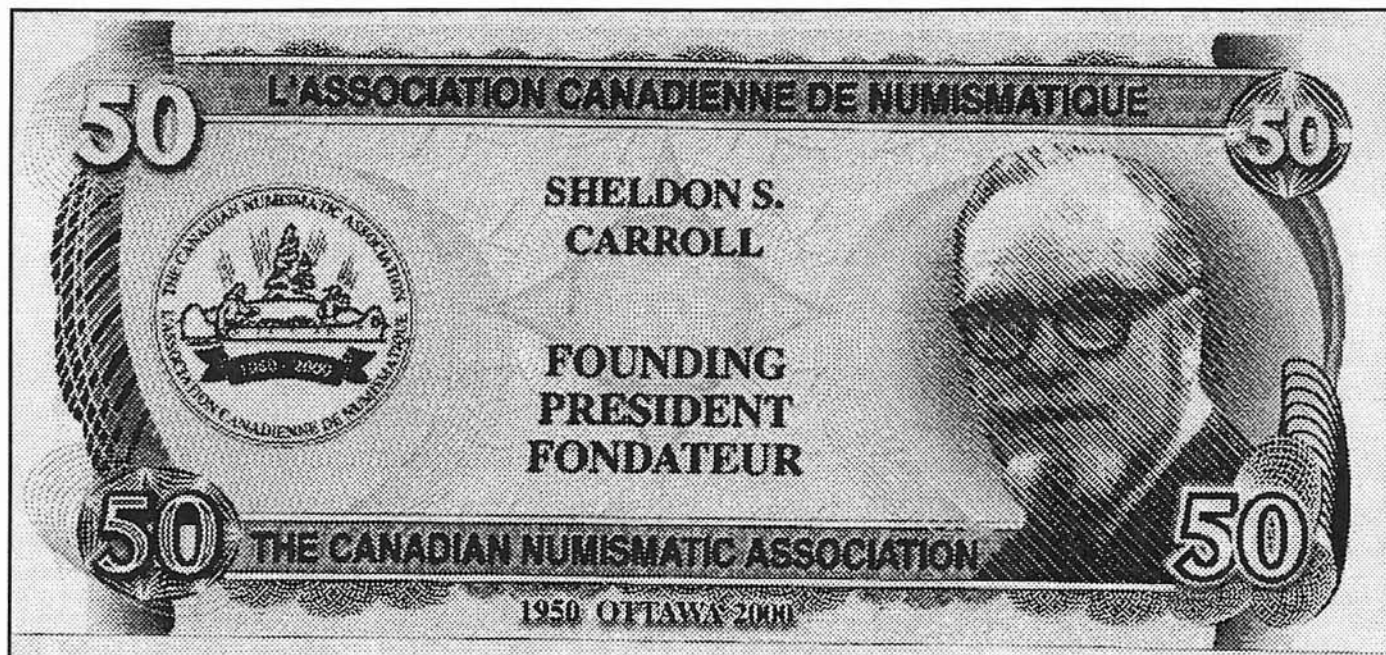
CNA GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY SOUVENIRS

A number of new collectibles were introduced at the recent CNA Convention in Ottawa. We are pleased to provide background information on them in case some ONA members would like to order them from the CNA.

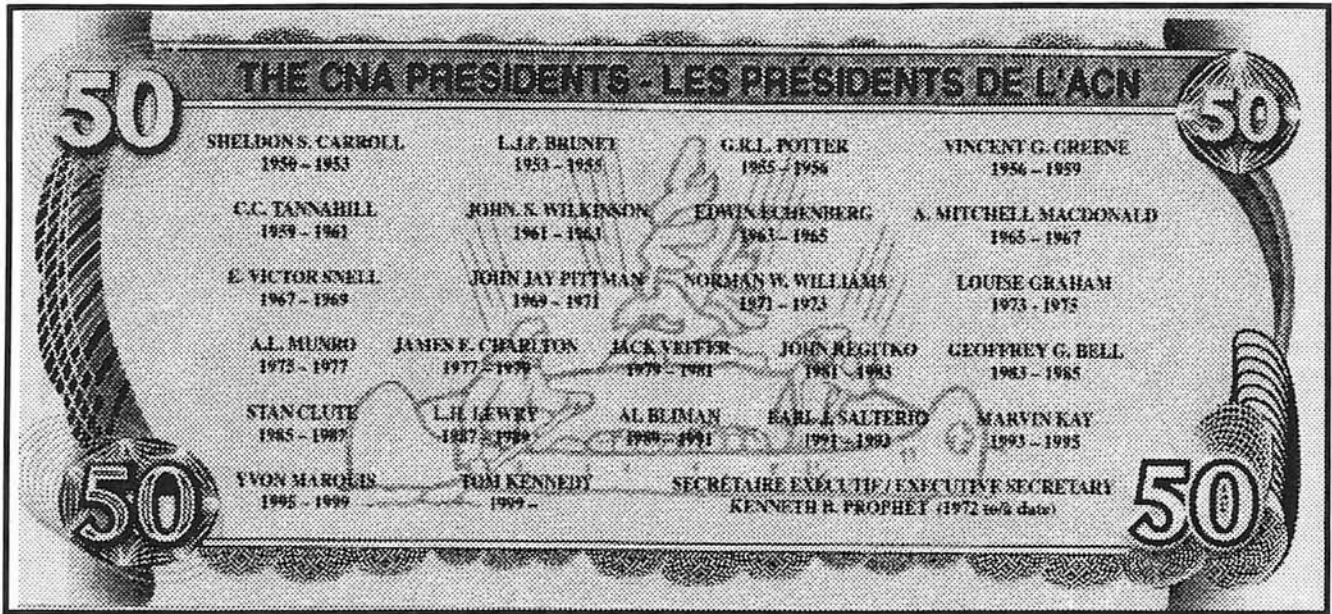


The Golden Anniversary Souvenir Medallion is 38mm antiqued gold finish, featuring on the Obverse the CNA Golden Anniversary Logo, designed by Diane Levesque, and on the Reverse the likeness of Sheldon S. Carroll, founding President of the CNA. The total mintage is 250 medallions. The cost

of \$10.00 each includes postage, with a limit of two per order until December 31, 2000.



The obverse of the Golden Anniversary Scrip features the Golden Anniversary Logo on the left and the likeness of Sheldon Carroll on the right. The note has the general appearance of a \$50 bill to denote the 50th anniversary of the CNA.



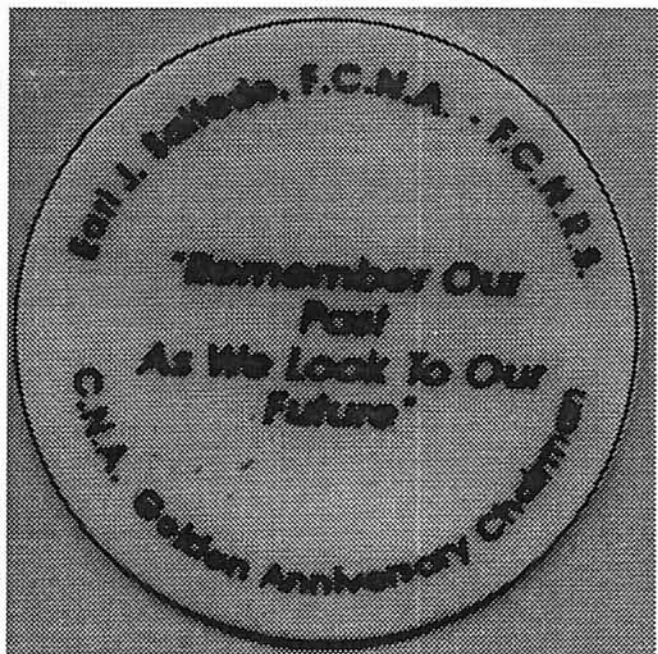
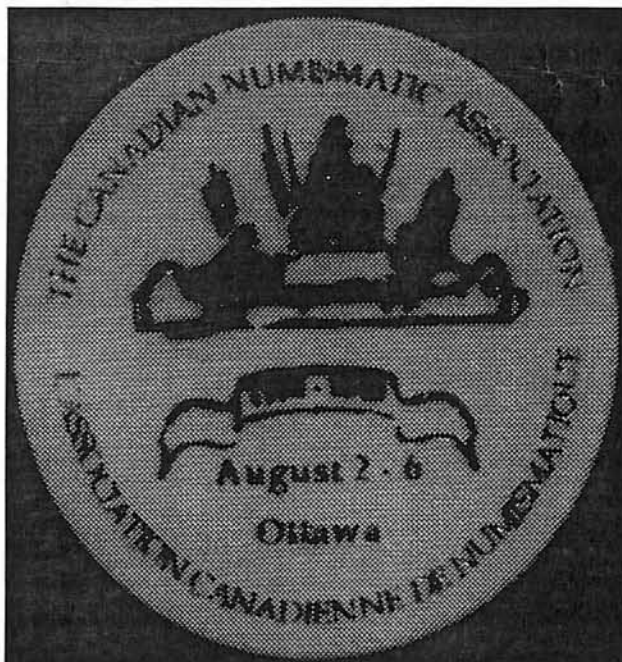
On the reverse are the names of all Past Presidents, the current President and its long serving Executive Secretary along with their years of service to the CNA in that capacity. Total printing is 250 notes. The cost of \$5.00 each includes postage, with a limit of two per order until December 31, 2000.



The Golden Anniversary Commemorative Pin features a modified Anniversary Logo, with gold lettering on a white background. The total quantity manufactured is 250. The cost of \$5.00 each includes postage, with a limit of one per order until December 31, 2000.

Orders, accompanied by a cheque payable to the CNA, should be sent to the CNA at P.O. Box 226, Barrie, Ont. L4M 4T2.

In addition to the above "official" CNA Golden Anniversary souvenir items, the Chairman of the Golden Anniversary Committee, Earl Salterio, distributed a personal medallion to all CNA Past Presidents and others (illustrated below). We expect to illustrate new wooden tokens distributed at the CNA Convention by ONA members in the next issue.





A column dealing with the goings-on on the international numismatic stage

BRITISH ROYAL MINT ASKS PUBLIC TO CHOOSE A DESIGN FOR A NEW COIN WITH A CANADIAN CONNECTION ABOUT MARCONI

The year 2001 marks the centenary of Guglielmo Marconi's first long distance wireless transmission from Cornwall to Newfoundland. To celebrate this immensely important achievement - equivalent at that time, it has been said, to putting a man on the moon - the British Royal Mint will be issuing a legal tender commemorative two-pound coin and, for the first time in their long history, they are seeking the public's help in choosing the new design.

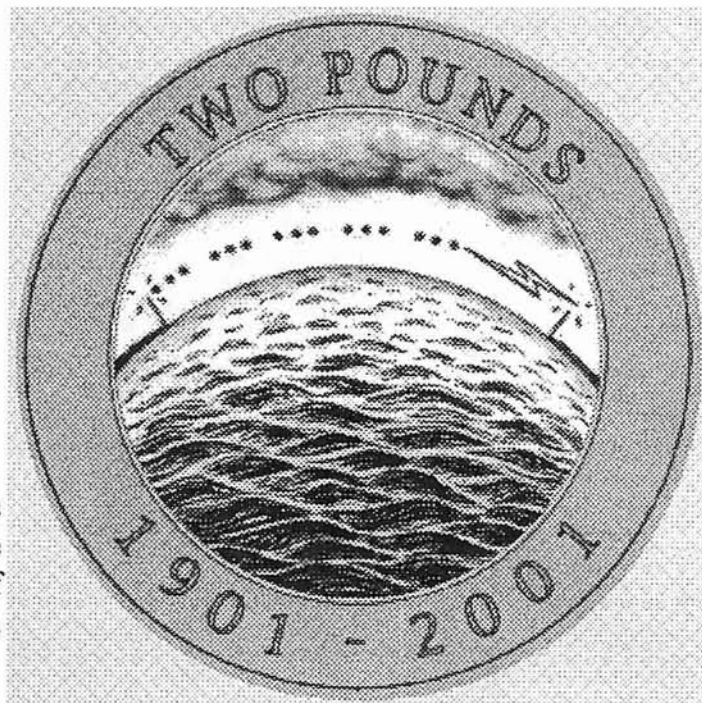
The coin will be the same size and shape as the bi-colour two-pound coins now in circulation and, like them, will bear on one side the portrait of Her Majesty the Queen. For the other side, a special design was required and, following a limited competition, the British Royal Mint Advisory Committee on the design of coins decided to canvass the views of the public on three shortlisted drawings, all by different artists.

By means of the *Radio Times*, an invitation to members of the Royal Mint Coin Club and the Mint's website (www.royalmint.com), the public was asked to indicate which of the three designs they would prefer and their views would be taken into account by the Committee before it makes its final recommendation.

The words WIRELESS BRIDGES THE ATLANTIC will appear with the usual milling around the edge of the coin.



DESIGN A (at left): The design is about Marconi's tremendous impact on twentieth century communication, taking radio waves as its theme, both in the centre and in the outer border. A spark of electricity linking the Os of the date represents the generation of the signal that was transmitted across the Atlantic.



DESIGN B (at right): The confirmation of Marconi's view that radio waves would follow the curvature of the earth provides the theme of this design. The signal of three dots that formed the first transmission is shown moving from east to west, as it did in 1901.



DESIGN C (at left): The young Marconi is pictured on the right with before him, his vision of bridging the Atlantic by wireless. On part of the inner circle is the signal of three dots, while a radio wave balances the inscription in the outer border.

Entries had to be submitted by Friday, June 16, 2000. The names of all those who took part by completing the survey will be entered in a prize draw. Ten winners will each receive a gold bullion sovereign with the historic date 2000, while twenty-five runners-up will each receive a Millennium Crown struck by the coining press installed by the British Royal Mint at the Millennium Dome.

It is interesting to note that USA residents were reminded on the web site that for legal reasons, they were not able to take part, although the reasons were not given.

This was the first time ever that the public was given an opportunity to have their say in the design of a United Kingdom coin.

Trial pieces of the new Two Pounds coins will be struck as prototypes in preparation for the minting of a new coin. They will be distributed, not as legal tender, but as samples to the automatic vending industry for the purpose of re-calibrating machines prior to the circulation of the new coin.

History of the British Royal Mint

The history of the British Royal Mint itself covers more than a thousand years. There is an unbroken link from the scattered workshops of the moneyers of Anglo-Saxon London to a single mint originally within the Tower of London, then the premises at Tower Hill and finally to the huge modern coining plant in South Wales.

Although its primary responsibility remains the provision of the United Kingdom coinage, its reputation is such that more than 100 countries have entrusted the striking of their coinage to the Royal Mint.

On 1 April 1975, the Royal Mint was established as a Government Trading Fund, operationally very similar to a government-owned company. For many years, over half of their sales have gone overseas and, in recognition, the Queen's Award for Export Achievement has been awarded on four occasions.

On 1 April 1997, the Royal Mint became an Executive Agency providing it with greater management freedom to develop its business further. Indeed, the British Royal Mint has maintained its position as one of the world's leading exporting Mint.



Key Dates:

- 886 Alfred the Great struck silver pennies in London.
- 1279 The Royal Mint was sited within the Tower of London.
- 1489 The first gold sovereign was minted.
- 1696 Isaac Newton was appointed as Warden.
- 1811 The Royal Mint was moved to Tower Hill.
- 1855 The first overseas branch mint opened.
- 1967 Work began on the new Royal Mint at Llantrisant, South Wales.
- 1968 Her Majesty the Queen struck the first coin at the new Royal Mint site.

From Raw Metal to Finished Coin

The first stage in the manufacture of the Two Pounds coin is the melting and alloying of its constituent metals in electric induction furnaces at temperatures of between 1300 and 1400 degrees Celsius.

The bi-colour nature of the new coin means that two different alloys must be processed separately. In either case, once examination of a sample by x-ray fluorescence spectrometry has confirmed that the alloy is correct, the molten metal is continuously cast, from a holding furnace, through water-cooled graphite dies. The emerging strip, 210mm wide by 15mm thick, is cut into manageable 10m lengths and its upper and lower surfaces are scalped by up to 0.50mm to remove oxide discolouration.

Two passes through a tandem rolling mill reduce its thickness to 3mm and, in so doing, double its length. Because the nickel-brass will now have become work-hardened, the strip must be softened by an annealing process of seven hours duration in a furnace at 600 degrees Celsius.

The strip is reduced to the desired thickness for coining by being accurately rolled on a reversing finishing mill. At this point, the now extended strip is accurately reduced to coin thickness. Cupro-nickel and, at the stage, whole nickel-brass coin blanks are punched out of the strip at a rate of up to 5000 a minute with a force of 100 tonnes. The metal residue from the blanking process, known as scissel, is returned to the furnace.

The blanks are softened in annealing furnaces operating at temperatures of up to 950 degrees Celsius. After cooling they are fed into automatic blank finishing machines, where stains are removed by a solution of sulphuric acid. They are then burnished and finally rinsed in water and dried off.

The outer blanks of nickel-brass are given raised edges by being rolled under pressure between the fixed segment and rotating wheel of a rimming machine. It is also at this stage that the coin's edge lettering is applied. Central holes, which will take the smaller cupro-nickel blanks, are punched out on a piercing press. The rimmed inner blanks meanwhile receive an edge groove as a key to bonding.

A coining press is served by two separate hopper and feeding systems for the different blanks. The first system feeds the pierced outer blank into a dial plate segment, which then moves on to the second operation. There the inner blank is dropped into position, loosely located inside its outer. Held by the segment, the coin parts pass on to be brought to rest on top of the lower dies whose upward movement pushes the blanks into a restraining collar. Continued upward movement of the lower die squeezes the blanks against the upper one with a 100 ton force, so that both impressions are received in a single operation. By the same action the metal, being forced outwards, takes up the pattern of the milled collar, and the union of the two coin parts is made.

The completed bi-colour Two Pounds coin is ejected from its collar by a downward movement of the upper die.

The Royal Mint Museum

It houses a collection of coins that contains many of the outstanding rarities of the British coinage, such as the 1933 penny, the Una and the Lion five pounds of 1839, the Queen Anne Vigo five guineas of 1703, and the proposed coins of Edward VIII.

But it is also a collection that reflects the international nature of the work of the Mint. Unlike at the Royal Canadian Mint, all the scores of countries for whom the Mint has struck coins are represented in what is a truly global numismatic collection.

As historians of the Mint, the curators of the Museum are also interested in the people who have worked in the Mint while it has been at Llantrisant, when it was at Tower Hill in London and, centuries ago, when it was within the walls of the Tower of London. Isaac Newton, for example, was Master of the Mint for almost thirty years during the early eighteenth century. The famous scientists Sir John Herschel and Thomas Graham have also held the position of Master of the Mint.

Anything, in fact, that relates to the Mint is of interest to the Museum, from postcards to balances, from watch-cases to sculptures. The Museum has machines that were designed to give change for gold coins and a collection of seals that dates back to William the Conqueror.

THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE

A column dealing with the goings-on in the international numismatic stage



U.S.-BASED ERROR AND VARIETY COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION HAS ONA MEMBER ON ITS BOARD

At one time, Canada had its very own error and variety organizations. The original error organization, the Canadian Numismatic Variety Collectors Association (CNVCA), published the *Ervar Digest*. Because of political squabbling and a power struggle, it met its demise. In its ashes, the Coin Irregularity Association of Canada (CIAC) was started by a group of error collectors in 1971. The name for its monthly publication, the *Kayak* (taken from CIAC), was recommended by the dean of Canadian error collectors, the late Hans Zoell, who became its Editor. His company, Hobby Publications, printed the monthly booklets that usually ran around 20 pages, while also publishing a number of variety catalogues that have become collectors items. Other members of the founding Executive, who are still members of the ONA 20 years later, included Bill English as its Chairman and John Regitko, as its Vice-Chairman and Advertising Director. Following Hans Zoell's desire to take things a little bit easier, John Regitko became CIAC's Editor, with his then-wife, Joanne, adding the duty of Co-Editor to her existing position of Corresponding Secretary. Wilf Erb, a long-time ONA member, was a regular contributor of articles and new finds. The last *Kayak* was distributed in April of 1972 when no new blood was willing to take over key positions of the Association.



With the demise of any organizations located in Canada dealing with error and variety coinage, most Canadian error collectors joined either the Collectors of Numismatic Errors (CONE) or Numismatic Error Collectors of America (NECA), or both. The two organizations merged in 1983 and became the Combined Organizations of Numismatic Error Collectors of America (CONECA), which is now the only

North American numismatic organization devoted to the education of error and variety collectors. CONECA focuses on many error and variety specialties, including doubled dies, repunched mintmarks, multiple errors, clips, and off-centers, to name a few, mainly of U.S. Mint origin.

Regular auctions often contain over 700 lots of some of the best error/variety material available. In addition, a special CONECA drawing known as Winner's Windfall can prove to be an exciting way to enhance one's collection.

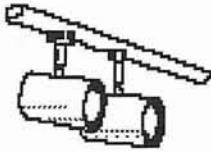
The benefits of CONECA membership include the *Errorscope*, an award-winning magazine filled with articles, photographs, and research involving numismatic errors and varieties. With membership, you have access to many of the experts in the field, as well as a vast library of books, publications, and other reference material.

Their annual show, called *Errorama*, is usually held in conjunction with the ANA Summer Convention or another major show. During the show and convention, educational programs, round table discussions, and many educational displays are the order of the day.

Membership, which includes the mailing of *Errorscope*, is \$27.50 annually if mailed to a Canadian address for regular membership, \$5.00 for young numismatists (under 18). Send application, along with a money order (U.S. funds) to CONECA, James Wiles, 9017 Topperwind Cr., Fort Worth, Texas, U.S.A. 75134-5501.

There is an ONA connection: One of our members, Terry Campbell, occupies Seat 7 on their Board of Directors of CONECA. Terry started out as a collector who now devotes his time to manning bourse tables at coin shows and club meetings as well as filling want lists of collectors. He writes the "Questions" column for *Canadian Coin News*, providing background on unusual coins and medals that are sent in for identification, authentication and evaluation. He has held positions on the Executive of the Peterborough, Oshawa and Scarborough coin clubs. If any ONA member wishes further information on CONECA or error coins, Terry can be contacted at Box 96025, RPO Wentworth 245, Wentworth St. West, Oshawa, Ont. L1J 8M4.

S P O T L I G H T O N S E C U R I T Y



The following article by Chris Boyer, a very active member of the Ontario numismatic scene, was originally published in the CNA Journal. For those members of the ONA that are not members of the CNA, we are pleased to reprint it here.

PROTECTING YOUR COLLECTION

by Chris Boyer

The beginning collector will eventually ask himself or herself, "How will I protect my collection?" By this, we are not referring to safe storage *media* (e.g. safe plastics, holders, albums, et cetera); rather, we mean protect the numismatic collection itself from loss due to theft or due to accident. This article will highlight some of the protection options available to the collector, and the advantages and disadvantages of each method of protecting one's collection. We will also examine some of the experts' tips on protecting the collector's home and person from numismatic theft.

1) Insuring the Collection

There are many insurance companies who are prepared to insure the numismatic collection against loss due to theft or fire. While this insurance offers the advantage of peace of mind, there are a number of drawbacks to consider, including:

- a) the necessity of accurately **cataloguing each item** in the collection, and maintaining the records current with each acquisition or sale;
- b) the **payment of premiums** on a regular basis to maintain the coverage, which is usually a flat rate per \$1000 collection value; and
- c) the **payment of a deductible** in the event of a loss due to theft or fire.

Important note: most coin collections are **not** covered under general home insurance policies, and must be insured separately. Such general policies have a nominal limit of a couple of hundred dollars for numismatic collections.

2) Safety Deposit Box at the Bank

The obvious advantage of storing one's valuable numismatic items at the bank is that the vaults are high-technology, very secure, and offer limited access to the site. There are, however, a number of disadvantages to consider, including:

- a) the **payment of safety deposit box rental fees**, which generally vary according to the size of the box required;
- b) the **inconvenience** of having to travel to the bank during business hours to view one's numismatic valuables, or to remove or store them;
- c) some banks do not provide insurance coverage in the unlikely event of theft.

3) Storage in a Home Safe

This third option can eliminate some of the disadvantages of the protection methods listed above, namely the necessity to maintain up-to-date records of the collection, and the need to make inconvenient trips to the bank. The cost of purchasing the safe is a large initial outlay of funds (for a good quality safe, as described later); however, if one factors out the cost of insurance and/or the rental of a safety deposit box, the purchase price of a safe could be equal to three to five years of premiums or rental fees.

The disadvantages of a home safe include:

- a) the knowledge that one's home could be the target of a break-in by thieves aware of its presence;
- b) the need to have a unit of sufficient quality to withstand penetration by thieves, or destruction by fire.

S P O T L I G H T O N S E C U R I T Y - C O N T I N U E D

These disadvantages, however, can be minimized by taking the following points into consideration:

1) Reputable home safe dealers (ones who make a living out of selling, installing and maintaining quality safes) will tell you that a safe for storing coins and other numismatic items should not only be **burglar resistant** but **fire resistant** as well. It will not do to purchase a fire resistant safe (from your local department store) since they are not designed to withstand dropping or prolonged attempts to break them open. Similarly, it is insufficient to install a burglar resistant safe only; this will not protect the contents adequately in the event of fire. Of course, the price of a fire and burglar resistant safe is greater than that of a theft or fire-resistant unit only, but if one pays \$500 to protect a collection worth \$15,000 from fire and theft, the price is worth it.

Quality safes are **rated** both in terms of their burglar resistance and fire resistance. A **Class B** burglar resistant safe is the minimum level of security required by many insurance companies to qualify for burglar protection. This rating is assigned by having experts in the lab attempt to break into the unit using state of the art tools and equipment. In terms of fire protection, a **U.L.** or **Underwriter's Laboratory** rating of, say, 350 (as marked on the rating plate on the safe) indicates that the unit will protect the contents from a 350 degree Celsius fire for one hour. This protection is often achieved by having the fire-resistant safe lined with specially-designed concrete to absorb the heat slowly.

2) Additional precautions the experts advice to those choosing to store their collections in home safes include:

- a) Don't advertise the fact you have a safe. It may be that eventually that information will reach the wrong ears;
- b) Keep the safe in a climate-controlled area. Drastic changes in temperature, or location of the unit in humid areas will put the contents at risk;
- c) Secure the unit to the floor. Securing the safe to the concrete floor in the basement using anchor bolts will not only prevent a couple of husky thieves carting off your safe, but the fire-resistance will not be compromised. (In the event of fire, a safe bolted to a wooden floor may fall through to the basement anyway!);
- d) Locate the safe in an inconspicuous location. Put the safe in an out of the way spot, and even cover it using the factory carton, so it will not be obvious;
- e) Consider additional home security features. Dead-bolt locks, window bars (particularly in the basement), and a home security system will augment the protection offered by the safe, and will protect your home as well.

4) Additional Tips on Protecting Your Collection

Award-winning author Scott A. Travers in his book *The Coin Collector's Survival Manual* (Arco, 1984) offers the following bits of advice to further protect a numismatic collection:

- a) "Don't have coin publications delivered to your home." (The use of a post office box is recommended to avoid having clues given by one's mail giving the wrong people the wrong idea);
- b) "Don't leave a message on your telephone answering machine that you are not home."
- c) "Use timers to fool people into thinking that you're at home."
- d) "Most important, use common sense."

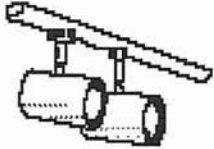
Travers, among other tips, suggests photographing valuable coins in collections, using the services of a professional photographer or coin certification service.

In Conclusion....

Whether the collector chooses to catalogue and insure one's collection, or to protect the collection in a bank safety deposit box, or to house a valuable collection in a home fire and burglar-resistant safe, it is important to weigh the advantages and disadvantages of each approach, and the costs associated with each method. Whatever the strategy used, do make sure to protect your collection!

S P O T L I G H T O N P E O P L E

A column in praise of active Ontario collectors



WHAT THE VALUE IS OF ONE MEMBER

Reprinted from the April 2000 "The Bulletin" of the North York Coin Club

Ten little members standing in a line.
One disliked the President, then there were nine.
Nine ambitious members offered to work late.
One forgot his promise, then there were eight.
Eight creative members had ideas good as heaven.
One lost enthusiasm, then there were seven.
Seven loyal members got into a fix.
They quarreled over programs, and then there were six.
Six members remained with spirit and drive.
One moved away, then there were five.
Five steadfast members wished there were more.
One became indifferent, then there were four.
Four cheerful members who never disagree -
'Til one complained of meetings, then there were three.

Three eager members! What do they do?
One got discouraged, then there were two.
Two lonely members, our rhyme is nearly done.
One joined the bridge club, then there was one.
One faithful member was feeling rather blue -
Met with a neighbor, then there were two.
Two earnest members each enrolled one more -
Doubling their number, and then there were four.
Four determined members just couldn't wait -
'Til each won another, and then there were eight!
Eight excited members signed up 16 more.
In another six verses, there'll be a thousand twenty-four!



COIN-A-RAMA

NOVEMBER 25, 2000

Coins, Tokens, Jewellery, Paper Money, Medals & More....

Our Lady of Peace Hall

6944 Stanley Avenue, Niagara Falls, Ontario

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Free Parking - Free Gold Draw - Only \$1.00 Admission

Take Hwy 420 from QEW, turn south (right) at Stanley Ave., just past the Sheraton Fallsview

BOURSE INFORMATION: (905) 356-5006

2001 ONA CONVENTION - APRIL 27, 28, 29
COLLEGE INN, GUELPH, ONTARIO