



THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIST

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Christmas and the Holiday Season is a time of spiritual fulfillment and good will.

True Numismatist, throughout the world, have found that the best present they can receive is to help make the season happier for the less knowledgeable collectors. They share what they have learn't.... they advise and help new members... they write short stories.

These dedicated collectors have, indeed, found the key to unlocking the true holiday spirit.

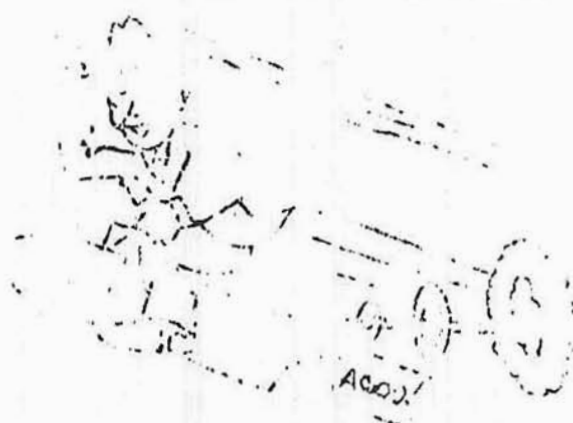


THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIST is published by the Ontario Numismatic Association. The publication can be obtained with membership in one of the following categories: Regular Membership \$5.00 annually, Husband and Wife (one journal) \$7.00 annually, Junior (up to 18) \$3.00 annually, Club Membership \$10.00 annually. Life Memberships available for \$50.00 after 3 years of regular membership. O.N.A. Silver Lapel Pins \$2.50 each.

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Authorized second class mail by the Post Office Department, Ottawa, and for

Ontario Numismatic Association 15th Annual Convention



ROCKETING TO OSHAWA !!

Our next O.N.A. Convention
will be in Canada's
Automotive City....

HOW MANY ARE COMING TO

..... Convention '77

HOST

OSHAWA DISTRICT COIN CLUB

at the

HOLIDAY INN - OSHAWA, ONTARIO

1011 Bloor Street East, Oshawa, Ontario

(Just east of the Harmony Rd - Bloor Street Interchange of 401)

MAY 13th, 14th & 15th, 1977

For Information:

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DISPLAY CHAIRMAN Don Cole

c/o O.N.A. CONVENTION
OSHAWA DISTRICT COIN CLUB
Box 212
Oshawa Ontario

..... The one that

MOTC - VATES

Pre-Registration Gifts

Bourse Displays Banquet

Major Draws Tours Etc.



Today's Mail

Dear Mr. Editor :

I have just completed reading your most recent issue of the Bulletin, and I note that you are being darned neglected by your many readers, it is with this in mind that I take this my wife's typewriter and try to give some thoughts to our forthcoming Convention 1977.



Firstly, it will be noted that the City of Oshawa have taken the plunge and offered to Host the 15th. O.N.A. Convention. This is a giant step for the Oshawa & District Coin Club to make, they are to be congratulated, and as an added gesture all O.N.A. Members in and around the City of Oshawa should offer to help in whatever capacity they can, to make this one of the most memorable conventions to date.

Secondly, all Clubs, with member participation, should get together and discuss the forthcoming election of Officers, check your Bulletin for the list of Officers who are standing for Office, then send me your Ballots for next May's election; also where are the nominations for the Award of Merit for 1977 ??? I received one, but as it only had one signature I had to return it for the added signature, will the writer please amend same and return to me, please?

Thirdly, at the risk of sounding like the "Voice in the Wilderness," will all our readers get behing the Oshawa & District Coin Club and give a BOOST FOR THE EXHIBITS campaign which we started some months ago??? If you cannot persuade someone else to make up an exhibit, then BROTHER your stuck with it, DO IT YOURSELF !!!!!

Lastly, I would suggest that those of our members, young and old, give some thought to "passing on" to your fellow members some of the "Know How" you have accumulated over the years, to the readers of this excellent medium of disseminating such knowledge, by way of articles to "YE ED", come on you guys & Dolls, lets get with it.

"Merry Christmas to One and All."



Sincerely,

Pat Lambert,
Box 311, St. Catharines, Ont.
L2R 6T7

Many thanks Pat, your letters are always very much appreciated, and enjoyable.

THE NORTHWEST CANADA MEDAL

BY Paul R. Johnson
O. N. A. #772.

This classic Canadian medal was awarded to all the men who helped quell the Northwest Rebellion of 1885. The medal is silver, circular in shape and measures 1.4 inches in diameter. On the obverse it bears the legend "Victoria Regina Et Imperatrix", surrounding the diademed head of Victoria with a veil. The reverse has the wording "North West Canada" in the centre, In between "North West" and "Canada" is the date 1885. This is surrounded by a wreath of maple leaves. The ribbon is 1¼ inches wide, being bluegrey in colour, with a quarter inch red stripe set one-sixteenth of an inch from the edge. The only bar issued is plain and square bearing the word "Saskatchewan".

To fully understand and appreciate this beautiful medal, you must know the history of the rebellion itself.

When the Canadian government decided to settle in Saskatchewan, the Indians and Metis' (half-breeds) way of life was threatened. Led by Louis Riel, a fiery Metis, they revolted. Riel had been summoned from the United States where he had fled, following the failure of an earlier rebellion. In 1885 Riel and his rebels set up a provisional government at Batoche.

The Canadian government hastily mobilized it's troops, and in April, sent them west under General Middleton. The following engagements brought into history such names as Cut Knife Hill, Frenchman's Butte, Saskatchewan River, Fish Creek and Batoche. The medal was issued to personnel taking part in any of the last three battles. On May 28, the outnumbered rebels surrendered at Batoche. Riel was captured and was later hung for the execution of nine British officers. All the troops employed were Canadian and it can be said that this unique medal is one of the few that is truly Canadian.

The unnamed medals were issued in an unknown quantity. Most of the recipients had their names engraved at their own expense. The award was granted on September 18, 1885.

Through protests over the issue of the North West Canada Medal, the Canada General Service Medal was issued in 1899, for all veterans of the Fenian Raids in 1866.

The value of the North West Canada Medal is rapidly increasing due to the interest in Canada's history. A medal with a bar is worth far more than one without, but all are intriguing and valuable collector's items.

Membership

NEW MEMBERS :

The following applications have been received and if no written objections are received, their acceptance will be acknowledged in the January issue of the Ontario Numismatist.

- I035 Peter Unrau, 75 Durdurn St. N., Hamilton, Ont., L8R 3E4
- J1036 Jeff Bowers, 294 Villa Place, Waterloo, Ont., N2J 3K7
- I037 W.A. Pollard, 4 Maple Lane, Tillsonburg, Ontario.
- J1038 James Flach, Sebringville, Ontario. NOK 1x0
- J1039 Tom Kennedy, 54 Trinity St., Stratford, Ont., N5A 4P4
- I040 Peter Kostyk, 7581 Dorchester Rd., Niagara Falls, Ontario.
- I041 William A. Johnson, 58 Acadia Cr., St. Catharines, Ont., L2S 1K

The following members have been transferred from regular membership to Life Membership.

- LM 38 Mrs. Noreen Howcroft, Barrie, Ontario. L4N 2J2
- LM 39 Arthur Leff, London, Ontario. N5Y 3H7
- LM 40 H. Elliott Jephson, London, Ontario. N6G 1S8
- LM 41 Ross H. Wilby, Burlington, Ontario. L7T 2GI
- LM 42 Steven Forten, Hamilton, Ontario. L8L 7V7
- LM 43 H.F. Bardwell, P.O. Box 62 Sarnia, Ontario. N7T 7H8

***** ***** ***** ***** ***** ***** *****

Dues *** Dues *** Dues

The January issue of the Ontario Numismatist will be the last issue that will be mailed for those who have not paid 1977 DUES by the end of January. So do mail that cheque as soon as possible to P.C. Box 33, Waterloo, Ontario.

***** ***** *****

Smile : Hobo on the street to a well-dressed man : "It's just a one shot contribution, buddy. No follow-up phone calls, no getting your name on a mailing list, no monthly pledges to meet...."



TEST SHOWS OLYMPIC COINS ARE WORTH THEIR FACE VALUE

Reprinted from the St. Thomas Numismatic Association Bulletin # 10, November 8, 1976.

The law may say that Canadian Olympic coins are current legal tender, but does the public believe it? To find out the answer to these questions, someone recently purchased five Canadian Olympic coins to spend at face value. Four were encapsulated silver coins, of different series, costing \$47.50 for two \$5 and two \$10 coins. The fifth coin was an uncirculated \$100 gold piece purchased for \$105.

Before the coins were spent, their plastic capsules were removed, with more than a little difficulty. The coins were tendered in payment in ordinary commercial transactions, and no unusual discussion was entered into during the exchanges.

The first \$5 Olympic coin was offered in payment of a lunch bill at a Grill one day last month. The cashier, with little hesitation, asked "What is it, a five?" and cheerfully returned the change in more common coins. A \$10 coin was spent at a subway station to purchase a \$6 envelope of tokens. The ticket-taker examined the coin very carefully, declared he had never seen one before, and after some delay, finally produced the tokens and \$4 change without further comment. A teller at the Canadian Tire gas bar accepted a \$10 Olympic coin without question or hesitation. She apparently recognized its premium value immediately, and was seen looking in her purse for a \$10 bill to substitute for the coin.

Even the Canadian government will accept Olympic coins at face value. A \$5 piece offered in payment for postage stamps at the postoffice was accepted with some hesitation and the question "That's a five, Isn't it?". After the purchase the coin was proudly shown to a few of the other tellers.

More difficulty was encountered with the \$100 gold piece at the Food Mart. The cashier refused to accept it and referred the coin to the information desk. A clerk took it to the manager's office. After several minutes' delay, the clerk returned with five \$20 bills and announced that the customer would have to leave his name and phone number. "It's not normally our policy to accept these," he said, "but someone in the office wants it."

From this small sampling it would appear that Olympic coins can be spent at face value, but it seems doubtful that the coins were passed on in change to subsequent customers. Interestingly, none of the five cashiers questioned the spending of a coin worth more than its face value, or cautioned the customer that he was losing money on the transaction.

***** Proposed Coin Shows *****



* The following are the Annual Coin Shows proposed for the next few months, that we have received notices for, or taken from Club Bulletins. We advise you to check this list as you debate the date of your own Club's Show, to ensure that your date does not conflict with any other Club's Coin Show.

- Mar. 12 - N.Y.C.C. Annual Coin Show, Displays, White Elephant and Book Sale, Auction by Frank Rose. Enquiries to The North York Coin Club, P.O. Box 294, Station A., Willowdale, Ontario. M2N 5P0
- Apr. 14 - 17, Torex '77, Spring Show to be held at the Westbury Hotel, 475 Yonge St., Toronto, Ontario. For Enquiries write to Torex, 347 Bay St., Suite 1000, Toronto, Ontario. M5H 2R7
- May 13 - 15, The Ontario Numismatic Association Convention 1977 will be held at the Holiday Inn in Oshawa. All enquiries re Bourse etc., should be sent to The Oshawa Coin Club, P.O. Box 212, Oshawa, Ontario.

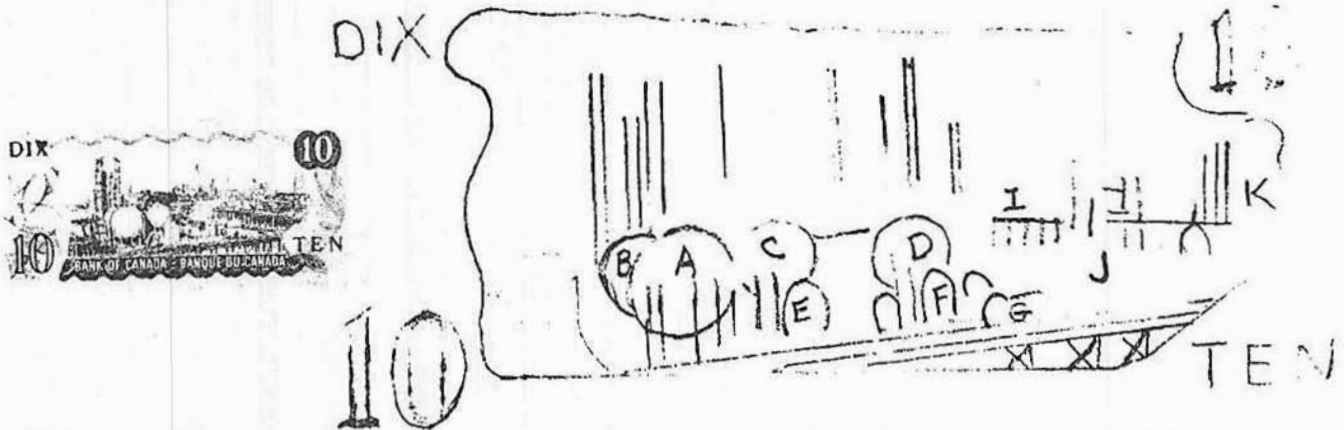
NEWS BULLETIN NEWS BULLETIN November 10, 1976.

Don Mills, Ont. - Tom Beckett, Secretary-Treasurer of the Canadian Young Numismatist, today announced that CYN is in the process of offering after school numismatic courses, to young collectors up to grade six age. In making the announcement, Mr. Beckett noted that the program is already underway in one downtown Toronto school, in the form of one, one hour class per week, for eight weeks.

The course deals mainly with the basics of collecting, with such topics as, how to identify your coins, how to handle your coins, how to use a catalogue and how to house your collection. The students are given some foreign coins and have the chance to put what they have learnt into practice.

The help of senior collectors is needed. Donations such as cheap foreign coins, etc., would be much appreciated. Would you please direct any donations, plus your ideas and suggestions to Tom Beckett, 132 Fenside Drive, Don Mills, Ontario. M3A 2V8

Polysar Plant Featured on the New Ten-Dollar Bill (Extract From the Sarnia Observer, Sat. April 24th, 1976) and reprinted from the Sarnia Numismatic Society News Bulletin.



This outline, taken from the back of the "new" ten-dollar bill, shows that Polysar is the subject of the picture. Originally taken from the now-extinct coal-pile, the view looks north-east through the Petrochemicals Units. The areas identified in the outline are as follows: A - sphere No 1. B - Sphere No 10. C - Sphere No 3. D - Sphere No 2. E - Oil Tankage. F - Caustic and Acid storage tanks. G - Hydrocarbon storage drums. H - B.C. Unit Towers. I - Dehydro Unit oil tankage. J - Dehydro Unit furnaces. K - B.E. No.2 Unit towers.

It's the kind of publicity money can't buy. Mainly because it is money. But the question is how many people realize it.

When a \$10 bill passes hands few people stop to examine it, but if you look on the back you'll see a picture of one of Sarnia's major industries.

Polysar provides the back-drop above the Bank of Canada indication on the bill. There is no indication that the Sarnia firm is pictured, but connoisseurs of the Chemical Valley quickly recognize the purple and white picture.

The picture is a scene of the industrial complex looking north with the city in the background. The photo, an aerial view, was taken from the top of a 75 foot light tower which is no longer located at the site.

Polysar officials say they have no idea why the picture was used, but are "quite honored and pleased" over the \$10 bill.

Bank of Canada officials say they never identify the exact location of any picture used on bills, but would say it was a chemical plant located in Central Canada.



*From
The Editor's Chair*

Imagine another
Christmas is with
us once again....

The year 1976 was a
year of CHALLENGE.....

We had more member participation.

We had the greatest O.N.A. Convention ever last
May.... the Bulletin has had quite a few changes this year.... "A New
Look" ... a New Format.... started last March and here are just a few
remarks from our readers.... a whole new approach; just like a spring
day in May; all bouncy and full of hope; refreshin; attractive;
a powerfull impact; it leaves you with a smile on your face when you
come to the last page. My personal thanks for all those wonderfull
remarks, but you the members of our association make it all happen.

Some of our Executive have changed, some have moved, which
reminds me - Mr. Henry Burke, 181 Albert St., Oshawa, has been named
a Director for Area 8. My congratulations Henry, and welcome aboard.

The WHO, WHAT and WHY of the O.N.A. with some up-dated
information regarding our Association, was mailed out with the October
Numismatist and to date I have not received one word about it. Was it
worth the printing??? Did we help anyone in our organization??? Were
the facts enclosed helpful??? We would certainly appreciate your
coments.

Our first Vice-President, Bruce Watt, sent me a short note
recently and in it he enclosed a report regarding his trip to the
A.N.A. Convention in New York. Here are some of his words.....

There were 197 Bourse Dealers, two from Canada who were
Lloyd Carney and Frank Rose, and many from Great Britain and the U.S.

The room would get very crowded during peak hours.

There were 200 exhibitors and a total of 600 display cases.

Two Canadians received awards, Paul Johnson of Toronto who
won the John J. Pittman Sr. Award for Canadian Coins and Currency. Fred
C. Bowman of Montreal, was awarded the Farren Lerbe Award in recognition
of his lifetime service to Canadian Numismatics.

There were 808 registered guests who attended the Banquet
and the Head Table seated 50 A.N.A. Officers, Governors and Guests.

The Auction was held by Stack's of New York which broke an
all time record that grossed over \$4,000,000.00

If you have the chance to attend next year's Convention in
Atlanta, Georgia, don't miss it, you'll really enjoy it. I sure plan on
being there. (Many thanks for your coments Bruce)

It's been a good year with many excellent articles from
many contributors, who give of their time and knowledge in order to
help us learn more about our hobby. To these wonderful people, to the
secretaries, to the bulletin editors who also serve their clubs and
the hobby, we would like to say a very special "Happy Festive Season"
to you all, may your stockings be filled full of the good things of
life. To all our readers we wish you joy and happiness over the
"Yuletide".

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Ye Ed.