



THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIST

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

WATERLOO, ONTARIO

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ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

EXHIBITS at the

CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION

* * *

August 19 to September 5, 1966

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Theme: "WORLD COINS AND CURRENCIES"

2,000 sq. ft. of space

48 fascinating displays

24 hour security guards

Films: "Money in your Pocket"

and "Money Minters"

* * *

Do YOU have your displays ready? Have YOU made arrangements to have them set up between 7:00 and 9:00 p. m., Wednesday, August 17th? And for their removal on Monday, September 5th or Tuesday, September 6th?

HELPING HANDS would be greatly appreciated!!!

Exhibits should include your name and club affiliation, or if desired, just your club affiliation.

In undertaking this Exhibition, the O. N. A. is fulfilling one of its duties by bringing the co-ordinated efforts of its member clubs together in what is probably the largest undertaking of the O. N. A., in bringing numismatics to the attention of the general public. Do YOUR share - volunteer to display or help to man the booth.

CLUBS! Have you forwarded your publicity releases? Got those posters ready? It pays to advertise!

CONTACTS:

John Regitko Jr., Chairman,
1966 ONA-CNE Coin Exhibition,
29 Spruce Street,
Toronto 2, Ontario.

Vince Doran, Assistant
Chairman,
606 Pape Avenue,
Toronto 6, Ontario.

!!! SEE YOU AT THE "EX." !!!

COMING EVENTS

- July 24 OWEN SOUND COIN CLUB 6th Annual Coin Show, Sauble Beach Pavilion, Sauble Beach, Ontario. Bourse Chairman, Ken MacIntosh, Box 94, Owen Sound, Ontario. General Chairman - Elliott Jephson; Display - Jim Loughheed; Auction - Harold Stobbe; Judging - Del Curtis; Publicity - George Grimoldby.
- August 24, CANADIAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION 13th Annual Convention, New Marlborough
25 and 26 Hotel, Smith St., and Elliott Ave., Winnipeg, Man. General Chairman - Albert Stern, 457 Main St., Winnipeg, Man.
- September 24 LONDON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY Annual Banquet and Coin Show, Holiday Inn. Awards for Prize-winning competitive displays. Separate Junior category with an award. Display Chairman - Sam Smith, 92 Elworthy Ave., London, Ontario. Auction - Lloyd T. Smith. General Chairman - William N. Clarke, 167 Delaware St., London, Ontario.
- October 8, 9, CENTRAL COIN SHOW, Semi-Annual Coin Show, Westbury Hotel, 475 Yonge St.,
10 Toronto, Ontario. General Chairman - Larry McNeil. Bourse Chairman - Vince Doran. Display Chairman - John Regitko. Information from: Central Coin Club, Central YMCA, 40 College St., Toronto 2, Ontario. This show will include a varied educational programme, including a quantity of O. N. A. Audio-visuals.
- October 15 ST. CATHARINES COIN CLUB Annual Banquet, Queensway Hotel. Co-chairmen: Pat Lambert and Sam McMullen. Guest speaker - Mr. Art. Duncan, executive of Bata Show Company. Fifteen bourse dealers ... send \$10.00 which includes banquet ticket to Mr. Victor Snell, 6 Rosemount Ave., St. Catharines, Ont. A "POT OF GOLD" (?) guessing competition. A meal fit for a king, complete with all the trimmings. Exhibits, all comers welcome, prizes for visiting exhibitors. Admission FREE. Banquet tickets \$3.00 only. Prizes every hour on the hour. A million dollars worth of friendship to all who attend our banquet.
- November CANADIAN NUMISMATIC VARIETIES COLLECTORS' ASSOCIATION First Annual Coin Show. Exact date and place to be announced. Seven competitive categories in which to enter: 1. Mint Errors (Canadian). 2. Mint Errors (U.S.A.). 3. Mint Errors (Foreign). 4. Die Varieties (Canadian). 5. Die Varieties

Continued.

OTHER SERVICE DIRECTORS

Speaker's Circuit

Kenneth Prophet,
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Camp Borden, Ontario.

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Frank G. Uttley,
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Kitchener, Ont.

Audio-Visual Services

David Ashe,
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Oakville, Ont.

The ONTARIO NUMISMATIST is published monthly by the Ontario Numismatic Association. The publication may be obtained with memberships of one of the following categories: Adult -- \$2 yearly; Junior -- \$1 yearly (up to 18 years of age); Husband and Wife (One copy) -- \$3 yearly; Club -- \$10 yearly.

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(U. S. A.). 6. Die Varieites (Foreign). 7. Miscellaneous (Any coins that are either a mix of the above categories or for some reason do not fit into these categories. It is pointed out, however, that only displays dealing with Mint Errors and Die Varieties will be accepted in the competitive displays. This would also include related subjects such as how coins are minted.)

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CENTENNIAL PRESENTATION COIN SETS

Orders for the 1967 Canadian Centennial Presentation Coin Sets are now being accepted for delivery early in 1967. Collectors may order any number of sets, but preference will be given to those ordering no more than five sets. These will include the new \$20.00 gold coin and the newly designed reverses on the other six values. They will be issued in a special leather case carrying the Canadian Coat of Arms.

Orders for the seven coin set should be sent to: Presentation Coin Set, P. O. Box 100, Ottawa 2, Ontario, with a certified cheque, postal money order or bank draft in the amount of \$40.00 per set, payable to the Receiver General of Canada.

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CLUB NEWS

BRANTFORD COIN CLUB members were pleased to have Mr. Lloyd Hogarth show them a movie on Australia, in May. The June meeting will feature Dr. Barber of Brantford who will talk on Hospital Missions in Northern India. This will be the last meeting before summer vacation. The club will resume meetings in September.

BAY OF QUINTE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION had 21 members present at their May 8th meeting. The first two original members of the association are leaving the area. Ross Irwin presented H. E. "Andy" Anderson and Fred Hoffman with a small token of appreciation for their combined efforts in the original forming of the club. At the May 19th meeting, an O. N. A. Audio-visual, "Canadian Coat of Arms" by David Ashe, was presented. B. Q. N. A. is also closing down for the summer months.

HAMILTON COIN CLUB will hold their final meeting before taking off on holidays, June 12th. In the dozen years, our hobby has experienced an interesting and somewhat frightening evolution. President, Sidney Phillips, feels that it would be appropriate for members to examine "Coin Collecting In Retrospect" which will be the theme for the June meeting.

HURONIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION had 36 members and guests out to their May meeting. The membership voted to continue meetings for the summer months on an informal basis. The June meeting will be the last business meeting until fall. The club will hold meetings, starting with June, at the Loyal True Blue Lodge, High St.

INGERSOLL COIN CLUB had 23 members and guests out to enjoy a talk and slides on "The County of Oxford" by Len Coles. There was a display of Oxford tokens and various numismatic items of the County. Among these was a ledger from the Niagara District Bank, Ingersoll branch, of the year it opened in Ingersoll, 1856. The Imperial Bank of Canada in 1875 took over the Niagara District Bank. Another unusual item in the display was a medallion dated 1789, that had been buried with Charles Ingersoll in 1834. Within a period of 20 days Charles Ingersoll, his wife and young brother died in a cholera epidemic. This medallion was recovered when the cemetery was moved from its location west of St. James Anglican Church to the Ingersoll Rural Cemetery. No meetings will be held in July and August, but will resume again September 19th.

LONDON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY welcomed 50 members and guests to their May meeting. Those attending had a most enjoyable educational period with the showing of an O. N. A. Audio-visual, "Odd and Curious Money", produced by Percy Elgie with Photography by Lloyd T. Smith.

SARNIA NUMISMATIC SOCIETY reports on their banquet: If you are one of those who did not attend, please be informed that you missed one of the best we have ever had. The food was good, the programme excellent and the auction above average. All in all, well worth the price of admission. After two or three trips to the "smorgasbord" we were entertained by the Sarnia Barber Shoppers followed by an excellent film, "Money in Your Pocket," portraying the production of paper money from beginning to end. Congratulations are due a junior member of S. N. S., Ken Philpott, who was recently made a Queen's Scout.

ST. CATHARINES COIN CLUB welcomed 63 members and 14 guests to their May meeting. Catherine Oblinsky took first place ribbon with a very attractive display of Five cent nickels. A very well arranged display of Alaska Tokens was won by Mr. Sawatsky for a second ribbon. Third ribbon was won by the "Fascination of Coins" awarded to Alf. Roebuck. The judging of the displays was by the entire Junior Club, who are to be congratulated for their keen interest in numismatics. The June meeting will feature Mr. J. E. Charlton of Canada Coin Exchange, Toronto. No meetings will be held in July and August.

ST. THOMAS NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION will feature an O. N. A. Audio-visual, "Odd and Curious Money" by Percy Elgie. This will be "Guest Night" when every member is requested to bring an interested visitor.

TORONTO COIN CLUB May meeting, held on St. George's Day, was most interesting. Mr. David Ashe showed the popular O. N. A. Audio-visual feature "Coin Quiz" in which sections of a coin are shown blown up on the screen and the audience is invited to guess the identity of the coin. Mr. H. A. Craig arranged an interesting display of German Notgeld and spoke with much authority on this subject. The June meeting will feature Mr. Walter Griggs of Brantford, Historian to the O. N. A.

WATERLOO COIN SOCIETY At their May meeting, had Mr. Ross Irwin, Guelph, as their speaker. Mr. Irwin talked on the 1943 Canadian cent.

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NEW MEMBERS

Applications published in the June issue of the Ontario Numismatist have now been accepted. The following applications have been received. If no written objections are received, their acceptance will be acknowledged in the August issue of the Ontario Numismatist.

549. Richard C. Stanin, 143 Desmond Rd., Rochester, New York, U. S. A.

FOURTH ANNUAL O. N. A. CONVENTION ADDRESS

by R. C. Willey

(Cont'd)

The long era of Ch'ien Lung (1736-1796) saw the abandonment of the earlier style in favour of the finer style. The best examples of cash of this era are the early issues from the northern mints. As the era progressed, the cash were cast as smaller, thicker pieces, chiefly in the north. The south preferred the broader, thinner fabric. Squeeze developed in the process of time, some of the later cash of the more remote mints being little better than the "goose-eye" size, smaller than a ten-cent piece.

The beginning of the decline of the Ch'ing dynasty was in the era of Ch'ia Ch'ing (1796-1821). The cash of this era are of similar fabric to those of Ch'ien Lung, but the inscriptions are not as clear. Clearly inscribed specimens from any mint are scarce. Shrinkage of the coinage became widespread, and in later eras the central government seemed unable to control it.

In the era of Tao Kwang (1821-1850) the cash are generally smaller and thicker, with clear inscriptions. The earlier broad, thin fabric was continued in Peiping and the south. Shrinkage of the coin was worse in this era than before.

It became evident in the reign of Hsien Feng (1850-1861) that the Ch'ing dynasty was weak indeed. The emperor was weak and self-indulgent, and under the influence of his concubine Tse Hsi, later known to history as the Empress Dowager. The cash of the era are rather poorly made and dwindle to "goose-eye" size. The Peiping mint set a fine example which was not followed elsewhere. The poor quality of the coinage is largely the result of the stresses of the T'ai P'ing Rebellion.

The T'ai P'ing Rebellion began shortly after the beginning of the era of Hsien Feng. It began in the south, led by a fortune teller named Hung Hsiu-ch'uan. The rebellion spread all over the south and along the coastal regions, and the central government was unable to cope with it. The rebels were no more able to overthrow the government than the government was able to suppress the rebellion, and so civil war dragged on for nearly fifteen years. Not until 1864 was the rebellion finally put down, with foreign assistance. The rebels cast coins in coarse style, inscribed T'ai P'ing T'ien Kuo, or Heavenly kingdom of great peace. The government was forced to cast copper in large pieces because silver had vanished from circulation. These large coppers emanated from several mints, in denominations ranging from ten to a thousand cash. They were a failure because their size varied and bore no relation to their intrinsic value. Many were cast in brass. The 1000 cash of Peiping is smaller than the 100 cash of Fuchow.

While the revolt was still raging, the next emperor assumed the throne, calling his era Chi Hsiang, but after a coup d'etat by the Empress Dowager the name was changed to Tung Chih. The era of Tung Chih lasted from 1862 to 1875, and produced some of the poorest coins of the dynasty. The cash are mostly small and the legends far from clear. Shrinkage was rampant, reflecting the inability of the government to control the activities of the provincial mints.

The era of Kwang Su (1875-1908) saw a slight improvement in the quality of the cash, but the coins remained rather small and thin. Size and quality diminished rapidly. This was the era of the first war with Japan, the independence of Korea, the Boxer Rebellion, and the gathering of the European nations like vultures to begin the dismemberment of the empire. The last era was that of Hsuan T'ung (1908-1911). The old Empress Dowager placed on the dragon throne a three-year old boy, Pu Yi, but died soon afterward. A rebellion broke out under Sun Yat Sen, and in 1911 the Ch'ing dynasty was overthrown. Instead of proclaiming a new imperial-dynasty, the rebels set up a republic, with Sun Yat Sen as president. The ex-emperor Pu Yi was allowed to live in the imperial palace at Peiping for the rest of his life. The story of his becoming puppet ruler of Manchukuo for the Japanese and his subsequent Communisation is too long to be told here. The republic of China did not cast any cash, but a small issue of republican design was cast in 1912 at Fuchow in Fukien.

During the last year of Kwang Su and the era of Hsuan T'ung, attempts were made to strike the cash. The first struck cash were made in Canton in 1908, and circulated widely. Other mints struck cash at the same time, but their issues are scarce. Then, as the use of a European-style coinage became more widespread, the struck cash were made in the "goose-eye" size. Most of these came from Canton and Fuchow, but some were struck in Hu Peh and Tien Tsin. These were too small and were soon discontinued.

I have now come to the end of the long history of early Chinese coins. Having served the needs of the Chinese people for nearly three thousand years, they had come in 1911 to a time when they were no longer adequate for the needs of the economy and unacceptable outside of China. The empire had introduced a European silver coinage in 1890 and a modern copper coinage in 1904, but not until Republican times were coins in the European style universally accepted. The Republic at once discontinued the old, faithful brass cash and continued coinage in the Western style. The cash took their place among the world's obsolete coinages, and today are becoming the subject of considerable interest to collectors of foreign coins.

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KNOW YOUR COINS BETTER

by Lloyd T. Smith

Many times, we have heard the terms numismatist, collector and accumulator and most of us fall into one or more of these categories. Each term is tied in with the others to some extent, particularly if we have been collecting for some years.

We are at present, in a period of change in coin collecting and a definite recession in the investment field. We have already seen a few of the larger coin dealers go into bankruptcy or sell out at a loss and every club has experienced some loss of membership as the would-be investors leave the fold to seek out other get-rich-quick schemes.

For at least ten years, the advanced collectors and numismatists have been urging newer collectors to diversify their interests for more enjoyment in our hobby; but it is those dealers, hoarders and accumulators who sought to control the coin market and so force prices upward, who not only have brought about their own defeat, but have helped us immensely in our bid to encourage diversified collecting.

So, we see that the present apparent set-back is actually a transition period, separating the true collectors from the investors and giving promise of a more stable hobby and a much keener interest in the numismatic or research and the placing of information in our displays. This gains points for the exhibitor and supplies the viewing public with a better understanding of our purpose.

The point system of judging has been largely responsible for increased research and the placing of information in our displays. This gains points for the exhibitor and supplies us viewing public with a better understanding of our purpose.

Many club members have limited themselves to collecting because they think of authoritative books on numismatics as somewhat unapproachable or forbidding.

We know that not every coin collector will become a numismatist; not because it is too difficult, but because many are somewhat confused as to the direction they should take and even when given sound direction, may still hesitate because of the time and effort required.

Guide books and catalogues listing mintage figures, values and a little numismatic information form a good starting point, but these are only a basic guide. It is not possible to learn everything about a particular field of numismatics from these basic guides, so the collector must go on and on, advancing to the more technical books. Thanks to many of the world's leading numismatic authorities, there is now an ample supply of such books available, written in easy to understand language.

In getting to know your coins better, your excitement will increase in proportion to your search for more information. You will occasionally experience the thrill of finding

some new or half-forgotten fact, and, depending on the depth of research, you will be able to relay information to others through your displays or club talks.

The greatest satisfaction comes when you feel that are on an equal footing with more advanced numismatists, when you are considered to be an authority in your field. By this I do not mean that ever one should try to become an expert, as this has the sense of knowing all there is to know in a particular field. There is far more fun in the act of learning than in a state of complete knowledge.

Even though many numismatists have already explored each area in depth, it is still possible to uncover useful information that will benefit the hobby and the finder of this information has the personal satisfaction of giving a little to advance numismatics.

It is not possible to over-emphasize the educational aspect of numismatics as it adds so much to the enjoyment and relaxation our hobby can bring. Just as we remember the pleasure of starting our collections, we gain added satisfaction when we know our coins better.

One way to develop a better knowledge of our coins is to make notes for each coin or type. When you have gleaned all information from your guide books and catalogues, advance to books available in your club library, O. N. A. or C. N. A. libraries. Continue to make notes and keep a file of clippings from coin papers and magazines if you do not wish to retain the whole copy. One can even make notes from information supplied in displays prepared by others.

Another method is to try to write thumb-nail sketches of 50 to 100 words on as many coins or series of coins as possible. These may later be extended to short articles of 300-400 words. Research your material, making notes from the various sources available, and bring the information together so that it will be concise, yet as informative as space will allow. Try to complete several sketches or one short article each week and you will soon find that you not only know more about coins, but will have developed an ability to present informative articles for others to read and enjoy. This is the way a columnist must work, gathering his information from every source, wringing out the essence, wherever possible making recent comparisons or parallels and publishing for his readers what he hopes will be another article of interest. Often, a 3-400 word article that requires only 5-10 minutes reading time may take several hours to prepare, but in this time, the columnist has probably learned a few important facts of numismatics previously unknown to himself.

As we gradually improve our knowledge of coins, it becomes possible to write longer articles, suitable for club talks or for publication in club bulletins or even magazines. We can also develop the ability to supply the correct amount of information in an exhibit, so that the viewer will stop to read about the coins in each display case. Too much information in a display can be just as poor as no information, as the non-collector in particular is generally interested in just the pertinent facts.

I think we are all desirous of a continuing growth in every numismatic club or association and would each like to do our part to help others gain even more pleasure from the hobby. The best way to accomplish this is to try to know our coins better and maybe even aspire to become numismatists. If you haven't yet started, please don't leave it to the other fellow; it is up to each of us to share our ability for a progressive future.

Ed. Note: The above article first appeared in the London Numismatic Society News Bulletin, June, 1966.