



ONTARIO NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 54
January / February 2015
Pages 1 – 32

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION ISSN 0048-1815

www.the-ona.ca

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(705) 267-7514 billwaychison@gmail.com

Area 11 - vacant

Please contact Robb McPherson.

President's Message



Hello fellow ONA members, I have a few things to touch on briefly for this issue.

First off, have you paid your membership dues for 2015? If not, before going any further please send that in to David Bawcutt and/or Brent Mackie as soon as possible. We make many options available for our members to make payment so it is easy for you to do.

Secondly, I hope you are prepared to come to the ONA convention in Niagara Falls this year. The registrations are open and have started to come in. If you wait too long you may be disappointed later when you find out that the registrations and/or medals are sold out, as has happened in recent years. Again we make many options available for you to do this. You can even do it all online without even leaving your office chair. The hotel is now taking reservations for the convention and is allowing us to offer special rates from Wednesday April 15 to Tuesday April 21. So now you can take the whole family for a vacation and take in the convention at the same time. See the convention report later on in this issue for more information.

Thirdly, the ONA is still looking for an editor for this publication. On an interim basis, Henry Nienhuis will continue doing the layout and Judy Blackman is helping out by supplying content for *The Ontario Numismatist*. We still encourage any other articles that you would like to submit. If you have something to submit, please send it to editor@the-ona.ca.

Fourth, I would like to announce that Don Robb has stepped down as a member of the Awards Committee and Len Trakalo has accepted the job from William Waychison to join the committee. I would like to personally thank Don for the many years of service he has done on this committee.

On a final note, I am writing this on our return from Las Vegas. Lisa and I were able to participate in the Silver Strikers \$10,000 Slot Tournament. I finished 88th out of 120 and Lisa finished 98th. The weekend tournament was a great time to share with fellow silver strikers. We were able to take in some sights in the Reno/Carson City area also while on this trip.

Numismatically yours,

Robb McPherson

ONA President [robb4640@sympatico.ca; 519-577-7206]



IN MEMORIUM:

Mr. Bruce H. Raszmann, 1934 – 2011

His 50 years of exemplary service will long be remembered.

Mr. Tom Rogers, 1942 – 2012

Past President; serving from 2003–2009.

APPOINTED COMMITTEE

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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

	Regular	Digital
Regular Membership	- \$ 25.00	\$ 15.00
Spouse (add-on to Regular)	- \$	\$ 10.00
Junior (under 18)	- \$ 15.00	\$ 5.00
Club Membership (aft. Nov. 1 st)	- \$ 40.00	---
Life Membership†	- \$ 750.00	\$ 450.00

† Life membership is applicable after one year of regular membership

Send money-order or cheque (payable to the ONA) for membership to:

Brent W. J. Mackie, ONA Treasurer
P.O. Box 40033, RPO Waterloo Square,
Waterloo, ON, N2J 4V1

O.N.A. 2015 Convention Hotel Information

**Crowne Plaza
Niagara Falls-Fallsview
5685 Falls Avenue,
Niagara Falls, ON L2E 6W7**

Phone: 1 (800) 519-9911

Convention daily rate:

<i>Room Type</i>	<i>Friday, April 17</i>	<i>Saturday, April 18</i>
<i>Traditional</i>	<i>\$112</i>	<i>\$122</i>
<i>Fallsview</i>	<i>\$140</i>	<i>\$149</i>

**** for either a single- or double-bed,
non-smoking room. Subject to 3.8%
Promotion Fee + 13% HST.***

**Mention the ONA Convention to
receive the ONA rate.**

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Nominations are invited for the executive positions of **President, First Vice President, and Second Vice President** of the ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION. The nominations can be sent before *Thursday, April 16, 2015*, to ltrakalo@rogers.com. Nominations are also welcomed during the election which will take place during the Annual General Meeting at the annual O.N.A. Convention in Niagara Falls on *Saturday, April 18, 2015*.

The person nominated must be present at this meeting.

Please consider becoming more involved with O.N.A. activities.

Len Trakalo
Chairman, Nominations Committee

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Membership Report

The following applications have been received and now are members of the Ontario Numismatic Association. There is a period of two months for written objections of a new member to be submitted to the Membership Chairman.

C 138 – North Shore Numismatic Society, Burnaby BC

R 2143 – Tony Verbruggen, Kitchener ON

C 139 – Canadian Centennial

Collectors Club, Acton ON

R 2144 – Bernard Wilde, Los Alamos NM USA

The 2015 O.N.A. renewal membership dues are now **past due**. The Home Club \$1.00 rebate still applies for 2015 and the rebate will apply to the 2016 Club membership. I will send out a final notice in early February which you will receive by e-mail or mail. You can mail in a cheque with your form to our P.O. Box or pay on our website using PayPal.

I could not remember when I joined the O.N.A. so I used the disk that contained all the *Ontario Numismatist* from 1962–2006 to find my name in the Membership report of the month I joined. I was able to find when current members' joined, the names of all Life Members and all Clubs. Scanning through the past issues of the *Ontario Numismatist* I found interesting articles, O.N.A. Club's News, Convention Reports and I have seen some past and current members contributions to the O.N.A. The *Ontario Numismatist* contains the history of our association and our hobby.

If you have any questions on your membership please contact me by e-mail or the O.N.A. P.O. Box.

David Bauceutt (membership@the-ona.ca)

Membership Chairman, O.N.A. February 17, 2015



INTERESTED IN BEING AN ADVERTISING AGENT FOR THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION?

You can earn a commission by serving as an Advertising Agent for the Ontario Numismatic Association.

Learn how by contacting our President, Robb McPherson, at robb4640@sympatico.ca or call (519) 577-7206.

Advertising and Commission Rates:

Number of Insertions	Full-Page 7.5" (w) × 10" (h)		Half-Page 7.5" (w) × 5" (h)		Quarter-Page 3.75" (w) × 5" (h)		Eighth-Page 3.75" (w) × 2.5" (h)	
	Price	Commission	Price	Commission	Price	Commission	Price	Commission
6	\$ 800.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 425.00	\$ 106.25	\$ 225.00	\$ 56.25	\$ 125.00	\$ 31.25
5	\$ 720.00	\$ 180.00	\$ 380.00	\$ 95.00	N/A		N/A	
4	\$ 590.00	\$ 147.50	\$ 315.00	\$ 78.75	N/A		N/A	
3	\$ 455.00	\$ 113.75	\$ 245.00	\$ 61.25	\$ 135.00	\$ 33.75	N/A	
2	\$ 315.00	\$ 78.75	\$ 170.00	\$ 42.50	N/A		N/A	
1	\$ 170.00	\$ 42.50	N/A		N/A		N/A	

Business Card Ads: A business card-sized ad is not specifically available, but a 3.5" × 2" card can be scaled to fit the eighth-page size. This format will leave a small amount of white space on both the top and bottom.

This chart is based on a rate set by the O.N.A. Executive Committee for a full-page ad to appear in six consecutive issues. It is prorated for smaller sizes and fewer insertions, with some exceptions.

O.N.A. IN SEARCH OF AN EDITOR



The Ontario Numismatic Association is looking for an Editor for our official publication, *The Ontario Numismatist*, issued 6 times/year.

If you would like to contribute to the Association as volunteer editor, send your resumé to Robb McPherson at robb4640@sympatico.ca or call (519) 577-7206.

COMING EVENTS

**CANADIAN
COIN NEWS**

MARCH 1, Windsor ON

LA Coin Show, Windsor Moose Lodge, 777 Tecumseh Rd. W. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission and parking, 25 dealer tables. Donation of canned goods accepted for LA (LaSalle, Ontario) Food Bank. For information contact Werner Paetzold. For more information contact Werner Paetzold, email windsorcoins@cogeco.ca, telephone (519) 978-9441.

MARCH 7–8, Mississauga ON

MISSISSAUGA'S 12th ANNUAL COIN, STAMP & COLLECTIBLES SHOW, John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre, 4300 Cawthra Rd. Hours: 9: a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission: Sat. \$3, Sunday free. 16 and under Free both days. Free parking, 25+ dealers of stamps, coins, Royal Canadian Mint coins, paper money, military and other collectibles, Canada Post shop. Bring coins, stamps or collectibles to be evaluated and get best prices. Sponsored by The TROYAK Club. Youth table with free stamps, coins and more. Displays of Coins, Stamps, Collectibles by Guests and Club Members. See website for more details. For more information contact Les Plonka, email leszekp@rogers.com, telephone (416) 505-7999. Website: www.troyakclub.com

MARCH 21, 2015, Cambridge ON

Cambridge Coin Show, The Cambridge Newfoundland Club, 1500 Dunbar Road The Waterloo Coin Society presents the 24th Annual Cambridge Coin Show, Mar. 21, 2015, hours :9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission, parking and lunch counter open during the show. Buy, sell, trade, evaluate coins, paper money, gold and silver, tokens, trade dollars, Canadian Tire money, militaria and more. A portion of the proceeds from this show will be donated to a local charitable organization. For more information contact Robb McPherson, email robb4640@hotmail.com, telephone (519) 577-7206. Website: www.waterloocoinsociety.com

APR. 12, Chatham ON

Kent Coin Club Spring Coin Show, Active Lifestyle Center, 20 Merritt Ave Hours 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free Admission and parking, free token or foreign coin to all children entering the show complements of the Kent Coin Club, 25 dealer tables of coins and Paper money for all interests. Food available on site for purchase, Hourly draws and a raffle. For more information contact Lou Wagenaer (President), 27 Peters St. Chatham ON N7M 5B2, telephone (519) 352-5477.

APRIL 17–19, Niagara Falls ON

Ontario Numismatic Assc. 53rd Annual Convention, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 5685 Falls Ave. Admission to the large 52 table Bourse: Adults \$5.00, children under 18 free. Special weekend passes available for \$15.00. Bourse opens to the public Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Plenty of free activities for everyone such as specialty club meetings, RCNA Coin Kids auction and sales table, educational seminars, competitive displays and more. Coin auction Friday evening and Military auction on Saturday conducted by Jeffrey Hoare Auctions www.jeffreyhoare.on.ca. Advance registration deadline is April 3rd. Book your hotel room early by calling 1 (800) 519-9911 and be sure to mention the ONA for special rates. Visit the convention website at www.the-ona.ca/2015.php for more details and updates as they become available. Contact Robb McPherson, Convention Chairman at (519) 577-7206 or by email robb4640@sympatico.ca.

APR. 26, Pickering ON

Ajax – Pickering Stamp & Coin Show, Pickering Recreational Complex, 1867 Valley Farm Road Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission and parking. Stamp and coin dealers, club and youth table. For more information contact Bill Bottan, email billandbernice@sympatico.ca, telephone (905) 668-6185.

MAY 2, Guelph ON

Guelph Spring Coin Show, Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 234, 57 Watson Parkway E. Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission \$3, under 16 free. Free level parking, fully accessible. Legendary lunch counter, free draw for gold coin; coins, banknotes, tokens, Canadian Tire money, medals, books and supplies at more than 35 dealer tables; buy, sell, trade or evaluate. Some of Canada's top numismatic dealers. Kid's table for those collectors under 16 years of age. Sponsor/Affiliate: South Wellington Coin Society. For more information, contact Mike Hollingshead. For more information, email cholling@uoguelph.ca, telephone (519) 823-2646.

MAY 3, Windsor ON

Windsor Coin Club Annual Spring Coin Show, Caboto Club, 2175 Parent Avenue. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Plenty of free parking. Admission is \$1 and juniors are admitted free when accompanied by an adult. For more information contact Margaret Clarke at (519) 735-0727. email wccoinshow@gmail.com.

MAY 9, North York ON

Edithvale Community Collectibles Hobby Show, Banquet Room, Edithvale Community Centre, 131 Finch Ave. W. Hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Free admission, free parking, all sorts of collectibles and featuring coins, paper money, stamps, etc. Hosted by the North York Coin Club. For more information contact Paul Petch, email p.petch@rogers.com, telephone (416) 303-4417. Website: www.northyorkcoinclub.ca

MAY 29 – 30, Toronto ON

Toronto Coin Expo, Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge St Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge St., 2nd Floor. May 29-30, 2015 - Hours: Fri. and Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission \$6, under 16 free. This is a great venue in Canada to buy – sell – trade. Appraisals with internationally renowned dealers in coins, banknotes, tokens, medals, militaria, gold, silver and jewelry. Partnering with Geoffrey Bell Auctions; auction May 28-29. For more information contact Jared Stapleton. For more information contact Jared Stapleton, email torontocoinexpo@gmail.com, telephone (647) 403-7334. Website: www.torontocoinexpo.ca

JUNE 27 – 28, Toronto ON

TOREX – Canada's National Coin Show, Hyatt Regency Toronto on King, 370 King St. W. Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission \$7, under 16 free. Featuring Canada's finest dealers in Canadian, ancient, and foreign coins, paper money, coin and paper money supplies and reference books. Official auctioneer: The Canadian Numismatic Company. For more information contact Brian R. Smith, email brian@torex.net, telephone 416. Website: www.torex.net

July 22 – 26, Halifax NS

2015 RCNA Convention, Westin Nova Scotian, 1181 Hollis St. The annual bourse and convention of the Royal Canadian Numismatic Association. Events include Canada's most prestigious bourse, educational forum, specialist club meetings, annual general meeting, exhibits, Royal Canadian Mint booth, awards banquet and more. More details to follow closer to event Official auctioneer: The Canadian Numismatic Company, www.tcncoins.com. For more information contact Paul Johnson, email info@rcna.ca, telephone 647-401-4014. Website: <http://www.rcna.ca/2015/>



CHECK IT OUT!

INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR O.N.A. LIBRARY



What's new at your O.N.A. Library

Your O.N.A. Library has benefited from the many donations of material by numerous individuals over the years. Again, one such generous benefactor, Harry N. James, F.R.N.C.S., has just donated a series

of three works detailing the various businesses in three Ontario counties, and the tokens they used. They are:

- *Numismatically Waterloo* (Sept. 2013, 139 pages, illustrated)
- *Numismatically Kent* (Dec. 2014, 131 pages, illustrated)
- *Numismatically Essex* (Jan. 2012, 107 pages, illustrated)

How to borrow items from the O.N.A. Library

Ask your Librarian for assistance in locating items, or request (by postal mail, fax or email) a listing of the holdings to conduct your own search, by author, title, or publication date.

The O.N.A. Librarian will send out your requests by postal mail (postage paid), you simply return the items by return mail. It's that simple!

Contacting your Librarian:

Christopher Boyer,
O.N.A. Librarian
457 Lorindale Street,
Waterloo, ON
N2K 2X2

Telephone: (519) 884-4788
Facsimile: (519) 884-1762
Email: librarian@the-ona.ca
Mobile: (519) 589-5265

EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM

Our Education Chairman, Scott Douglas, is pleased to announce that he has arranged an Education Symposium at this year's O.N.A. convention on Friday, April 17 from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. The roster will consist of:

Vanessa Collins – 1 p.m.

Presentation - Security Features in Canadian Bank Notes

Vanessa Collins (née Stergulc) joined the Bank of Canada's Ontario Regional Office in January, 2008. In this capacity, she promotes the Bank and its currency function across Ontario and delivers its products and services to key stakeholders. She is also involved in the Regional Office's program to increase public awareness of the anti-counterfeiting features of Canadian bank notes.

Vanessa is a graduate of the University of Guelph, with a degree in Commerce. She has several years of experience in the financial sector, as well as past experience in the Toronto Agency Operations Centre.

Bernhard 'Bernie' Wilde – 2 PM

Presentation – The Niagara River Banks

Bernhard (Bernie) Wilde spent his youth in Hamburg Germany and Chicago Illinois. He was educated in Niagara Falls Canada, at the University of Chicago, and at the University of Arizona. He is presently a semi-retired Fellow at the Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico. As a physicist, he performed high-energy-density experiments at high power laser and pulsed power facilities to validate simulations of astrophysical phenomena and inertial confinement fusion.

Bernhard has been collecting banknotes and associated ephemera for the last 25 years. One of his numismatic specialties is the 19th century intaglio engraving and printing process for obsolete US and chartered Canadian banknotes. These studies include all the illegitimate machinations of contemporary counterfeiters. Today we will hear about his study of the history of the Niagara Region as seen through the banknotes, stocks, and bonds of the world.

Scott E. Douglas – 3 PM

Presentation – The Numismatics of Niagara Falls, Canada

Scott Douglas was born in Toronto, Ontario in 1952 and after completing his education began work on the trading floor of the Toronto Stock Exchange in 1972. Later, he became a professional securities attorney and is presently a market maker for Toronto Stock Exchange list securities.

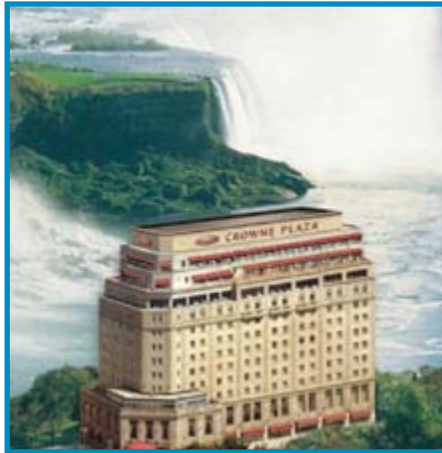
Scott has written numerous articles on numismatics that have been published in various club journals and newsletters. Scott is currently the President of the Canadian Numismatic Research Society and is a Fellow of the Royal Canadian Numismatic Association, the Ontario Numismatic Association and the Canadian Numismatic Research Society.

Scott sits on the board for the Canadian Association For Numismatic Education and the J. Douglas Ferguson Foundation. This past summer Scott had the privilege of being selected to speak at the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand's 1st International Numismatic Conference, representing the RCNA and North America.

2015 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN REPORT

Plan Now For the 2015 O.N.A. Convention in Niagara Falls

Now that we are in 2015 the 53rd Annual ONA Convention is ramping up as the April convention is only two and a half months away now. Keep in mind this is the first ONA convention to be held in this area since the early 80s. We are holding the convention at the famous Crowne Plaza hotel, which was the first hotel to open at the edge of the falls. This hotel has a lot of history with many famous people having stayed here over the years.



The exhibit forms are now posted on the website and in this issue. Please be sure to get them in to Colin Cutler as soon as possible.

We have many surprises lined up for the President's reception and the banquet. Much of this will be finalized over the next month.

Keep checking the website for the most up to date information or contact me with any questions or concerns.



Your convention committee is busy at work preparing for this monumental event. I mentioned in the opening President's message that the registrations are now available, please take a moment to fill out the registration form so that you are not disappointed later when none of the items are left. The hotel is also taking your room reservations and giving you the option to have the Friday night rate for 2 days prior and 2 days after the convention so that you may make this a family event. Call the Crowne Plaza at 1-800-519-9911 to place your reservations.

All of the specialty groups will be meeting at the convention this year including the new Canadian Centennial Collectors Club. Another new event this year is the Educational Symposium for 3-hours on Friday afternoon. Look for more details on this event in this issue!



I hope to see many of our members attend the convention and encourage you to visit www.the-ona.ca/2015 for more information, news and updates or email me at registration@the-ona.ca if you have any questions.

Robb McPherson

President, Ontario Numismatic Association

Convention Chairman, 2015 O.N.A. Convention

2015 REGISTRATION CHAIRMAN REPORT

Plan Now For the 2015 O.N.A. Convention in Niagara Falls



With less than 60 days before the annual convention, time is quickly running out to get your registrations in and secure a souvenir medal.

The early bird prize selected this year is the latest \$50 for \$50 coin designed

by Emily S. Damstra featuring a swimming beaver slapping the water to alert the presence of a nearby wolf on shore. Names of all the main registrants received prior to February 28 will be entered in the draw with the winner announced in March.

This year's convention promises to be another memorable event for the history books. In addition to being held in Niagara Falls for the first time since 1981, an educational symposium scheduled for Friday afternoon has been added to give attendees even more incentive to arrive early and make this a family affair. In my previous message I shared many of the advantages and benefits of purchasing a registration package. The exclusive Friday evening Bourse preview, Saturday and Sunday early bird admission plus the welcome reception in my opinion are almost priceless! For those of us with precious little time on our hands and who have to be in many places at once or who want to get the most of the activities planned over the weekend, the Bourse passes can be like 'a ticket to paradise'. You don't have to be an O.N.A. member to register and with a deal as good as this, less than 100 main registrations are available and only until April 3rd. By the time you're reading this over half of the medals and kits will have been sold, so don't wait until the last minute otherwise you may miss out!

Regardless of whether you pre-register, purchase a Bourse floor pass and stay for the entire weekend or just show up for Saturday or Sunday and pay the daily admission, we all benefit. Without the support of the dealers and attendees there would be no venue in which to

host the clubs, associations and events that bring collectors together from across the province. Competitive and non competitive displays are a vital convention component that showcase the collector's talent while providing

added incentive to share their knowledge and passion with the public. Any member who has taken home a medal or ribbon as a result of the hours of work and preparation will tell you they're among their most prized possessions.

Often overlooked is that meeting rooms are offered at little or no cost to specialty clubs who would otherwise be unable to afford the expense and/or who only gather together a few times a year. Consider also that these meetings open to the public are often the first real introduction to various aspects of the hobby and one of the few ways the O.N.A. can have a direct impact on organized numismatics.

As registration chair, I encourage each and everyone of you reading this to attend the show and in doing so support the hobby and efforts of the O.N.A. and convention committee members who are working extremely hard to put it all together. Please let me know by email if you are able to help out at the registration or convention sales desk as soon as possible so I can put together a schedule. As unpaid volunteers, aside from our desire to meet or exceed your expectations, often the only satisfaction we receive is from the overwhelming success once everything has been packed up for another year. The next two issues of the Ontario Numismatist will include further updates and highlights of the convention so stay tuned and be sure to check the convention website www.the-ona.ca/2015 for more information, news and updates or email me at registration@the-ona.ca if you have any questions.

Peter H. Becker

**1st Vice-President, Ontario Numismatic Association
Convention Chairman, 2015 O.N.A. Convention**



MEDALS FOR EVERYONE

THE NUMISMATICS OF THE YANGTZE INCIDENT—1949

Courtesy of Rod Sell and John Pearn, *The Australian Numismatic Society*

Military engagements bond the combatants. This bonding is reinforced by the bestowal of service medals specific for the operation, especially if these involve intense exposure to shot and shell. The Yangtze Incident of April 20, 1949 was a brief but bloody engagement involving the Royal Navy frigate H.M.S. Amethyst, during the course of the Chinese Civil War of 1945-1949. H.M.S. Amethyst had steamed up the Yangtze River, preparing to evacuate British and Commonwealth citizens from Nanking, from being engulfed in the Civil War. The Amethyst was fired upon and was gravely but not totally disabled. 46 crew were killed or died from wounds, including the surgeon and the Sick Berth Petty Officer, and the Captain, Lieutenant Commander Bernard Skinner, who died the next day. H.M.S. Amethyst finally escaped the blockade under the cover of darkness on 31 July 1949. The sailors, soldiers and airmen involved in the Yangtze Incident received the Naval General Service Medal with the Yangtze clasp. The ship's cat, Simon, was also wounded; and was awarded the Dickin Medal, the "*Animal VC*", by the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals. He was recommended for this award by the surviving members of the crew, an example of the bonds which are forged under fire; and which transcend the normal barriers between human kind and the animals who serve with them.



Image of the Royal Navy frigate H.M.S. Amethyst (1950)

INTRODUCTION:

The commissioning and bestowal of medals becomes one of the most enduring records of historical events. Such comprise a permanent witness of events, both great and small; and are occasions of both great societal importance and of intense personal significance. Once such military engagement was the Yangtze Incident, a brief, local but intense battle between guns of the Communist Peoples' Liberation Army and several Royal Navy vessels, particularly the frigate H.M.S. Amethyst. At that time (April 20, 1949), one of the present authors Rod Sell was a five year old boy living in Hong Kong, in the aftermath of his family's incarceration as Japanese Prisoners of war, in Shanghai. The other author John Pearn, had researched the unusual subject of animal courage and altruism.¹ Both were enjoined in an interest in the medallic heritage of the Yangtze Incident. That medallic record will endure long after all material and artefacts of that tragic episode had disappeared.

THE STRATEGIC BACKGROUND:

In 1949, the Communist north of China fought and won a decisive war over the established and democratic South. It was a war whose outcome was to shape Asian history and its wars over the ensuing decades. Its outcome was ultimately to lead to the China of the twenty-first century, as a dominant world power.

Following the overthrow of the Ch'ing Dynasty (1644-1911) in 1911, China was ruled by various competing warlords and foreign powers, especially Japan (1937-1945). Civil wars simmered from 1945, between the Chinese Communists and the Nationalists. Full scale civil war was being fought by January 1947. In spite of superior numbers of the Nationalist Army (2,700,000), the strategic initiative had passed to the Communist Peoples' Liberation Army with 1,150,000 Nationalist soldiers. The Nationalists' were widely spaced, and the ethical stance and charismatic brilliance of the leadership of Mao Tse Tung meant that by 1948, decisive battles

had been won at Shantung and in Manchuria.

By January 1949, the Chinese Communist Army, following a series of major battles, had moved south to the Yangtze River. On October 1, Mao proclaimed the establishment in Peking of the Peoples Republic of China. The defeated Nationalist Army and Government regrouped itself on Taiwan. In early 1945, warships of the Royal Navy were stationed in Shanghai, at Nanking in the upper reaches of the Yangtze River and at Hong Kong. They were there to protect British interests and to evacuate British and Commonwealth Nationals, and to defend the British colony of Hong Kong.

THE YANGTZE INCIDENT:

In early April 1949, H.M.S. Amethyst was stationed in Hong Kong. She sailed from Hong Kong on the 12th of April for Shanghai; and on the 19th of April left Shanghai to proceed up the Yangtze River to relieve the HMS Consort at Nanking. The Peoples Liberation Army controlled territory on the north side of the river where their forces had medium artillery. Since the Communists did not have a Navy, all Naval ships were regarded as the enemy. H.M.S. Amethyst was fired upon with deadly accuracy from shore batteries positioned on the north side of the Yangtze River, opposite Low Island. Nevertheless she steamed on and

was came under artillery fire again from shore batteries positioned on the north banks of Xou An Reach and on Rose Island. She sustained at least five direct hits.² The frigates Captain, Lieutenant Commander Bernard (Bill) Skinner, was mortally wounded and died from his injuries the next day.

In the height of battle Amethyst received over twenty direct hits with the bridge and wheel house and both A gun and B gun put out of action³. Shell holes below the water line were plugged with hammocks and bedding. Both the Surgeon and the Sick Berth Attendant were killed by an artillery shell. Fifteen were killed and twelve were wounded. Forty unwounded men remained on board and the rest were ordered to swim ashore to Rose Island. H.M.S. Consort, which had been stationed at Nanking, arrived under full steam with battle pendants flying at 2:00



These four images of H.M.S. Amethyst, were taken by Herbert Sell in Hong Kong in 1949.

p.m. and returned fire with deadly effect. The wheel house and primary steering system of Consort was also partly destroyed and after another run up the Yangtze, “*Still firing hard*”, she was then forced to proceed down river to Shanghai.² Comparative quiet descended on the scene with H.M.S. Amethyst still embedded in the mud on Rose Island, with the First Lieutenant, Lieutenant Weston, in command. An attempt was made to rescue H.M.S. Amethyst by Vice-Admiral Madden, on H.M.S. London with H.M.S. Black Swan as escort. Both ships were badly damaged and had to retire down stream after suffering 15 killed and 22 wounded.

A Sunderland aircraft was quickly prepared with medical personnel and flown to H.M.S. Amethyst, with Flight Lieutenant M. E. Fernely inserted as Medical Officer. An Australian Naval Officer, Lieutenant Commander J.S. Kerans was also sent in to take command. On the night of 30–31st July under the cover of darkness, H.M.S. Amethyst slipped her cable and under smoke cover, passed through and completed the 104 mile dash for freedom, running the gauntlet of Communist guns on both banks of the River... where, at full speed ahead passed through the mouth of the River and sent the time honoured signal “*Have rejoined the fleet at Woosong... God Save the King*”.³ In all, forty-six servicemen were killed or died, as crew of the four ships, H.M.S. Amethyst, HMS Consort, HMS London and HMS Black Swan. Military historians have described this action “*During the end of the Chinese Civil War of 1949 as one of the most heroic, hopeless, bizarre and ultimately triumphant episodes of post-war Royal Navy history.*”³

“Simon”, the ships’ cat on H.M.S. Amethyst was also injured in the



A Parade through London by those involved. Image from “*Escape of the Amethyst.*”

engagement. As a perhaps trivial subscript to this amazing story, the surviving crew of H.M.S. Amethyst, recommended that Simon also receive a medal for continuing to serve as part of the crew.

NUMISMATICS OF THE YANGTZE INCIDENT:

All those who had served at the Yangtze Incident were awarded with the Yangtze Clasp. This included the rare awards of the Naval General Service Medal to both soldiers and members of the Royal Air Force who were involved. Approximately 1400 medals with the Yangtze Clasp were issued. Because of the unique, heroic and in gallant nature of the Incident, the Naval GSM with the Yangtze Bar reading **YANGTZE 1949** is one of the proudest post-war service medals. Sadly, a number of such medals has not remained with the recipients or their families, and have become one of most sought after post World War II collector medals.

Profoundly in 1999, fifty years after the Yangtze Incident, a memorial grove to the fallen was unveiled at the National Memorial Arboretum in England. In the Grove, have been planted four Ginkgo trees, “*Living fossils*” with origins in China, each one representing one of the four ships. This is surrounded by a circlet of forty-six Euphorbia shrubs, one for each man who died during the Incident.³ The genus Euphorbia was so named to honour the service of the Greek Physician and Surgeon General, Euphorbus “fl 30 BCE–20 CE”, who served as the Surgeon-General to King Juba II in North Africa.⁴



Image of the Medal from the late Ron Byatt’s collection.

In recent years, Benhams "A United Kingdom publisher of Great Britain first day philatelic covers", produced what are termed PHILATELIC-NUMISMATIC COVERS featuring British service medals. Among such covers have been two which have featured the Naval General Service Medal with the Yangtze Bar.



In error, the first series was produced with a replica Naval General Service Medal with Queen Elizabeth's portrait erroneously featured on the obverse "The Queen's Coronation did not occur until 1953!" Subsequent issues corrected this numismatic and historic error.



“MEDALS FOR EVERYONE”:

The British and Australian several Defence Acts do not permit the award of service medals to animals. Nevertheless, the countries, particularly the United States, bestow such service medals on animals who render exceptional service in war time. One such example was the US Marine Corp mascot “Corporal Chesty III”, who was awarded a US Good Conduct Medal.⁵ Nevertheless, the only dog known to of been officially listed in the Royal Navy, the only dog (“Just Nuisance”), was also buried with full military honours upon her death in 1944.¹

Following the Yangtze Incident, the surviving crew members of H.M.S. Amethyst nominated “Simon” the ship’s cat for an award. He was awarded the Dickin Medal in 1949 for his apparent courage following his injury in one of the artillery blasts that partly disabled the ship and killed other members of the crew. The Dicken Medal is the highest international award for courage. A bronze disc thirty-six millimetres in diameter, it is

suspended by a ryband of three equal bands of green, dark brown and pale blue. The ribbon symbolizes the three domains (land, sea and sky) which are the worlds of animals. The obverse bears the central inscription “For Gallantry We Also Serve”. The Dicken Medal was instituted by Mrs Maria Dickin (1870-1951)

in 1942, following the many reports of conspicuous courage displayed by animals working with the armed forces and civil defence units in the London Blitz.⁶ The Dickin Medal, sometimes called the “Animals VC” is awarded by the “UK People’s Dispensary for Sick Animals”. Sixty-three such medals have been awarded to date. “Simon”, of H.M.S. Amethyst, is the only feline award.



Able Seaman Simon, a former stray cat, was awarded the Dickin Medal in December 1949 (posthumously) for his role in the Yangtze Incident, China, April 1949.

(<http://www.abovetopsecret.com/forum/thread972511/pg>)



The Dickin Medal, awarded by the People’s Dispensary for Sick Animals. Instituted in 1942 as the highest award for animal courage. It was first awarded in 1943. Of the 63 medals awarded to 2012, only one, that awarded to “Simon” of H.M.S. Amethyst, is a feline award.



CONCLUSION:

Sixty-five years have passed since those events as the Chinese say, “Ch’ien Men Ch’u Hu”– tiger has been driven out of the front gate”. As the Australian historian of China C.P Fitzgerald wrote in 1964, the tiger, be it the Japanese or Western powers, has certainly been driven out of the front gate of China... [The Chinese nation] have now been wholly under the control of the Chinese; the Treaty Ports are gone and gun boats no longer sail upon the Yangtze.”⁷ The Memorial Grove in the British National Arboretum blooms to honour the service of brave sailors who did their duty. So also bloom flowers beside a tiny grave of Simon the ship’s cat, enjoined in the written heritage of animals who have served with their human counterparts in times of conflict;⁸ and whose service will endure in the centuries ahead in the numismatic record.⁸

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Armed Forces Memorial Entrance

MEDALS FOR ANIMAL COURAGE:

- Dickin Medal—in 1943
- People’s Dispensary Silver Medal—1943-1969
- People’s Dispensary Gold Medal—1969
- National [UK] Canine Defence League Bronze Medal
- Dogs Trust Gallant Canine Medal

NUMISMATICS OF BRAVE ANIMALS: A CLASSIFICATION:

- Medals for Animal Courage
- War Service Medals to Animals
- Coins and Medals Depicting Animals and Metaphors of Virtue
- Performance Medals—Strength and Endurance
- Medal to Humans for Saving Animal Life

MEDALS FOR ANIMAL COURAGE:

- Purple Cross—instituted 1993
- National [Australia] Animal Valour Award—from 1998
- New Zealand Royal NZSPCA Bravery Award Medal (1953-1957)
- RNZSPCA Silver Medal of Merit—1958
- RNZSPCA Bronze Medal of Merit—1958

MEDALS FOR ANIMAL COURAGE:

- Stillman Medal Award—American Humane Society
- Single (Opportunistic) Issue Medals e.g. State Poultry Society—1869
- THE SUN’S Hero Dog Award Medallion
- The VITA WIRELESS Samaritan Medal—National Hero Dog Award





A Second World War and Yangtze Incident Group of Seven Medals awarded to Chief Engine Room officer W. J. B. Herbert, Royal Navy. The medals consisted of: 1939-45 Star, Atlantic Star, Africa Star, Defence Medal, War Medal, Naval General Service Medal 1915-62, GRVI, clasp Yangtze(C/MX 48453 W. J. Herbert. C. E. R. A. R.N.) Royal Naval Long Service and Good Conduct Medal G.V.I.R (MX. 48453 W. J. B. Herbert. C. E. R. A. H.M.S. Cobra), mounted for wearing. Unsold in Dreweatts & Bloomsbury auction, September 26, 2012.

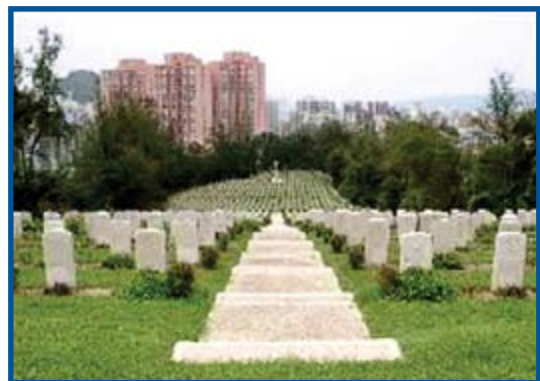
Rod Sell provided the article “MEDALS FOR EVERYONE THE NUMISMATICS OF THE YANGTZE INCIDENT—1949” re-printed above. In conversation with him about this article, he added these comments, which readers may appreciate:

I have very vague memories of H.M.S. Amethyst in Hong Kong in 1949. I do remember the cruisers London and Belfast being on station, as dad had many friends and relatives on those ships, who used to dine with us. I even had a sailor uniform with H.M.S. London cap name. I have two books on the Yangtze Incident, as it was termed, which are very exciting reads.

This article (in this issue of the ONA Numismatist) was one of the talks given at our 2012 Conference. It followed a talk given by our Patron John Pearn AO at a NAA Conference in Sydney (Australia) in November 2011, on medals issued to animals. He mentioned Simon, the Amethyst cat as being the only cat to have received a medal. John Pearn was a former Australian Surgeon-General. He has had a very interesting life, including taking a military medical team to Papua New Guinea after a tsunami many years ago.

I like History. Did you know, not many Canadians have the Pacific Star, as most served in Europe in WWII. The few who have the Pacific Star were in the two Regiments who were sent to protect Hong Kong in 1941.

They were from the Winnipeg Grenadiers and Royal Rifle of Canada. They arrived in Hong Kong in November and most of their equipment was still on ships in the Pacific when the Japanese attacked on the 8th December. There is a Canadian War Cemetery on the East of Hong Kong Island at Sai Wan Bay. I am sure The Canadian War Graves, would have the names of those in the Cemetery.



Below the memorial, the Sai Wan Bay War Cemetery slopes towards the sea, with a panoramic view of the coastline and distant hills. Here are buried 283 soldiers of the Canadian Army, including 107 who were unidentified. These are among the 1,975 Canadians who sailed from Vancouver in October 1941, to commit to battle during the Second World War in the defence of Hong Kong.

Submitted by Judy Blackman

Houck's Panacea Counter-Stamps

shared by Judy Blackman

Dr. Jacob Houck was born in Frederick (Maryland) and moved to Baltimore in 1828. In 1834 he began selling Houck's Panacea. It is believed that the counter-stamp began in the 1836–1837 Hard Times period. Houck was a prolific counter-stamper, using whatever coin was available to promote his product.

A bottle of his Panacea cost \$1.50, a great deal of money at the time! Houck stated a liberal discount would be given to those buying for resale. Eventually his shop was located at No. 16, the corner of German and Hanover Sts. In 1851 Henry T. Houck became proprietor of the business. He must have sold the rights to produce the medicine, as a bottle exists with a Goddletsville, TN address, with another made in Nashville. The 1855 Nashville city directory carried an ad by A.G. Goodlet (presumably Goodletsville was named for his family) who stated he now sold Houck's Panacea, popular in both the South and North. "Houck's/Panacea/Baltimore" BAR-PUNCH, in loaf shaped indentation.

The Standard Catalog of United States TOKENS 1700–1900, fully updated 4th Edition by Russell Rulau lists 8 Houck's tokens:

- HT 140, R7, (1836), Silver 27mm, 6 pieces known, HOUCK'S / PANACEA / BALTIMORE in relief within oblong depression ctsp on U.S. Draped or Capped Bust quarter.
- HT 141, R4, (1836), Silver 32.5mm, at least 91 specimens known, Similar ctsp on U.S. Draped or Capped Bust half dollar.



This is a HT 141, 1829 counter-stamped U.S. Bust Silver Half Dollar (32.5mm) for Houck's Panacea (Baltimore, Maryland, U.S.A.). [Image is courtesy of Heritage Long Beach Signature Auction #450, 2007.]

- HT 142, R7, (1836), Silver 39mm, 4 specimens reported, Similar ctsp on early U.S. silver dollar.

- HT 143, R7, (1836), Silver 27mm, 11 specimens reported, Similar ctsp on Spanish-American 2-reales.
- HT 143A, R8, (1836), Silver 21mm, Similar ctsp on Spanish-American 1797-Mo or worn 1-real. (PCAC 1999 lot 70 realized \$1,760)
- HT 144, R7, (1836), Silver 38mm, 4 pieces reported, Similar ctsp on France 5-francs.
- HT 145, R9, (1836), Similar ctsp on Prussian Silver thaler, date not known (apparently unique, not examined).
- HT 145F, R9, (1836), Silver 39mm, Similar ctsp on Brazil 1821 960-reis.



This 1832 Silver half dollar is counter-stamped by Dr. Houck and his Panacea. Houck stamped other Spanish coins with his brand and there is even a note that a 1795 Silver dollar was counter-stamped.



United States Patent NO. 7574 for Houck's Panacea, Date of Patent: May 9, 1833, Inventor: Jacob Houck. Another source says the patent was issued on October 25, 1832.



Dr. Houck's travelling Medicine Show. These travelling shows were a common sight in the US of the time. Houck's Panacea was "prepared solely from vegetable matter" by Jacob Houck, "it may be taken with perfect safety by all ages and in all diseases." Undoubtedly his counter-stamp exists on other Silver coins of the Hard Times era.

JACOB HOUCK, FANCY & STAPLE DRY GOODS, Wholesale and Retail, facsimile currency, 121 Market Street, Baltimore, Maryland (image courtesy of Heritage Auctions).



Rulau adds more detail in his standard catalog:

"Interestingly, one collection, that of Stewart P. Witham, contained 14 Houck counter-stamps on Bust half dollars. In 1955 George Fuld possessed 20 such pieces of differing dates, but no records were kept. These pieces (HT 141) are seldom seen and consistently bring high prices."

References / Select Timelines:

1814: On the eve of the 25th Anniversary of the Battle of North Point, a prominent physician of medicine and purveyor of his famous "Houck's Remedies" gave to the State of Maryland an acre of land on the battlefield for the princely sum of One Dollar. His gift today is known as Battle Acre along the North Point Road in Baltimore County. – Battle Acre: A Deed of Land by Dr. Jacob Houck (1792-1850) "for the purpose of erecting a Monument thereon...."

1831: Jacob Houck, dry goods merchant, 121 Baltimore – Matchette's Baltimore Directory

1832: United States Patent NO. 7574 for Houck's Panacea, Date of Patent: May 9, 1833, Inventor: Jacob Houck. Another source says the patent was issued on October 25, 1832.

1833: Patent Medicines: Jacob Houck, successful inventor of medicines, No. 121 Baltimore street

1835–37: Jacob Houck, laboratory & botanic panacea, 121 Baltimore – Matchette's Baltimore Directory

1842: Houck's Panacea, Jacob Houck, full-page advertisement (next page) – 1842 Machettes Baltimore City Directory

1845: Jacob Houck (Dr. Jacob W. Houck, Jr.), proprietor of Houck's Panacea, 15 S. Liberty Street – Baltimore City Directory

1849: Dr. J. W. Houck, 108 Mulberry, Dr. Jacob Houck's laboratory, 357 Baltimore – Baltimore City Directory

1851: Henry T. Houck, panacea laboratory and Dr. Jacob Houck, physician, 8 Eutaw Buildings, Baltimore street – Baltimore City Directory

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Prepared solely from Vegetable Matter,
By **JACOB HOUCK**, Baltimore.

Which may be taken with perfect safety by all ages and in all diseases; its cures are for the following diseases—Dyspepsia, Loss of Appetite, Indigestion, Inflammation of the Stomach, Heart Burn, Diarrhea, Dysentery or Flux, Piles, Fistula, Obstructed Menstruation, Ague and Fever, Billious or Remittent Fever, Typhus Fever, Scarlet Fever, Small Pox, Erysipelous of St. Anthony's Fire, Asthma, Pleurisy, Measels, Yellow Fever, Costiveness, Wind on the Stomach or Bowels, Cholera Morbus, Consumption, Influenza, Colds, Coughs, Inflammation of the chest, Palsey, Gout, Rheumatism, Inflammatory Sore Throat or Quinsey, Whooping Cough, Thrush or Sore Mouth, Putrid Sore Throat, Croup, Inflammation of the Heart, Dropsy, Rickets, Diseases of the Liver, Jaundice, Difficulty of making Urine, Gleet, Hysterics, Nervous & Scrofulous Affections of the Members and Ligaments, Mercurial and Venereal Diseases, Ulcers, Sores, Affections of the Skin, and all diseases arising from Impure Blood, &c.

Price per Bottle \$1 50.

The above medicine can be obtained at No. 121 Market street, opposite the Museum, with proper directions for using. A liberal discount made to persons who buy to sell.

At the solicitation of a number of persons who have been cured of diseases of a long standing by my

ADVERTISEMENTS.

practice, I have consented to give my particular attention to the practice of medicine to persons who are able to attend to me at my office personally, otherwise those who are incapable of attending personally from infirmity will send a correct statement of their case

I may be consulted at my office every day from eight o'clock in the morning until nine at night.

JACOB HOUCK,

No. 121 Baltimore st opposite the Museum.

**DR. A. G. GOODLET'S
MEDICAL LABORATORY,
No. 29 CHESSY-STREET,
Where he manufactures extensively
HOUCK'S PANACEA.**

This medicine is celebrated for the cure of Dyspepsia, Rheumatism, Coughs, Colds, Consumption, Asthma, Indigestion, Heartburn, Palpitation of the Heart, Loss of Appetite, Liver Complaint, Ulcers, Sores, Croup, Bronchitis, Whooping-Cough, Shortness of Breath, Erysipelas, Scurvy, Scrofula, Piles, Sore Eyes, Pimples of the Face, Diseases of the Skin, Nervous Affections, and all Diseases arising from a disordered Stomach or an impure state of the blood.

Price per bottle, ONE DOLLAR. A liberal discount made when purchased by the dozen.

GOODLET'S VEGETABLE LINIMENT.

The best external remedy of the age. Persons who have used it give it the decided preference to all other liniments for efficacy and cheapness. It is unsurpassed by any other Liniment now in use, for the cure of Rheumatism, Tumors, Palsey, Gout, Ring Worm, Itch, Chillsains, Frost Bites, Mumps, Stiffness of the Joints, Cramps, Sprains, Bruises, Cuts, Burns, Dislocations, Fractured Bones, Poisonous Bites, Sore Throat, Stings—all kinds of Swellings, with or without pain. Likewise this Liniment is adapted most peculiarly to diseases in horses, such as strains, inflammation of the withers, fistula, shrinking of the shoulder joints, windgalls, sores, scratches, polo evil, &c. Price per bottle, 25.

For sale by all the principal Druggists in the South and West.

In 1855, Dr. A. G. Goodlet, mfr. & proprietor of Houck's Improved Panacea and Goodlet's Vegetable Lineament advertisement (white).

Advertisements from the 1835 Baltimore City Directory (green), and 1842 Machettes Baltimore City Directory (gold).

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Prepared Solely from Vegetable Matter, by

JACOB HOUCK,
BALTIMORE,

Which may be taken with perfect safety by all ages and in all diseases; its cures are for the following diseases—Dyspepsia, Loss of Appetite, Indigestion, Inflammation of the Stomach, Heart Burn, Diarrhea, Dysentery or Flux, Piles, Fistula, Obstructed Menstruation, Ague and Fever, Billious or Remittent Fever, Typhus Fever, Scarlet Fever, Small Pox, Erysipelous or St. Anthony's Fire, Asthma, Pleurisy, Measels, Yellow Fever, Costiveness, Wind on the Stomach or Bowels, Cholera Morbus, Consumption, Influenza, Colds, Coughs, Inflammation of the Chest, Palsey, Gout, Rheumatism, Inflammatory Sore Throat or Quinsey, Whooping Cough, Thrush or Sore Mouth, Putrid Sore Throat, Croup, Inflammation of the Heart, Dropsy, Rickets, Diseases of the Liver, Jaundice, Difficulty of making Urine, Gleet, Hysterics, Nervous and Scrofulous Affections of the Members and Ligaments, Mercurial and Venereal Diseases, Ulcers, Sores, Affections of the Skin, and all diseases arising from Impure Blood, &c.

Price per Bottle, \$1.50.

The above medicine can be obtained at

No. 16, corner of Getman and Hanover streets,

With proper directions for using.

A liberal discount made to persons who buy to sell.

1855: Dr. A. G. Goodlet, mfr. & proprietor of Houck's Improved Panacea and Goodlet's Vegetable Lineament advertisement (see above)

1860: Dr. Jacob W. Houck, health commissioner, office City Hall – Baltimore City Directory

1865–1870: Dr. Jacob W. Houck, 10 N. Front – Baltimore City Directory

[End]



“Hard Times” issue. HOUCK'S/PANACEA/BALTIMORE in arched incuse countermarked on obverse of a 5-francs of the French Directoire, dated L'AN 6A (KM 639.1).

(Rulau HT144. Coin Fair, countermark VF, toned.)

CARDS AND CURRENCY CAPTURE HISTORY

by Barb Pacholick, Regina Leader-Post, October 20, 2014
Copyright 2014 The Leader-Post. Used with permission.

It was the Canadian Tire money of its day — some two centuries ago.

Avid coin collector George Manz points to two well-preserved playing cards. On their face, they look like nothing more than a 10 of diamonds and a seven of clubs.

“They’re priceless,” said Manz, manning his table at the Regina Coin Club’s fall show on Sunday.

That’s because if you flip those cards over, there’s some inky scrawl written on the back and a date, on the clubs, of 1778.

The playing card money was a highlight of this weekend’s show, said Manz, club president.

At a time when hard currency could be in short supply, some enterprising merchant in what’s now Quebec made his own with playing cards. It’s believed one of the cards was good for the purchase of a bottle of rum, the other for a pint of rum.

Manz, who often digs into the history books to learn more about his collection, said playing card money in what would become Canada began in the late 1600s when it was used to pay the troops in New France. The ships carrying real currency were sometimes delayed. The playing cards fit the bill until the real stuff arrived so the troops had spending money. Given the high illiteracy rates of the day, the cards were often cut in half or quarters to symbolize varying denominations.

Manz bought his two cards at an auction in Toronto. He’s since shown them to experts in Canada and the U.S. “They have never seen anything like these,” Manz said proudly. “They’re extremely rare.”

They weren’t the only unique find on display.

Ever hear of the Moose Jaw-based Bank of Saskatchewan?

In this next-year country, a group of Moose Jaw businessmen believed in 1912 that it would be a going concern, so had proofs made for the money.

They had to come up with \$250,000 — which they hoped to raise through shares — to put in trust in order to get government approval.

To boost the sale of shares, the wannabe bankers displayed proposed bank notes in several store windows on Main Street. But not enough people were buying.

The displayed bank notes were optimistically dated May 1, 1913.

“A lot of people lost money,” said Manz, noting the shares sold for \$100 a piece.

Manz owns the only known tintype mirror proofs for the \$20 Bank of Saskatchewan note that wasn’t to be, while Gatewest Coin Ltd., of Winnipeg,

had the approval proofs for the bills on display.

“It was artwork back then,” noted Gatewest employee Christopher Porco. The \$10 bill has a beautifully detailed scene of railway construction, while the \$20 bill shows the bustling Moose Jaw rail yards. In 1913, the aspiring bank project collapsed, and its fate was sealed the next year.

“World War 1 came and wiped everyone out,” he noted.

In 1935, currency was standardized — all issued by the Bank of Canada.



George Manz holds-up two playing cards during the Regina Coin Club’s fall show held at the Turvey Centre on Saturday October 18.



Bank of Saskatchewan \$20 from the National Currency Collection, Bank of Canada

Photograph by: Michael Bell, Regina Leader-Post

COURTESY OF CTCCC THE COLLECTOR — VOL. 25, No. 1, PG. 11

CLUB PINS ARE ONE OF THE PRIDES OF CTCCC

by Ghislaine Theroux-Memme - CM0000015 - therouxg@videotron.ca

In 2000, for the 10th anniversary of the club, we issued our first white pin with gold lettering in two versions: the regular pin was given to all members and the commemorative pin, bearing the mention “10th anniversary - 1990 – 2000” was available for purchase by members. Both of these pins were made in cooperation with the Canadian Tire Corporation.

In 2003, the club issued a black pin with gold lettering which was given to all members.

In 2004, a gold-colored President’s pin was made to highlight the efforts of deserving members over the years. The first two winners of this pin were: Roger Fox # 009 and Don Robb # 003 who did so much to support the club. Without them, the club would not be what it is today. The third winner was Louis Fontaine # 109 who earned the honor for his “News from the West” column, his knowledge and research with his exhaustive “Hi - Lo” list. At a meeting of the ONA, this honor was presented to: Toby Grimmnick # 335, who always gives of his time for the Club; Jerome Fourre # 120, our editor; Mike Hollingshead # 001, our founder; Ovide Bilodeau # 004, creator of the Bilodeau Guide; Ghislaine T.-Memme # 015, our treasurer; Don



Bradt # 150, our variety and error specialist and Brian Smith, owner of Torex.

In 2005, a commemorative black pin with gold lettering, bearing the mention “15th Anniversary - 1990-2005” was made available for purchase by members.

In 2010, a red pin with gold lettering was given to all members. In addition, a red commemorative pin with gold lettering, bearing the mention “20th Anniversary - 1990-2010” was made available for purchase by members.

In 2015, a silver pin with silver lettering will be given to all members. In addition, a silver commemorative pin with silver lettering, bearing the mention ‘25th Anniversary – 1990-2015’, will also be made available for purchase by members who wish to add it to their collection.

In 2015, our president Sandy Lipin has decided to issue a new gold lapel pin with the inscription Canadian Tire Coupon Collectors Club. This is to honor members who have 25 consecutive years with the club. Each time that a member will reach 25 consecutive years they will be awarded this lapel pin automatically.

KEMPTVILLE ISSUES ANOTHER COLLECTOR TRUCK

by Toby Grimmnick - CM0000338 - toby-bets@live.ca



1947/8 International Pickup - Quantity issued 250. - Numbered xxx of 250.

With a wheelbarrow, shovel and bags of sand in the box. Label reads “Canadian Tire Kemptville 2014”

Canadian 50 Cents

By Ron Confortin

The Canadian fifty-cent piece has undergone numerous changes since its inception. In 1870, the first year of issue, the fifty-cent piece was the largest silver Canadian coin. The fifty-cent coin originally was well circulated, as evidenced by the number of lower grade specimens found prior to the 1930's. By the 1940's the denomination circulated less frequently and people tended to save the coin for a gift or as a memento. In the early 1960's the coin did not circulate and normally could only be procured upon request at your bank. When it became a nickel coin in 1968 its appeal diminished still further. It is now only a collector's item.

Prior to Confederation the provincial governments had no need for a coin as large as the fifty-cent piece. The new federal government determined there was a need for a fifty-cent coin to replace the American half dollar. In 1870 there was a large amount of lower-valued American coinage circulating in Canada. The American dollar was weak after the Civil War and the half-dollars migrated to Canada where they were passed at par but only accepted by the banks at a discount. New dies had to be prepared at the Royal Mint in London, England, and these coins with the portrait of Queen Victoria were struck.



http://www.coincommunity.com/forum/uploaded/giorgio11/20150102_50cCanada1870LCWAU55PCGS-Both14550563_800x600_opt.jpg

The fifty cent piece was designed by Leonard C. Wyon, the chief engraver at the Royal Mint, London. Wyon used Queen Victoria's portrait by William Theed which was the same portrait as the one used on the twenty-five cent piece.

There are two major varieties for the 1870 fifty-cent piece. The most common variety has the initials "L.C.W." on the truncation of Queen Victoria's portrait. The initials "L.C.W." are those of the designer, Leonard C. Wyon.

The scarcer variety does not have the initials "L.C.W." This variety is a completely different die and there is a small shamrock behind the front cross of Queen Victoria's crown. There is also a small gap between the back of the Queen's head and her hair bun.

The 1870 issue of 450,000 pieces was the largest number of pieces struck in the Victorian series, struck in .925 silver and weighed 11.62 gms.



COURTESY OF LONDON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY — FEBRUARY 2015, PAGE 11–14

In 1902 the first issue of King Edward VII coinage was struck. It featured the portrait of the King facing right and the legend “EDWARDVS VII DEI GRATIA REX IMPERATOR.” The word “Canada” which was previously on the obverse was moved to the reverse to make room for the extended legend. The addition of “Canada” to the legend and the decrease in size for the lettering “50 CENTS” are the most noticeable changes.

There are two varieties in Edwardian fifty-cent pieces; the first is the 1903H issue and the second occurred in 1910 when the leaves were modified.



1910 Edwardian Leaves

<https://www.jandm.com/i/50-1910-edwardian.jpg>



1910 Victorian Leaves

<https://www.jandm.com/i/50-1910-victorian.jpg>

In 1910 the Ottawa Mint determined that the reverse rim was too narrow. The mint requested the Royal Mint in London modify the reverse die. The original Victorian reverse with the pointed leaves almost touching the edge is illustrated on the left. The new Edwardian leaves, which are shorter and curve upward slightly are shown on the right. The cross on the crown of the new modified dies is slightly smaller in order to accommodate the wider rim.

The best-known coin in the Canadian King George V, 1911-1936 series is the 1921 fifty-cent piece. There were over two hundred thousand coins originally struck for circulation. In the early 1920's there was little demand for the new .800 fine silver coins and the mint retained its supply of these coins. The demand for fifty-cent pieces did not materialize until the late 1920's. As a result no fifty-cent coins were struck for 1922 through 1928. Following the decision to issue a 1929 fifty-cent piece, the remaining 1920 and 1921 fifty cent pieces were melted down. The majority of the coins melted were the 1921's. The few coins that escaped the melt were in specimen sets or circulation strikes sold to mint visitors. It is estimated that approximately 75 coins survived the melt.

The George VI, 1937-1952 fifty cent pieces were completely redesigned and a number of major and minor varieties exist. The bust of George VI is facing left with the obverse inscription reads “GEORGIVS VI D:G: REX ET IND: IMP:” meaning “George VI by the grace of God King and Emperor of India.”

The reverse design by George Edward Kruger-Gray featured a stylized Canadian coat-of-arms, the inscription “Canada,” the date and the value. Most of the varieties in the George VI fifty-cent piece are connected to the die changes in the date. The practice of re-punching old dies with the current date produced minor varieties in this series.

In 1947 there were two varieties of “7,” a curved 7 variety illustrated on the top that curved to the right, and a straight 7 that curved to the left as seen in the lower coin.



1947 Curved 7

<https://www.jandm.com/i/50-1947-c7.jpg>



1947 Straight 7

<https://www.jandm.com/i/50-1947-s7.jpg>

The Royal Canadian Mint faced a dilemma in early 1948. The new obverse dies would not be ready for several months and there was a compelling need for all denominations of coins. The mint decided to continue striking 1947 coins in 1948, but added a small maple leaf to the right of the date to designate them as the later issue. This decision, coupled with the two styles of “7,” produced four varieties for this issue.



1947 Maple Leaf C7

<https://www.jandm.com/i/50-1947-c7ml.jpg>



1947 Maple Leaf S7

<https://www.jandm.com/i/50-1947-s7ml.jpg>

The Royal Mint in London, England did not give Canada’s new obverse die special priority. The original design by T.H. Paget was reworked to remove “ET IND: IMP:.” The new inscription changed the initials “D:G:” to “DEI GRATIA” and now it reads “George VI by the grace of God King.” The dies arrived in Ottawa in late 1948 and the Mint started striking the new coins immediately. The shortened period of striking time resulted in fewer coins dated 1948.

Queen Elizabeth II coinage was first issued in 1953, and with it came the variety of shoulder straps or no shoulder straps for all denominations. The 1953 fifty cent pieces had a large and small date variety. The small date reverse was carried over from the George VI issues and is only found with the early no shoulder strap obverse



1953 NSF Large Date

<https://www.jandm.com/i/50-1953-nsf-ld.jpg>



1953 NSF Small Date

<https://www.jandm.com/i/50-1953-nsf-sd.jpg>

COURTESY OF LONDON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY — FEBRUARY 2015, PAGE 11–14

In 1959 the new Canadian coat-of-arms which had been approved in 1957 was adapted for the fifty cent piece. The new design featured a ribbon at the bottom bearing the words “A MARI USQUE AD MARE” meaning “from sea to sea.” The initials “T S” for Thomas Shingles, the designer, are found at the base of the coat-of-arms.



<http://www.numicanada.com/medias/pieces-de-monnaie/valeur/50-cents-1959.jpg>

In 1965 the obverse portrait of Queen Elizabeth II was changed to show a more mature Queen wearing a tiara. The new design was taken from a portrait by Arnold Machin.

The commemorative issue for the centennial of the Confederation of Canada in 1967 was designed by Alex Colville for all denominations. The reverse of the fifty-cent piece features a howling wolf with both dates of 1867-1967.



The introduction of pure nickel coinage in 1968 replaced the 80 silver fifty cent pieces. The size of the coin was reduced to 27.13 mm from 29.72 mm to make it easier to strike the coin in the harder metal.



AUSTRIA WINS COIN OF THE YEAR AWARD

December 11, 2014 by Dave Harper



The Austrian Mint's 2013 Klimt and his Women 50-euro gold coin has been named Coin of the Year by an international panel of judges in a vote that concluded Dec. 6.

An award trophy will be presented Jan. 31, 2015 at the World Money Fair in Berlin, Germany, by

representatives of World Coin News, sponsor of the award.

Trophies will also be presented to the winners of the 10 COTY category awards chosen by a previous round of voting by the judges.

Here Austria started strong, taking the top title in three of 10 categories.

The 50-euro Coin of the Year was at the top of the Best Gold Coin category. The piece, called, "The Expectation," Standard Catalog of World Coins number KM-3218, is part of a series of gold coins honoring the works of Gustav Klimt, who worked in turn of the century Vienna, dying in 1918.

Also vying for the COTY award was a 100-euro gold coin, KM-3225, issued in the Austrian Wildlife series and depicting a Red Deer. It came out on top of the Most Artistic Coin category.

Austria's third candidate in the COTY race was the winner of the Best Bi-Metallic Coin category, a Tunneling themed 25-euro silver and niobium coin, KM- 321.

The other category winners from which the judges made their final selection were as follows:

The Most Historically Significant category winner was The Netherlands 5-euro silver coin marking the 1713 Treaty of Utrecht that ended the War of the Spanish Succession, KM-326.

At the head of the Best Contemporary Event category was a copper-nickel ruble, KM-436, issued by Belarus to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the founding of BPS-Sberbank. This category honors historically important events that occurred less than 100 years ago, while the Most Historically Significant Coin category is for the important people and events of more than 100 years ago.

Best Silver Coin honors were taken by Latvia's 1 lats coin marking the 200th anniversary of the birth of composer Richard Wagner, KM-140.

Best Crown was Ireland's silver 10 euro commemorating author James Joyce, KM-80.2. Crowns are coins with a diameter of 37 millimeters to 45 mm.

The United States Mount Rushmore quarter headed the Best Circulating Coin category. The copper-nickel piece is KM-546 and is part of the America the Beautiful series of 25-cent pieces.

A coin showing a howling wolf, which is actually a cutout, is the Most Innovative Coin. Issued by Mongolia, the coin is gilded silver and has a 500-tugrik denomination, KM-328.

The Most Inspirational Coin category was led by a Canadian silver \$3 showing Grandfather and Grandson Fishing, KM-1485.

Nicholas Copernicus: Not Just a Revolutionary Astronomer

by Gregory Zbitnew

The idea that the earth rotates and revolves around the sun was considered an absurd notion in the 1500s. For one thing, if the earth rotated, wouldn't everything just fly off? Most of us have heard of Nicholas Copernicus (1473-1543), the first person to seriously challenge the idea that the sun, planets and stars revolved around the earth. His revolutionary ideas ultimately prevailed and are now taken for granted.

Copernicus (in Polish, Mikolaj Kopernik) is one of Poland's most famous citizens, and his image appears on both the paper money and coins. His portrait is on the 1000 Zloty note dated 1982:



The back of the banknote illustrates the sun-centered Copernican solar system.





A Polish 10 zloty coin dated 1959



A German 5 mark coin celebrating the 500th anniversary of Copernicus's birth

Less well known are Copernicus's revolutionary ideas on money and coinage. While there is no space in this short article to give a biography of this remarkable individual, there is an excellent biography in Dava Sobel's book *A More Perfect Heaven: How Copernicus Revolutionized the Cosmos* (Walker and company, New York, 2011). To put his numismatic work into perspective, here are a few highlights of his life:

Copernicus was born in Thorn (Torun), part of Royal Prussia, then a subject state of the kingdom of Poland. He came from a well-to-do and even distinguished family, his father being a wholesale merchant and his uncle and mentor the bishop of Ermeland. Copernicus proved an inveterate student and theorist in many areas: studying mathematics at the University of Cracow, becoming a skilled painter, studying canon law and astronomy at the famous University of Bologna. Becoming a cleric, Copernicus was named canon of the cathedral at Frauenburg at the age of 24, but then took leave to lecture at Rome and to study in several fields. He then earned a doctor's degree in canon law at the University of Ferrara in 1503 and a medical degree at the University of Padua two years later. He became physician to his uncle, the bishop, and later served full-time as canon of the cathedral. <http://mises.org/daily/4071> (accessed December 16, 2012)

As a "hobby" during his busy life, he was also an astronomer and developed the theory that the moon revolved around the earth, and that the earth and other planets revolved around the sun, not the other way around. The apparent motion of the sun was due to the earth itself revolving once per day. He did not publish his theory during his lifetime, out of concern for the potential controversy. Due to the influence of Georg Rheticus, the manuscript of his work was eventually sent for publication and, dramatically, Copernicus saw the finished book on his deathbed. The book, *De revolutionibus orbium coelestium* (*On the Revolutions of the Celestial Sphere*), as Copernicus thought, was highly controversial, but was also widely used, and ended up in the Roman Catholic Church's list of restricted books for some time. The theory was revised by Kepler, and put on a solid theoretical foundation by Newton with his theory of universal

gravitation. Our modern world takes the motion of the earth and the planets for granted; the reverse would be considered ludicrous.

Copernicus was a prominent, well-respected, multi-talented individual. It explains, in part, how he came to play a role in numismatics:

Copernicus turned his attention to monetary affairs when King Sigismund I of Poland asked him to offer proposals for reform of the tangled currency of the area. Since the 1460s, Prussian Poland, where Copernicus lived, was the home of three different currencies: that of Royal Prussia, the Polish kingdom itself, and that of Prussia of the Teutonic Order. None of the governments maintained a single standard of weight. The Teutonic Order, in particular, kept debasing and circulating cheaper money. Copernicus finished his paper in 1517, and it was delivered to the Royal Prussian Assembly in 1522, and published four years later. <http://mises.org/daily/4071> (accessed December 16, 2012)

The tangled currency reflected the tangled politics of the area, as indicated by this map:



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Teutonic_Order_1466.png (accessed October 26, 2013)

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The western part of the state of the Teutonic order became “Royal Prussia”, part of the Polish Kingdom, after a battle in 1466.

Here are some pictures of some of the coins current during the lifetime of Copernicus (these images courtesy of Heritage auctions):



Polish coin dated 1507
(Image © Auctions)



Coin from Prussia (under Poland), a grossus 1529 Heritage
(Image © Heritage Auctions)



Teutonic order, schilling (Konrad von Juningen, 1393-1407
Note the Crusader cross emblem (Image © Heritage Auctions)

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The resulting paper, *Monetae cudendae ratio* made important contributions to monetary thought. I have been unable to locate an English translation, but the original Latin with the French translation is available at this website: <http://www.taieb.net/auteurs/Copernic/monete.html> (accessed October 26, 2013).

Some of his ideas were centuries ahead of his time. Some of the key observations of this paper were:

1. It is impossible to maintain old, depreciated currency with good currency. (This is another way of stating "Gresham's law" that "bad money drives out good". This was stated well before Gresham.)
2. He explained that currency depreciated through debasement of the alloy, wear due to circulation, and that an increase in the supply of money caused inflation (an early version of the "quantity theory of money").

The paper had 6 recommendations, as follows:

<p>"Pour arriver à restaurer et à conserver une bonne monnaie, plusieurs choses sont à considérer :</p> <p>1° Elle ne doit être modifiée qu'après mûre délibération des notables et en vertu de leur décision unanime.</p> <p>2° Un seul lieu, si faire se peut, doit être choisi pour la fabrication de la monnaie, qui doit être frappée, non pas au nom d'une ville, mais au nom du pays, en portant pour empreinte les insignes de l'Etat. L'efficacité d'une pareille mesure rencontre une preuve décisive dans la monnaie polonaise, qui conserve ainsi son prix dans la vaste étendue du royaume.</p> <p>3° Lors de l'émission d'une nouvelle monnaie, l'ancienne doit être démonétisée et supprimée.</p> <p>4° Il faut garder pour règle inviolable et immuable de tailler 20 marcs seulement, et non davantage, dans une livre, en retranchant seulement la quantité nécessaire pour les frais du monnayage. De cette manière, la monnaie prussienne sera mise en rapport avec la monnaie polonaise, de manière que 20 gros prussiens, aussi bien que 20 gros polonais, constitueront le marc pruthénien.</p> <p>5° On évitera une trop grande multiplication de numéraire.</p> <p>6° Toutes les subdivisions de la monnaie seront émises en même temps; c'est-à-dire on frappera simultanément des <i>scotes</i>, des gros, des sous et des oboles."</p>	<p>To restore and maintain a good currency, several things are to be considered:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. It must be changed only after careful deliberation of notables and with their unanimous decision."2. One place, if possible, should be chosen for the manufacture of the currency, which must be struck, not in the name of a town, but on behalf of the country, bearing the insignia and imprint of the State. The effectiveness of such a measure found conclusive proof in the Polish currency, which keeps its price in the vast expanse of the Kingdom.3. When a new currency is issued, the former must be demonetized and removed.4. It must be an inviolable and immutable rule that there should be only 20 marks in a livre, removing only the quantity required for the costs of the coinage. In this way, the Prussian currency will be put in rapport with the Polish currency, so 20 Prussian gros, as well as 20 Polish gros, will constitute the Pruthenian mark. (see note)5. One must avoid too great a multiplication of denominations.6. All subdivisions of the currency will be issued at the same time; that is to say one will simultaneously strike <i>scotes</i>, <i>groschen</i>, <i>sous</i> and <i>oboles</i>. (see note)
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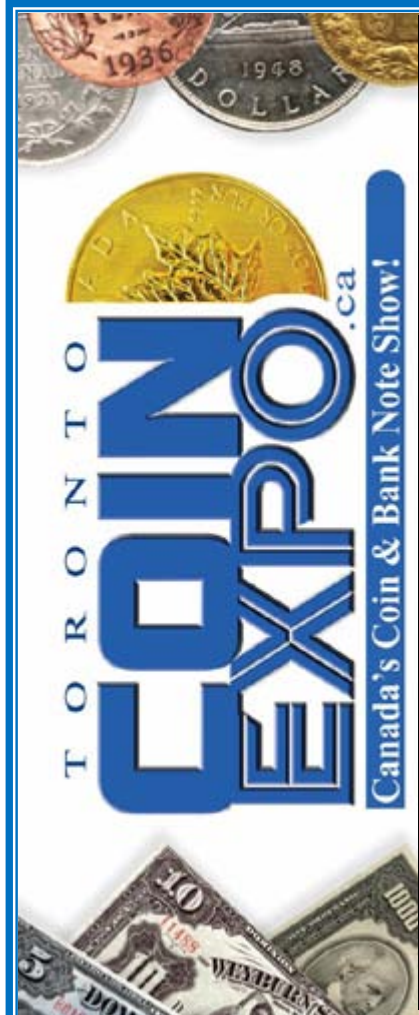
Notes:

According to this paper, the mark was a unit of weight as well as a unit of money. Originally, in terms of currency, 1 livre=2 marks, 1 mark=24 scotes=60 sous or groschen, and 1 sous (schilling)=12 oboles. The paper also describes how the money of the Teutonic order, originally (about the year 1400) was valued at 149 1/3 sous of 75% silver (140 intrinsic value and 9 1/3 for the minting cost) per livre of silver, was now only worth 1/5 to 1/6 of its previous value.

According to [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_\(unit\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_(unit)) (accessed October 26, 2013), the weight of a mark varied from place to place and was about 250 grams.

Although Copernicus's recommendations were not followed, they appeared to be the inspiration for a currency reform in 1526. According to http://www.coingallery.de/KarlV/Polen_Tab_E.htm (accessed October 22, 2013), shortly after the currency reform Poland and Prussia had a uniform currency, 12 Pfennig=1 schilling=0.466 grams of silver, and 3 Schilling = 1 groschen. The only exception was that for denominations higher than 1 groschen, the quantity of fine silver was the same, but Prussia used coins of 87.5% silver; for Poland they were 37.5 % silver.

It would be fascinating to know what would have happened if all his recommendations had been implemented at the time. In any case, we can still appreciate the brilliance of a man whose ideas were ahead of their time, even though his economic ideas did not cause the revolution that his astronomical ideas did.



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Johnson Matthey announces that it has agreed to divest its Gold and Silver Refining business to Asahi Holdings, Inc. (Asahi), a collector, refiner and recycler of precious and rare metals from waste materials, for £118 million (US \$186 million) in cash, subject to typical post-closing adjustments. The transaction is expected to be completed by the end of March 2015.

Johnson Matthey's Gold and Silver Refining business is a refiner of primary and secondary gold and silver materials. It serves customers globally from refineries in Salt Lake City, UT, USA and Brampton, ON, Canada. The business also provides investment casting services from its facility in St Catharines, ON, Canada. In total, the business employs approximately 340 people.

In the financial year ended 31st March 2014 the Gold and Silver Refining business had sales excluding the value of precious metals (sales) of £44 million and for the six months ended 30th September 2014, its sales were £19 million. Its return on sales is typically around 25%.

Commenting on the transaction, Robert MacLeod, Chief Executive of Johnson Matthey said: "The divestment of the Gold and Silver Refining business is in line with our long term strategy to focus on areas where we can use our expertise in chemistry and its applications to deliver high technology solutions or that provide a strategic service to the wider Johnson Matthey group."



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_____	Brass Convention Medal	\$20.00	_____
	Official convention souvenir. Only 40 struck.		
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