



# THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIST

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Page 61

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## EXPLORERS AND THE FUR TRADE

by

EDWIN D. KEETCH,

President, Oshawa & District  
Coin Club

[I started this story as a few comments on a slide set I am working on, but it didn't take long to see I had too much material for slides; so I thought I would write up a two or three page pamphlet. Before I could get stopped, I had ended up with a little history lesson. If I had known I was going to write about the early fur trade and the early explorers, I would have done it a little differently; but, as this is my first attempt ever at writing any kind of article, I hope you will find some interest in it. (the Author)]

What better way to study "history in your hands" than to reach into your pocket or purse and look at that five cent piece with the beaver on the reverse. He has been on the reverse of our five cent piece since 1937, with the exception of 1943, 1944, 1945, part of 1951, and 1967, so our beaver is forty-two years old and still going strong.

Why is that rodent, the beaver, on the back of our nickel? What has he to do with the opening up of our country? Why did the coureurs-de-bois

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and voyageurs go to bed at eleven P.M. and be on the water again by three A.M.? Did you know that a voyageur who could sing was paid more than one who couldn't sing, because they could paddle their canoes much faster in time with the singing? Each bale of fur weighed between ninety and one hundred pounds, and the coureurs-de-bois would run back and forth at every portage carrying these bales and would wager on who could carry the most bales over the portage. They used small canoes in the rivers and very large ones on the lakes: the large ones could carry up to three tons.

Henry the Fourth, of France, sent Samuel de Champlain on an expedition up the St. Lawrence River in 1603. Champlain returned to France with furs and stories of vast lakes in the upper St. Lawrence. He built a trading post at Quebec in 1608, when he grasped the real potential of the fur trade. He made friends with the Algonquins and Huron Indians and joined them in raids against the Iroquois.

In 1610, Champlain sent Etienne Brule to live with the Hurons in their village, between Georgian Bay and Lake Simcoe. Brule travelled the rocky North shore of Georgian Bay to St. Marys River, where he turned upstream to the rapids. He portaged the rapids and discovered Lake Superior.

In 1634 Jean Nicolet was sent to find the waterway to china. He probably followed the route of Brule to the Sault and then went South and West through the Straits of Mackinac to Green Bay, where he did not find the civilized Chinese but, rather, naked savages. After Nicolet's expedition, there was a lull in the French exploration.

Champlain died the following year, and the ferocious Iroquois swarmed across Lake Ontario to attack the Hurons. The Iroquois moved quickly to the North and blocked access to the West by the Ottawa River. Not until 1653 was a truce signed with the Iroquois and the St. Lawrence settlements again opened to the fur traders.

Father Marquette had founded a mission for the Chippewa at Sault Ste. Marie in 1668. The next year he was sent to take charge of a mission among the Huron and Ottawa tribes on Lake Superior. He was a Jesuit and had been teaching in a Jesuit school in France when, in 1666, he was sent to Canada as a missionary. He was then twenty-nine years old, well educated, and eager to devote his life to Christianizing the Indians. He studied the languages of the natives and became fluent in many of them.

At the new mission, Indians from many tribes traded furs to the French and told them of a great river that flowed South: Marquette thought the great river might empty into the Gulf of California. The Indians called this great river "Mississippi". The Governor was eager to have this river explored and thus obtained the services of Louis Jolliet, a native of Canada and the son of an employee of the fur trading company.

It was customary in Canada to send a missionary with every expedition to minister to the religious needs of the party and to preach to the Indians encountered along the way. Father Marquette was commissioned to accompany Jolliet on an exploration of the Mississippi. On May 17,

1673, Jolliet, Marquette, and five voyageurs left St. Ignace in two canoes. They followed the Northern and Western shore of Lake Michigan into Green Bay to the mouth of the Menominee River. The Indians there told them not to go any further, as they would be going into dangerous country. They said the people along the route were savage, the heat would be terrific, and the river was inhabited by monsters which would devour both canoes and occupants; but the travellers continued on to the mouth of the Fox River. On the Fox River, Jolliet and Marquette stopped at a large village of the Mascouten, and at a meeting with the council of the tribe's leaders - where they distributed presents to the Indians - they asked for guides to help them find the Mississippi. Two were provided; these guides showed them the portage of a mile and a half to the Wisconsin River.

They crossed the divide which sent waters East and on to the Great Lakes and West to the Mississippi. The guides left the travellers as they launched their canoes and floated down the Mississippi. It was June 17th when they entered the great river. As they floated along, they passed great herds of buffalo along the river's banks, and it was easy for the voyageurs to kill one whenever fresh meat was wanted. On June 25th they followed footprints on the river bank, and came upon a large village of Peorias, who received them and invited them to smoke the "calumet" - the ceremonial pipe lighted at all important councils.

When the travellers insisted on going on with their journey, the chief gave them the calumet to show to other tribes as a passport. Six hundred Peorias bade them farewell.

Farther down the river, on a high cliff, they came across two painted figures - monsters in red, black and green, with horns, blazing eyes and beards; their bodies were covered with scales and they had long tails - probably the demons the Mascouten had told them of. The frightened Frenchmen stopped drifting with the current and paddled furiously down river.

When the canoes reached the mouth of the Arkansas River, the travellers saw a village of Indians and decided to visit them. As they approached, warriors rushed out brandishing weapons in a hostile demonstration. Jolliet held aloft the calumet which the Peorias had given him, and the chiefs ordered their men to desist. The Indians entertained them with feasts.

They turned Northward on July 17th. The journey up the mighty river was toilsome; heat and humidity taxed their strength and Marquette became seriously ill. They were warmly welcomed at the village of the Kaskaskias who wanted the travellers to stay with them; Marquette said that he was too ill, but promised he would return to visit with them again.

The Kaskaskia guides took them by way of the Illinois River, the Des Moines, a portage and the Chicago River, to Lake Michigan. The explorers continued into Green Bay and the mouth of the Fox River, where they landed at the mission of St. Francis Xavier. They had completed a voyage of more than 2,500 miles. Marquette's health was so poor that he stayed there for a year. Jolliet went to Sault Ste. Marie, where he had a trading post. He stayed there over the winter of 1673-74 and in the Spring - during an attempt to run the rapids of the St. Lawrence

River - his canoe capsized and the voyageurs were drowned. Jolliet survived, but the journals and maps of the trip were lost. He tried to draw new maps from memory.

At the mission of St. Francis Xavier, Marquette was recuperating from his illness. In October, 1674, he was given permission to go and visit the Kaskaskias, as he had promised. It was late in the season, but Marquette was determined to go. They skirted the Western shore of Lake Michigan and entered the Chicago River. Marquette became ill again and was unable to proceed farther. His men constructed a rude cabin and passed an uncomfortable winter. He set out again on March 31, 1675 and finally reached the Kaskaskias, who begged him to stay with them. However, his health failed him again and, on Easter, he set out to go to St. Ignace, hoping to recuperate there.

His faithful voyageurs paddled the canoe to Lake Michigan, following the Eastern shore, but Marquette became so feeble and weak that he asked his men to go ashore and build him a shelter. He died there, peacefully and happy in the knowledge that he had kept his promise to visit the Kaskaskias. He was thirty-eight years old. The voyageurs buried his body where he died.

In the Winter of 1676-77, some Ottawa Indians from the mission disinterred his remains, cleaned the bones - as was their custom - and carried them to St. Ignace, where Father Nouvel buried them with solemn rites under the floor of the chapel.

In 1705, the mission of St. Ignace was closed and burned to the ground. To prevent desecration, the site of the chapel was forgotten. In 1877, a local man discovered the remains of Marquette, and the bones were sent to the Marquette University in Milwaukee, where they were preserved as holy relics and a monument was erected on the site of St. Ignace in 1882. Marquette's devotion to duty, his death while yet a young man, his trip with Jolliet and the discovery of the Mississippi make him a notable figure in history.

(To Be Continued)

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### 1979 O.N.A. CONVENTION MEDAL



## HINTS FOR THE NUMISMATIC NEWCOMER: PART 2- COLLECTING CANADIAN DOLLARS

by E. A. GORDON

Coin collecting - a worthwhile, leisure-oriented hobby - attracts individuals from all walks of life, the young and old alike. The question most often asked by newcomers is "Where do I start?".

In my view, the answer would be a Canadian dollar collection from 1935 to the present. This has a fair investment potential, even in the highly inflated values of today.

Although there was a trial strike of a silver dollar in 1911, these coins were never issued and only two are known to be in existence today.\*\* One is in the Royal Mint Museum in London, England and the other is in the hands of a well-known American dealer in Seattle, Washington. The latter has an approximate sale figure of \$200,000 and, should you have the asking price, you would have the king of all Canadian coins.



The first silver dollars were issued in the period from 1935 to 1939. Minting was halted during the war years 1940 to 1944 and was resumed in 1945, continuing until 1966 with the .800 fine silver coins. In 1967 the coins were only .500 fine silver, and in 1968 all circulating dollar coins were henceforth made of pure nickel. In 1971, the Royal Canadian Mint bowed to collectors' requests and began production of a .500 fine silver collectors coin in Proof condition in a presentation case.

The diameter and weight of the coin has also changed. From 1935 until the 1953 wire edge coin, the diameter was 36 mm. From the redesigned 1953 flat edge coin until 1967, the diameter was increased to 36.07 mm. With the advent of the 1968 nickel dollars, the diameter was reduced to 32.13 mm, and remained so until the 1971 silver Proof dollar, when the diameter returned to that of the 1953 to 1967 types. From 1935 through 1967, the weight remained at 23.327 grams but was reduced to 15.61 grams in the 1968 nickel dollars. The weight reverted back to 23.327 grams with the 1971 silver Proof dollar.

Now that we have a brief history of the Canadian dollars, the next step is to decide where to begin your collection. There are, I believe, three choices.

The first choice is a commemorative collection, which makes an ideal starter set for the junior or the collector on a limited budget. This would consist of a total of 17 coins to date, which are: 1935 (Silver Jubilee of King George V), 1939 (Royal Visit), 1949 (Entry of

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(\*\*Also, late in 1977 it was announced that a unique pattern of the 1911 dollar, struck in lead, rather than silver as with the other two pieces mentioned here, had been found in a government vault in Ottawa. It now reposes in the National Currency Collection.[Editor])

Newfoundland into Confederation), 1958 (100th Anniversary of B.C. as a Crown Colony), 1964 (Charlottetown, 100th Anniversary of Confederation Conference), 1967 (Centennial of Canadian Confederation). In smaller nickel dollars there are the following: 1970 (Manitoba Centennial), 1971 (B.C. Centennial), 1973 (Prince Edward Island Centennial), 1974 (Winnipeg Centennial). Finally, in the Proof silver dollar series there are: 1971 (B. C. Centennial), 1973 (R.C.M.P. Centennial), 1974 (Winnipeg Centennial), 1975 (Calgary Centennial), 1976 (Parliamentary Library Centennial), 1977 (Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee), 1978 (XI Commonwealth Games).

Current price trends for this commemorative set in Very Fine to Proof condition would be around \$100, while the same set in B. UNC to Proof would just about double the first figure.

The second choice for a collection would be a year set, but excluding all listed varieties. This collection would consist of one coin of each date from 1935 to 1939 and 1945 to 1967 in silver, one of each coin from 1968 to 1979 in nickel, and one of each coin from 1971 to 1979 in silver Proof. It would be wise, however, to obtain a 1948 at a very early stage in the collection.



When India became an independent republic in 1947, it became necessary to redesign the coin obverse, omitting from the legend "ET IND. IMP." Due to late delivery of the modified dies, only 18,780 coins bearing the 1948 date were minted, thus creating a shortage which is reflected in today's prices of \$475 in VF to \$800 in B. UNC.

The prices for this collection today vary from approximately \$1000 in VF to Proof, with the subsequent doubling of this sum in B. UNC to Proof. Because of its scarcity, the 1948 coin takes up almost half the cost in either condition.

The third choice is a year set including all listed varieties. In addition to the coins listed as a second choice collection, the following coins comprise the third choice.

Starting with 1947, there are three varieties - the blunt 7, the pointed 7, and the maple leaf. The latter variety had a maple leaf added after the date to show it was minted in the early part of 1948. Assuming you had the blunt 7 in the above collection, you would have to add the pointed 7 and the maple leaf.



Blunt 7



Pointed 7



Maple Leaf

In 1955 at Arnprior, Ontario, a coin with only one and one half water lines in front of the canoe on the reverse, instead of the normal three water lines, was found and so became the Arnprior variety. This same type is also noted in 1950 and 1951. The 1951 coin has a "no water lines" variety.

For 1953 there are two varieties, each carrying two titles. The early issues are known as "wire edge" or "no shoulder strap" and, as mentioned earlier, are 36 mm in diameter. Due to a design change in the die, the subsequent issue is known as the "flat edge" or "shoulder strap" variety and is 36.07 mm in diameter.

There is a "one water line" variety in 1957, and in 1965 there are no less than five varieties due to a combination of three obverse and two reverse designs, resulting in the following: "small beads, pointed five"; "small beads, blunt five"; "medium beads, pointed five"; "large beads, pointed five"; and "large beads, blunt five".

In 1966 there is a small bead variety which, due to an extremely low known mintage of around 580 coins, commands a price tag of \$1,200 to \$1,300. Price alone puts this variety beyond the reach of most collectors who are just starting out.

The new nickel dollar of 1968 produced three varieties known as "island", "vanishing island", and "no island". This refers to the island on the coin reverse which normally extends in front of and below the bow of the canoe. Due to possible die deterioration, this small portion is faint on the "vanishing island" and, of course, missing on the "no island".

For the 1977 nickel dollar, three main varieties are listed: "jewel on queen's crown is attached, and short water line in front of canoe"; "jewel detached, long water lines"; and "jewel detached, short water lines".

The additional cost of these varieties to your collection, but excluding the 1966 "small beads" listed separately, would be approximately \$500 in VF and \$1,300 in B. UNC.

It is hoped that this brief insight into Canadian dollar coins will whet your appetite into starting one of these collections. Do not be deterred by the prices quoted, as these are only a guideline to the current trends. By continuously searching out sources of supply from relatives, friends, fellow collectors, club meetings, dealers and regular auctions, you should be able to build a collection at a reasonable cost.

## NEW MEMBERS

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

- J1112....DANNY DIMARIA, R.R.# 2 Oxford Station, Bishops Mill,  
Ontario, K0G 1T0
- 1113....JOHN B. LAWSON, 301 Frances Street, Suite 703,  
Stoney Creek, Ontario, L8E 3W6
- 1114....GLEN R. WILLIAMS, 41 New Havens Way, Thornhill, Ontario,  
L3T 5G1
- 1115....CONWAY F. BISHOP, 141 Essa Rd., Barrie, Ontario, L4N 3K8
- 1116....RICHARD DUNN, 89 Kitchener Road, West Hill, Ontario,  
M1E 2X8
- 1117....ROBERT H. JOHNSON, R.R.# 1, Caledonia, Ontario, NOA 1A0
- 1118....RICHARD SNIDERMAN, 424 Main Street West, Hamilton, Ontario,  
L8P 1K5

- 1119....DOUG MASON, c/o SEARS COIN SHOP, 1271 Barton Street E.,  
Hamilton, Ontario, L8H 2V5
- 1120....STEPHEN R. TAYLOR, 70 West View Avenue, Dover, Delaware  
19901, U. S. A.
- 1121....LINO ZUCCARONE, 641 Wilson Street, Hamilton, Ontario,  
L8L 1V2
- 1122....DOUGLAS A. MOORE, 46 Manor Drive, Dover, Delaware 19901,  
U. S. A.
- C87.....PETERBOROUGH COIN CLUB, c/o GERALD TULLY, 1061 Western Ave.,  
Peterborough, Ontario, K9J 5W5

## Editor's Notebook



"What is the use of publishing a special convention issue of the Ontario Numismatist, when we don't receive it until after the convention?"

The foregoing quotation sums up most of the feedback received, so far, from the O.N.A. general membership, concerning the June issue. My reply is threefold:

- (1). Since it was intended to mail the issue two weeks early, it was necessary to prepare it earlier than usual. In waiting until the last possible minute, in order to include news from as many member clubs as possible, I encountered both the Victoria Day weekend, and an unforeseen printing delay of a few days. As a result, it was only possible to mail the Ontario Numismatist one week prior to the convention. As Editor, I accept full responsibility up to this point. Once the bulletin has been mailed, however, its delivery is in the hands of the Post Office and if the bulletin is delayed exceptionally long in the mail (one member related receiving the bulletin 10 days after the convention), it must take its share of the blame.
- (2). Another reason for the special edition was to have extras, containing relevant material, available for distribution at the convention. This part of the plan seems to have worked out fairly well.
- (3). Even long after this year's convention, members will still have their copies of the Ontario Numismatist as a souvenir.

In another vein, I have a question to ask of the O.N.A. general membership: DO YOU CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO THE O.N.A.?

As a member of the Association, you have a right to have a voice at the Annual General Meeting of the O.N.A. Yet at this year's General Meeting, at the convention - in a remarkable display of member apathy - only two members, other than the executive, bothered to attend!!! This in an association with nearly 300 members. Last Autumn, I reprinted an article from the Kent Coin Club of Dover, Delaware, on lack of member participation: we have here a fine example.



## Show Schedule

July 19 - 21: Canadian Numismatic Association, Annual Convention, Chateau Lacombe, Edmonton, Alta. Information: CNA '79, P. O. Box 4111, Edmonton, Alta.

- July 29 - Aug. 3: American Numismatic Association, Annual Convention, Stouffers Riverfront Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri.
- August 4: Orillia Champlain Coin Club's Coin & Stamp Show, in the "Green Room", Orillia Opera House, Orillia, Ontario.
- August 18: Collingwood Coin & Stamp Club, fifth annual Coin & Stamp Show, Lions Den, Hurontario Street, Collingwood, from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. Information: Maria A. Ford, Show Chairman, P. O. Box 565, Collingwood, Ont., L9Y 4B2.
- Aug. 31 - Sept. 2: Ottex '79, at the Holiday Inn - Ottawa Centre, Ottawa, Ont. Information: City of Ottawa Coin Club, P. O. Box 6094, Stn. "J", Ottawa, Ont., K2A 1T2.
- Sept. 8: Huronia Numismatic Association's Annual Show, Bayfield Mall, Barrie, Ont. Information: P. O. Box 243, Barrie, Ont., L4M 4T2
- Sept. 15 & 16: Toronto Coin Club's Annual Fall Show, Royal York Hotel, 100 Front St. W., Toronto (right across the road from Union Station - also accessible from the Subway). Information: Toronto Coin Club, P. O. Box 865, Adelaide St. P. O., Toronto, Ont., M5C 2K1
- Sept. 29: Pemex '79, Highview School Auditorium, Pembroke, Ont., opening at 10 A.M.
- October 7: Sarnia Numismatic Society Annual Show. More information when available.
- October 13: Richmond Hill Coin Club's Annual Show, Hillcrest Mall, Hwy 11 (Yonge St.) at Carrville Rd., Richmond Hill, Ont. General Information: P. O. Box 386, Richmond Hill, Ont., L4C 4Y6. Display Information: Stan Clute, P. O. Box 672, Station B, Willowdale, Ont., M2K 2P9
- October 20: Thistletown Coin & Stamp Club's Coin & Stamp Show, Etobicoke Public Library, Albion Rd., just West of Kipling Ave., Etobicoke. Information: P. O. Box 1143, Station B, Weston, Ont., M9L 2R8.
- October 21: Tillsonburg Coin Club Annual Coin Show, at the Tillsonburg Community Centre in the Lions Auditorium. Information: Doug Mitchener, 1 Myrtle St., Tillsonburg, Ont.
- October 27: St. Catharines Coin Club, Annual Show & Banquet, Westminster Church Hall, Queenston St., St. Catharines, 11 A.M. to 6 P.M. Free admission & parking.
- October 28: Stratford Coin & Stamp Show, Royal Canadian Legion, St. Patrick & Church Streets, Stratford, 10 A.M. to 6 P.M. Free admission & free door prizes.

## CONVENTION AFFAIRS

DISPLAY WINNERS:

<u>Canadian Decimal Coins</u>	--	1st...Terry MacHugh, Hamilton
		2nd...Tom Kostaluk, London
<u>Paper Money</u>	-----	1st...Tom Minnes, Hamilton
		2nd...Fred Barley, St. Catharines
		3rd...F. C. Jewett, Willowdale
<u>Foreign Coins</u>	-----	1st...Jan Nielsen, St. Catharines
		3rd...Vern O'Connor, Lindsay
<u>Tokens &amp; Medals</u>	-----	1st...Stan Clute, Willowdale
		2nd...Arthur Leff, London
<u>Miscellaneous</u>	-----	1st...E. Victor Snell, St. Catharines
<u>Wooden Money</u>	-----	1st...Norman E. Wells, Peterborough
		2nd...Ted Oulds, Chatham
<u>Ancient &amp; Mediaeval Coins</u>	-----	1st...Bruce Brace, Ancaster
		2nd...Ian Dickson, Dundas
<u>Junior</u>	-----	1st...Grant Monck, London
<u>Clubs</u>	-----	1st...Ingersoll Coin Club, Ingersoll
		2nd...Woodstock Coin Club, Woodstock
		3rd...St Catharines Coin Club, St. Catharines
<u>JUNIOR BEST OF SHOW</u>	-----	Grant Monck
<u>SENIOR BEST OF SHOW</u>	-----	Bruce Brace

In addition, two excellent NON-COMPETITIVE DISPLAYS were exhibited at the Convention by visiting U. S. collectors Stephen R. Taylor and Douglas A. Moore of Dover, Delaware. Taylor is past president and founder of the Kent Coin Club of Dover, and a candidate for seat # 6 on the American Numismatic Association's Board of Governors. He was also the banquet speaker at last year's O.N.A. Convention and, for the past two years, has conducted exhibit seminars at the Convention. Last year he won the coveted Best of Show award at the A.N.A. Convention in Houston Texas. Moore is the current President of the Kent Coin Club in Dover. Both he and Taylor displayed at last year's C.N.A. Convention in London, Ont.

AWARD OF MERIT: Two O.N.A. Award of Merit presentations were made this year. In addition to the 1979 Award winner, the Award for 1978, which had been deferred from last year, was presented. The recipients of the awards are:

1978.....Thomas Masters, London, Ont.

1979.....Norman E. Wells, Peterborough, Ont.

ADDITIONAL AWARD: In addition to the O.N.A. Awards presented at the banquet, Stella Hodge, O.N.A. Area Co-Director for Area # 1, received the Laister Keeper Trophy from the Ingersoll Coin Club, in appreciation of her contributions to the club.

ELECTION RESULTS: As a result of the election, Bruce Watt was re-elected

as President of the O.N.A. for the 1979-81 term. Here are the results, as reported to the election committee by the three persons charged with an independent audit of the ballots:

Ballots returned:	78
minus - Spoiled ballots:	<u>1</u>
Votes counted:	77

B. Watt: 44 votes  
T. Masters: 33 votes

CONVENTION DRAW RESULTS: 1st prize (Bahamas trip for two for 1 week):  
Mrs. B. McDonald, Scarborough.  
2nd prize (\$100 unity gold coin): K. Kamler,  
Hamilton.  
3rd prize (\$50 cash): Duncan Perkis, London.  
4th prize (1979 P.L. set): Neil Reibin, Ajax.  
5th prize (1979 P.L. set): Jack Taylor, Bowman-  
ville.  
6th prize (1979 P.L. set): Ann Corke, Stratford.

The draw was a very successful venture. Thanks is deserved by all who helped in the sale of tickets, and a special thank you goes out to everyone who supported our draw by purchasing tickets.

K. Wilmot,  
Draw Chairman.

### CLUB NEWS

The BRANTFORD NUMISMATIC SOCIETY reports that its members enjoyed an O.N.A. slide set on Canadian Large Five Cent Pieces, at the April meeting. At the May meeting, the guest speaker was Robert Aaron, who presented a slide series on the Winnipeg Mint. In addition, John Regitko - incoming First Vice-president of the C.N.A. - spoke briefly on that organization.

The CANADIAN LARGE CENTS CLUB, headquartered in Pineville, LA, U.S.A., reports that its Coin Week Canada campaign for this year was a great success. At the same time, the current newsletter editor has put forth a call for a new editor to step forward.

The ORILLIA CHAMPLAIN COIN CLUB celebrated its 17th birthday at its June meeting. On hand for the occasion was a birthday cake (yes, with candles). The very interesting guest speaker for the evening was Lloyd Graham, Admin. Manager, Bank of Montreal, Orillia. He delivered a talk on counterfeit coins and banknotes, followed by a film on the same subject, titled "Battle of Wits". After the film, he had on hand a display of counterfeit notes - large and small denominations, Canadian and U.S.A. All the members and guests present found the talk fascinating.

At the May meeting of the CITY OF OTTAWA COIN CLUB, Mr. Gordon C. Leslie, of the British American Banknote Corporation, presented a talk on the manufacturing of paper money. He prefaced his talk by noting that the

Company is a private company operating out of a plant located in the west end of Ottawa. Its major competitor is the Canadian Bank Note Company. In addition to the manufacture of paper money, the company produces bond and stock certificates, cheques of all descriptions, travellers cheques, bank drafts and personal money orders, and postage stamps. Mr Leslie outlined the types of printing processes used such as offset, letterpress, engraved intaglio, and gravure, and explained the principles involved in each process. In the main part of his talk, he explained in detail the production of banknotes, from plate making through the paper and ink used, the printing processes involved, the numbering of the notes, to the finishing process (which includes an examination of the face and back of each sheet of 40 notes). He concluded his presentation with some brief remarks on the printing of postage stamps and the scope of the security arrangements at the plant. Mr. Leslie's talk was supplemented by an excellent series of slides.



INGERSOLL COIN CLUB'S May meeting took the form of a joint meeting with the WOODSTOCK COIN CLUB at Old St. Paul's Church in Woodstock. Charles Laister acted as chairman for the evening. Ingersoll President Thomas Masters stated that he hoped the two clubs had started a trend and that a combined meeting would be held at least once a year henceforth. The speaker for the evening was O.N.A. Area Director Ken Wilmot, who divided the club members into four teams and proceeded to conduct a quiz on Canadian coins. Team # 1 won the point total, and junior Tommy Koslonen accepted the prize for the team. Ken was presented with a 1979 membership in the Woodstock Coin Club and a club medal.

At the June 5 meeting of the LONDON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY, the membership was informed of the death of long-time member George Warcup, who passed away on May 22. Grant Monck gave a brief report on the recent O.N.A. Convention, noting that there were some 60 cases of exhibits, with some members of the club winning in several of the categories. Guest speaker for the evening was Paul Johnson, of Toronto, who is the Second Vice-president of the Canadian Numismatic Association. He spoke on the topic "Collecting Numismatic Literature". He outlined various ways by which a numismatic library could be built; namely collecting by subject, country, or period of history. He compared the research as printed in some of the older standard reference works to that which is available in the newer publications. In this way it is possible to follow the advances being made through research. Paul also outlined the advantages of the small booklets or pamphlets which, in most cases, give a detailed study of a limited subject. For the collector of numismatic books, condition, as with coins, is most important. Some books are good investments and can be sold at a profit.

This May's meeting of the NORTH YORK COIN CLUB, featured short talks by several of the club's members. Carl Anderson was the first speaker: he delivered a talk on collecting Canadian decimal coins which was an inspiration to both the novice and the veteran collector. George Fraser spoke on Canadian Paper Money collecting and displayed some Dominion of Canada notes, emphasizing his collection of regular prefixes, asterisk

notes and radar notes. Ken Bunnett, the next scheduled speaker suggested that members forego his part of the talk in order to enjoy the coffee break, but he drew attention to his excellent display of Canadian pre-confederation tokens. Norman Belsten spoke on collecting wooden money, after which he donated a set of Richmond Hill wooden nickels to the draw. After the coffee break, John Regitko spoke on his specialty of die varieties, weird and unusual money. He showed a selection of emergency money. He also talked briefly about his second hobby of photography. Harvey Farrow spoke about his display of various medals. A get well card was passed around for members to sign, to be sent to the club's convenor, Miss Jean Orr. Plans for the annual garden party had to be cancelled and replaced by a regular meeting for the month of June. A 16 mm colour film on "Coins For Canada and the World", by Crawley Films, was loaned to the club by C.A.N.D. through its Executive Secretary Al Bliman, and was shown at the meeting. This excellent film was enjoyed by all present.

At the June meeting of the RICHMOND HILL COIN CLUB, members celebrated the club's sixteenth birthday. A huge birthday cake was on hand for all present to partake of. The club honoured three of its members for their help in making the club's Coin Week Canada promotion a success: outgoing C.N.A. President Jim Charlton, C.A.N.D. Executive Secretary Al Bliman, and C.F.G.M. radio personality Ron Knight (the meeting night also happened to be Ron's own birthday). In addition, Mrs. Corinne Gallant was presented with a bouquet of roses for her unstinting work for the club. Speaker for the evening was Myer Price, President of the Canadian Paper Money Society, who delivered a superb talk on the History of the Bank of Montreal.

Guest speaker at the May meeting of the ST. CATHARINES COIN CLUB was Bruce Watt, O.N.A. President, who gave a very interesting talk on wooden collectibles. Bruce stated that post cards and Xmas cards come in this form. They have been recognized in the U.S.A. for about 15 to 20 years. Wooden money comes in various shapes, such as round, oblong, square and rectangular. It has been recognized in Canada for about 5 years. The guest speaker at the June meeting was O.N.A. Editor and Canadian Coin News columnist Stan Clute. Stan delivered an interesting presentation on ancient Roman coins, which was augmented by numerous colour slides.

The May 14 meeting of the ST. THOMAS NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION heard the club's Vice-president, Ray Else, give a talk on "Collecting Coins", which emphasized tips on buying and selling coins, on the care of a collection, among other things.

The June meeting of the THISTLETOWN COIN & STAMP CLUB was an O.N.A. night, at which time Stan Clute, the club's delegate to the O.N.A. Convention, gave his report on the convention. Henry Burke, O.N.A. Area Director for Area 8, spoke briefly about the O.N.A., then showed an O.N.A. slide series.

The annual coin show and banquet of the VICTORIA - SIMCOE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION, held on June 16, was a very successful event. It was held for the first time, this year, in Cannington rather than the traditional Woodville location. 19 dealers and 9 displays were present in the auditorium of the Community Centre. Best of Show went to Keith Severs of Cannington for his Canadian Coins display. First Place in Currency went to Vern O'Connor of Lindsay, followed closely by F. C. Jewett of Toronto. Vern O'Connor took

First in British Coins. In the Tokens category, First Place went to Stan Clute of Toronto, Second Place to Bill Gage of Shanty Bay, and Third Place to his wife, Alma Gage. Norman Wells took First Place in Miscellaneous with a display of wooden money. Second went to Ross Irwin of Guelph with an exhibit of military badges. A hot turkey supper, with all the trimmings, wound up the day. Catering was by the Ladies of the Cannington Legion branch 286.

The May 15th meeting of the WATERLOO COIN SOCIETY heard member Ken McTavish deliver a presentation entitled "Old Sheet Music". Because of his experience in the music business, Ken was able to take members back many years through a history of sheet music, showing the sheet music, and talking about some of the well known Canadian musicians, many of whom he has known.

### OBITUARY

We are very sorry to learn of the passing of Mr. Ronald J. Dickinson, owner of North American Numismatic Exchange, of Toronto. Ron passed away in Toronto's Grace Hospital at 5:30 P.M., Wednesday, July 11, 1979, after a very long illness. Ron was O.N.A. Life Member-# 34 and a long-time supporter of the Association. We extend sympathies to his wife, Diane, and son, Stephen.

### O. N. A. CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS



Banquet Speaker J. Douglas Ferguson addresses banqueters.



Award of Merit Winners: Norman Wells (1979) left, Thomas Masters (1978) right, with F. C. Jewett who presented the awards.