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Editor

Stan Clute,
P. O. Box 672, Station B,
Willowdale, Ont., M2K 2P9

Librarian

Thomas Masters,
823 Van Street,
London, Ont., N5Z 1Mg



A NUMISMATIC PEACE SYMBOL

by Ted Banning

Many of us know the temple of Janus as that odd-looking square structure pictured on the reverses of many coins of the Roman Emperor Nero. These coins were struck in commemoration of the peace made with Parthia in A. D. 66, so the legend PACE PR TERRA MARTQ PARTA IANVM CLVSTT ("Peace having been borne through land and sea, he closed the Janus"). Suetonius (Nero, xiii) tells us that "...the people hailed Nero as a conquerer and, after dedicating a wreath in the Capitol, he closed the double doors of the temple of Janus, as a sign that all war was at an end."

The temple of Janus was not really a temple at all. It was described by the Byzantine historian, Procopius, as a tiny rectangular sanctuary consisting of two bronze doors connected by walls faced with bronze. It adjoined

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the south-west corner of the Basilica Aemilia where the Argiletum enters the Roman Forum, although its exact location is uncertain. It was just large enough to contain a bronze statue of two-faced (bifons) Janus about seven feet high and twelve small altars dedicated to the twelve months. January, which replaced March as the first month in 153 B. C., was named after Janus, as Janus was god of beginnings. It was because of this that the magic of Janus was needed in starting a war, and the doors of his sanctuary were always open except on those rare occasions when Rome was at peace.

The Janus Quirinus or Geminus, as the sanctuary was known, was closed first by King Numa, then by Titus Manlius Torquatus after the First Punic War, or so we are told (Hor. Carm., IV, 15). Emperor Augustus was third to perform this symbolic function (Suetonius, Oct. xxii), and the Janus was not closed again until A. D. 66 when Nero made peace with Parthia (Suet., Ner. xiii).

The symbolism of the closed Janus, as depicted on the coinage of Nero (with similar allusions on some coins of Augustus) was not, however, an isolated incident. On 2 April, 1559, almost fifteen centuries later, came the Peace of Cateau-Cambresis, ending "...the struggle which had gone on for some sixty years between France and Spain" (G. F. Hill, Historical Medals in the British Museum, London: 1924, pp. 98-99). This too was commemorated numismatically. A silver medal by Giampaolo Poggini shows the bust of the Spanish king, Philip II, in armour on the obverse, while the reverse is an obvious allusion to Nero's sestertii and asses: Peace burning arms before the temple of Janus with its doors closed and the legend, "Peace established on land and sea, 1559."



Yet another example comes from a series of medals almost entirely inspired by ancient coins. A medal of Napoleon I of France commemorates the Peace of Presbourg in 1805 with a fanciful picture of the temple of Janus with doors closed, a four-faced (quadrifons) Janus' bust on the roof.

(Reprinted from Central Coin Club's newsletter of July, 1977)



A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR NEW EDITOR

The President of the Ontario Numismatic Association has appointed me to the post of Editor of the Ontario Numismatist, to succeed Mr. Bill Gage, the previous Editor, who has relinquished this task due to other commitments. I believe that I am equal to the job, having been Editor of three coin clubs' newsletters, and having spent a year as Assistant Editor of The Canadian Numismatic Journal (Oct., 1972 to Oct., 1973). There are several changes which I would like to see occur in the Ontario Numismatist and these might come to pass, in time. For the present, however, the main order of business is to attempt to maintain a high standard of material contained in the publication and to get it mailed out to you, the O. N. A. members, on time. These two points will always be my first priority as Editor. Hopefully, the current postal farce will be finished by the time this issue is ready for mailing.

(Editor's Comments, cont'd):

No journal can fulfil its responsibilities without contributions and feedback from its readers - that is, from the Association's members. At the same time, the hardest task facing the editor of any journal is that of getting enough good articles to include in the publication. With this in mind, I invite --- No, I REQUEST O. N. A. members to submit articles for publication in the Ontario Numismatist. If you have a particular interest in an area of numismatics that you would like to share with fellow collectors, we'd like to hear from you. Worried about your grammar? Don't be. That's what an editor is for: to make sure that articles appear in a readable form. Do you have a gripe about something in the O. N. A. or in the Ontario Numismatist? Or an idea you would like to see implemented? Why not write a "Letter To The Editor" of the Ontario Numismatist and air your views? I invite all such correspondence.

And let's not forget about the importance of input from the O. N. A. member coin clubs. This is also an important feature of your provincial publication: I invite all club editors to send in copies of their monthly bulletins, coin show information, and news releases, for consideration.

The Ontario Numismatist is YOUR journal. Let's make it the best regional publication in Canada.

All correspondence, manuscripts, etc., should be sent to me at the following address:

Mr. Stanley Clute,
P. O. Box 672, Station B,
Willowdale, Ontario,
M2K 2P9

I look forward to hearing from you.

FROM THE A.N.A.

Since the O. N. A. is a member of the American Numismatic Association, I thought that the following information might be of some interest to O. N. A. members:

"Six Members Added to ANA Hall of Fame

"In the 1978 biennial election, six members were named to the Numismatic Hall of Fame, a Shrine of the American Numismatic Association. Two of them, Lee F. Hewitt and R. S. Yeoman, are the first living persons inducted into the Hall since it was established in 1968. Results of voting by the panel of electors were announced at the Houston convention banquet on August 26.

"The six elected, in alphabetic order, are:

"Frederick C. C. Boyd, ANA 1594, New York City area. ANA board member and other offices; active in the American Numismatic Society and the New York Numismatic Club; formed and exhibited an exceptional collection of U. S. numismatic material.

"Victor D. Brenner, ANA 841, New York City. One of the most notable of twentieth century medalists; designer of the Lincoln cent and, among many others, several outstanding medals issued by the ANS.

"David M. Bullowa, ANA 3533, Philadelphia. Author of numerous numismatic articles and several monographs. Prominent member of ANS and served actively on a number of important ANA committees.

"Lee F. Hewitt, ANA 4217, Chicago. Founder and editor of The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine, a popular publication for 34 years. He published several numismatic books and was very instrumental in the revival of (United States) proof set issues in 1936.

"J. Henri Ripstra, ANA 939, voted Honorary Membership in 1944, Chicago. Member of ANA board six years and president another two. Active in organized numismatics in Chicago, and an organizer of the Iowa Numismatic Association. Designed and produced dies for a number of medals and numismatic badges.

"Richard S. Yeoman, ANA 7947, Racine, Wisconsin. Had the leading role in popularizing coin collecting by developing the Whitman coin boards and other collector items, including the "Blue Book" and "Red Book" and other popular publications. Five-year member of ANA board.

"...The Numismatic Hall of Fame was founded by the American Numismatic Association, largely at the instigation of its former historian, Jack W. Ogilvie, to perpetuate and enshrine the names of eminent numismatists of all time. International in its scope, it is for the recognition of those whose accomplishments in the field of numismatics have made their names symbolic to and cherished by their fellow numismatists.

"Names of candidates may be submitted by any ANA member other than a Junior. They need not be or have been ANA members, may be living or deceased and residents of any country. Following a call for nominations in the October issue of The Numismatist (the official ANA journal, NOT to be confused with The Ontario Numismatist.- Editor) in the year preceding the biennial elections (in even numbered years), nominations must be submitted by December 10 on special forms available from ANA headquarters.

"A panel of twenty-five electors, appointed by the ANA board from among members having fifteen or more years of membership, cast the votes that elect candidates to the Hall.

"In the four preceding elections that have been held, the following twenty-nine numismatists, all deceased, were named to The Numismatic Hall of Fame: Edgar Adams, ANA 785; George J. Bauer, ANA 55; George H. Blake, ANA 925; Mrs. Agnes Baldwin Brett, ANA 1196; Henry Chapman, ANA 29; Sylvester S. Crosby, ANA Honorary Member; Frank G. Duffield, ANA 324; Olie P. Eklund, ANA 1961; Albert Frey, ANA 225; John W. Haseltine, ANA 641; Barclay P. Head, ANA Honorary Member; Dr. George F. Heath, ANA 1; Dr. John M. Henderson, ANA 533; Joseph Hooper, ANA 25; Lyman H. Low, ANA 51; B. Max Mehl, ANA 522; Waldo C. Moore, ANA 637; Stuart Mosher, ANA 3660; Howard R. Newcomb, ANA 91; Edward T. Newell, ANA 940; William A. Philpott, ANA 1978; Wayte Raymond, ANA 396; Lewis M. Reagan, ANA 4751; Burton H. Saxon, ANA 921; David C. Wismer, ANA 36; Howland Wood, ANA 93; Moritz Wormser, ANA 1531; Dr. Benjamin P. Wright, ANA 641; Farran Zerbe, ANA 197."

COIN CLUB NEWS

SARNIA NUMISMATIC SOCIETY'S annual Bluewater International Coin Show, held at the Canterbury Inn, in Sarnia, on October 1, was a huge success, from all indications. The show was well attended by both dealers and collectors. The day included a tasty, friendly, and informal luncheon for the club executive and show committee, as well as certain invited guests. Attending the luncheon were May Drulard, Show Treasurer; Fred Webb, Club Editor and a Past President; Rudy Brill, Senior Director; Horace Bardwell, Club Treasurer and Show Publicity Chairman; Paul Card, Show Master of Ceremonies; Carl Williamson, Bourse

Chairman; May Williamson, Show Receptionist; Don Park, Show Chairman; John Mason, Past Editor; Roy Richard, Club President and Display Chairman. Guests attending the luncheon were Bruce Watt, O.N.A. President; Henry Burke, O.N.A. Director for Area 8; Paul Johnson, Canadian Numismatic Association Ontario Director; Ray Gregory, C.N.A. Club Liaison; and Stan Clute. The hospitality was great, at the show.

Display winners were as follows: category A - Best Canadian - First, Greg Backwell (London); Second, Paul Johnson (Toronto); Third, Lou Wagenaer (Chatham); category B - Best American - First, Tom Kostaluk (London); Second, Lou Wagenaer; category C - Best in Medals - First, May Drulard (Sarnia); Second, Tom Kostaluk; Third, Don Gibson (Petrolia); category D - Best in Foreign - First, John Mason (Sarnia); Second, Tom Kostaluk; category E - Best in Miscellaneous - First, Lou Wagenaer; Second, Rudy Brill (Corunna); Third, Ted Oulds (Chatham); category F - Best Junior Display - First, Cindy Williamson (Sarnia); Second, Duke Backwell (London); Third, Grant Monck (London); category G - Best Token Display - Cindy Williamson; category H - Best Type Set - John Mason. The award for the Best Club Member Display was won by John Mason, while the overall Best of Show award went to Greg Backwell. Stan Clute also received an award for his non-competitive Court of Honour display. Ann Mason also won an award, "for outstanding contributions to the Sarnia Numismatic Society."

INGERSOLL COIN CLUB Editor Barbara Macnab reports that a large number of members turned out for the September meeting. The speaker for the evening was Grant Monck, who told of his experiences at A. N. A. headquarters in Colorado Springs. He related how surprised he was when he was one of ten Young Numismatists selected for a one week scholarship at the American Numismatic Association's expense. The course he elected to take was on grading, and he helped members of the club to understand the new A.N.A. grading formula. He related that he found the A. N. A. Library fascinating, and that he acquired several books for his own library at a numismatic book auction. Another highlight was a tour of the Denver mint. His talk was accompanied by colour slides.

The club's bulletin also contains interesting facts about the origin of coins, the United States cent and half-cent, the Spanish dollar, and "Canada's 3-leaf design on 10 cent coins". Also included is a section on Canada's commemorative dollars.

HURONTA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION'S Annual Show, on September 9, was a success, according to the club's Editor, Bill Gage. The displays were reported as being top-notch, but a lack of collectors visiting the show was reported. Toronto Coin Club, North York Coin Club, and Newmarket Numismatic Society were well represented at the show, and Jim Charlton was on hand to autograph the 1979 edition of his Standard Catalogue of Canadian Coins. Exhibit winners were as follows: Junior - Brad Young (Barrie); Canadian Decimal - First, Greg Backwell (London); Second, Tom Kostaluk (London); World Coins - First, Ken Prophet (Barrie); Second, Tom Kostaluk; World Paper Money - First, Noreen Howcroft (Barrie); Second, Lorraine Acker (Barrie); Tokens and Medals - First, Tom Kostaluk; Second, Alma Gage (Guthrie); Topical - First, Norm Howcroft (Barrie); Second, Tom Kostaluk; Miscellaneous - First, Noreen Howcroft. Best of Show - Junior was won by Brad Young. The Best of Show - Non-member award went to Greg Backwell, while the trophy for Best of Show - Club Member was captured by Noreen Howcroft. Noreen was also the 125th Anniversary winner.

NEWMARKET NUMISMATIC SOCIETY held its annual picnic at the home of Locksley Stuffles on August 19, according to Editor Gary McKnight. About twenty people attended and enjoyed the hot dogs and corn which were served. During Canada Coin Week, the club was very active, with numismatic displays in schools and libraries, as well as at the Upper Canada Mall. The topic for the October meeting was the "Death Dollar", to be presented by Ray Gregory. The theme for this topic was the 1958 Canadian commemorative silver dollar.

KENT COIN CLUB (Chatham). Twenty-seven members and five guests attended the September meeting, according to club president and editor Lou Wagenaer. The club decided to have a booth at the "Man and His Leisure" exhibit at St. Clair College on October 7 and 8. Lou Wagenaer delivered a report on the Club Delegates meeting at the C. N. A. Convention.

TORONTO COIN CLUB had a very active summer, according to John Regitko, club president and editor. The club again represented the hobby at the Canadian National Exhibition, by setting up the numismatic exhibit in the Arts, Crafts, and Hobbies Building, and by staffing the exhibit throughout the nineteen-day duration of "the EX", answering questions about the hobby, identifying and authenticating numismatic material, and referring prospective numismatists to the local coin clubs in the area where they reside. The club also undertook the responsibility of making available to visitors to the building the official C.N.E. 100th Anniversary official medal. Representation in the exhibit extended from ancient, mediaeval, and modern coins to coin errors; from regular-issue paper money and printing errors to political satire notes; from historical medals to wooden nickels. A listing of every national, regional and local coin club in Canada was set up, along with the club's mailing address and place and time of meetings. According to the club bulletin, "The coin exhibit was extremely well attended and proved one of the more popular exhibits in the buildings." The C.N.E. exhibit committee consisted of Stan Clute, Chairman, John Regitko and Dan Bowyer. Norm Wells, Reanus Holtman, Dan Bowyer, Tom Beckett, Stan Clute, John Regitko, Al Bliman, Harvey Farrow, Don Bunjevac, and Jim Cartwright helped out with the manning of the booth. The club's September bulletin is a gala 22-page issue featuring various articles on the C.N.E. history and its centennial celebrations.

The Toronto Coin Club's Annual Show was held at the Royal York Hotel, on September 16 with eighteen bourse dealers and a variety of numismatic material on display. The auction conducted by Charles D. Moore Auctions Ltd., was reported successful with over eighty spirited bidders on hand. Awards were presented at the club's annual banquet, following the show. Display winners were: Coins - First, Greg Backwell (London); Second, Stan Clute (Willowdale); Third, Tom Kostaluk (London); Paper Money - First, Gord McComb (Burlington); Second, Jack Veffler (Willowdale); Third, John Regitko; Medals - First, Stan Clute; Second, Tom Kostaluk; Best of Show - Greg Backwell.

Stan Clute, who was the club's representative at the A.N.A. convention in Houston, Texas, presented two awards to the club on behalf of the A.N.A.: the first, a certificate acknowledging twenty-five years of continuous A.N.A. membership by the club, was presented to club Archivist Harvey Farrow. The second plaque was the A.N.A.'s Outstanding Local Coin Club Bulletin Award, which was won by the club for the second year in a row. This was presented to the Editor, John Regitko.



STAN CLUTE, DURING HIS REPORT AS THE DELEGATE TO THE ANA CONVENTION IN HOUSTON, BROUGHT BACK THE ANA COIN CLUB BULLETIN AWARD WHICH JOHN REGITKO, TCC EDITOR, ACCEPTS.



ANDY MACDONALD, DISPLAY CHAIRMAN, CONGRATULATES GREG BACKWELL OF LONDON FOR NOT ONLY WINNING FIRST PLACE HONOURS IN THE "COINS" DISPLAY CATEGORY, BUT ALSO FOR BEST OF SHOW.



JACK VEFFLER, MASTER OF CEREMONIES FOR THE BANQUET, WELCOMES MEMBERS AND GUESTS TO THE DINNER, EXHIBIT AWARD PRESENTATIONS, RAFFLE DRAW AND OTHER SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS.

Keep that CLUB NEWS coming in, folks!!!

GRANT MONCK of London, who was named the Canadian Numismatic Association's Outstanding Young Numismatist of 1978.

U. S. numismatist STEPHEN R. TAYLOR - Guest Speaker at the O.N.A. Banquet in June - who won the coveted BEST OF SHOW award at the A.N.A. Convention in Houston, Texas in August.

JOHN REGITKO, president and editor of the Toronto Coin Club, whose monthly newsletter won for the club the A.N.A.'s award for the best local coin club bulletin again, for the second year in a row, and also the new C.N.A. best club bulletin award.

RAY GREGORY of Cookstown, who has recently been appointed to the post of C.N.A. Club Liaison.

GARY MCKNIGHT of Newmarket, an active junior member of the Newmarket Numismatic Society, who had the initiative and ability to take on the post of club editor and do a fine job with the newsletter.

Show Schedule

October 21, 1978: Thistletown Coin & Stamp Club's coin show, Albion Library, on Albion Rd., just west of Kipling Ave., in Rexdale, 10:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M.

October 22, 1978: Tillsonburg Coin Club's Annual Show, Tillsonburg Legion Hall.

October 28, 1978: St. Catharines Coin Club's Annual Show and Banquet, Westminster United Church, Queenston St., St. Catharines. Further information from the club at: P. O. Box 1492, St. Catharines, Ontario.

October 28, 1978: Richmond Hill Coin Club's Annual Show, Hillcrest Mall, Highway 11 at Carrville Rd., Richmond Hill, 10:00 A. M. to 6:00 P. M.

October 29, 1978: Stratford Coin Club, coin and stamp show, Stratford Legion Hall, in Stratford.

November 4, 1978: Oshawa & District Coin Club seventeenth annual coin show, Midtown Mall, Oshawa.

November 9 - 12: Torex '78, Sheraton Centre Hotel, Toronto, Ont.; Admission \$1.00 per day. Children under 12 will be admitted free only when accompanied by a ticket-holding adult.

Appointments

The following people have been appointed to fill vacant posts in the O. N. A.:

William Gage - appointed to Area # 6 Director

Stanley Clute - appointed to the post of Editor.

CONVENTION

Start making plans now to attend the 1979 O. N. A. Convention in Hamilton. Details on next page.

“The most stupendous
17th Annual Ontario Numismatic
Association Convention
in modern history”

June 1st, 2nd & 3rd, 1979



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A NUMISMATIC HEADACHE

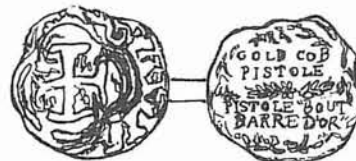
Do the coins reproduced below look somewhat familiar? That's not really very surprising: there are a lot of them around. A lot of people run across them, and are constantly asking "what are these?" or "are these genuine old Spanish coins?" Therefore, for the enlightenment of readers who may have run across one or more of these pieces and be wondering what they are, I decided to explain them in this issue of The Ontario Numismatist.

The pieces represented by the line drawings on this page are promotional items which were issued several years ago to increase product sales. In fact, at that time, I collected the entire set of six different pieces out of boxes of toothpaste. Technically, they would probably be considered as medalets. These pieces are really very crude imitations of silver and gold coins which circulated in the Spanish Caribbean a couple of centuries ago. In actual fact, they are very easy to spot, for a number of reasons. The most blatant giveaway is the fact that they all sport an identification, in English and French, on what purports to be the reverse - languages which would NOT appear on the genuine Spanish coins. In addition, the reverses bear no resemblance to the reverses of the actual coins they imitate. The metal content is another obvious feature, for they are not silver and gold - more likely white metal and brass. The surfaces do not have a true appearance, and there is a line around the rim (see diagram).

In effect, these six pieces (allegedly a Spanish gold doubloon, gold cob doubloon, gold cob pistole, silver pillar dollar, eight reales silver cob, and silver four bits, the latter supposedly being a pillar dollar cut in half) are too crude to call outright forgeries: instead, they probably qualify as fantasy pieces. They have no collector value, other than as "conversation pieces".



This diagram shows the line which appears around the rim of all these pieces.



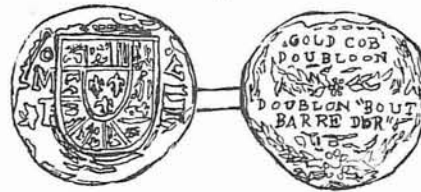
"Gold Cob Pistole"



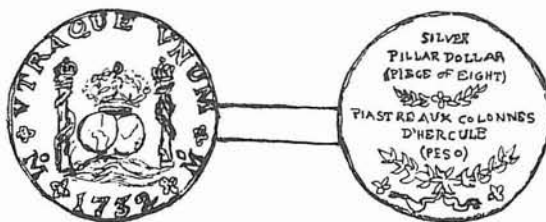
"Silver Four Bits"



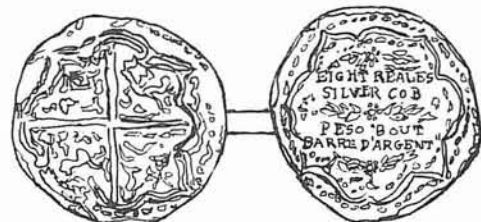
"Spanish Gold Doubloon"



"Gold Cob Doubloon"



"Silver Pillar Dollar"



"Eight Reales Silver Cob"

MONETARY PROBLEMS



The following excerpt is taken from The Illustrated London News for March, 1859, where it appeared, with news of other happenings, under the dateline "Toronto, Feb. 23":

"Talking of money, you will be surprised to hear that we are again in a sort of dilemma with our currency. Last year it was decided to introduce the decimal system, and accordingly twenty, ten, and five cent pieces were ordered from the English Mint. A portion of the amount (£55,000 worth) arrived in January last. The twenty-cent piece so exactly resembled the sterling shilling that many of them were passed as such, although four cents less in value. But another and novel feature of the coin is that it neither represents our current money nor that of the States. The Canadian twenty cent piece has been examined by the assayers at the United States Mint, and a report published from which it appears that the intrinsic value of the coin is not equal to that of two American dimes, and will only be taken for bullion at $18\frac{3}{4}$ cents. Therefore nothing is gained by the new coinage except new difficulty in computing our complicated currency. Something ought to be done to set us right in these monetary matters, and the sooner the better.

"(The larger coin engraved above is of copper, and is about equivalent to our English halfpenny. The smaller is of silver, and worth five pence.)"

A THOUGHT

A very good suggestion has come from Thomas Masters, President of the Ingersoll Coin Club. Writing in the October edition of the club's bulletin, he states:

"Another point that came out of the Woodstock (Coin Club) meeting was a joint December meeting with the Ingersoll Coin Club..."

"In the early 60's there seemed to be more participation between clubs. St. Thomas, Clinton, Stratford, Sarnia, Kitchener and Waterloo were represented at many London meetings. It is a rare occasion when this happens today. Let the Ingersoll and Woodstock clubs break the ice. Tillsonburg, Stratford, and London are within easy driving range to further this project. We can enrich our hobby a great deal by finding out what the other clubs are doing. Also, we will be in contact with more collectors to help us find those scarce coins."

This is an excellent idea and other coin clubs might do well to give the matter some thought. Admittedly, some clubs are located so far from others that travelling to meetings elsewhere is out of the question. But, on the other hand, many clubs are located close to areas where several coin clubs exist within reasonable range of each other.

As for the past few years, several clubs in the Metro Toronto area (where, obviously, the coin clubs are all fairly close to each other) are planning to get together to hold a joint Christmas party in December. Since 1975 the North York, Richmond Hill, and Thistle-town coin clubs have been getting together each December for their festive celebrations.