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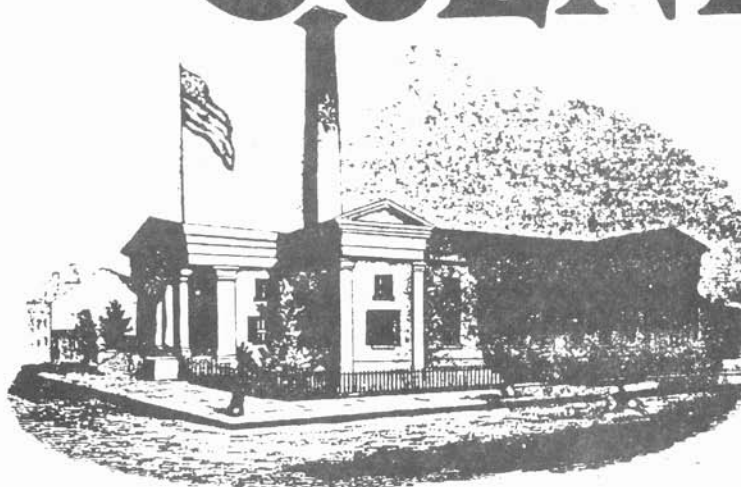
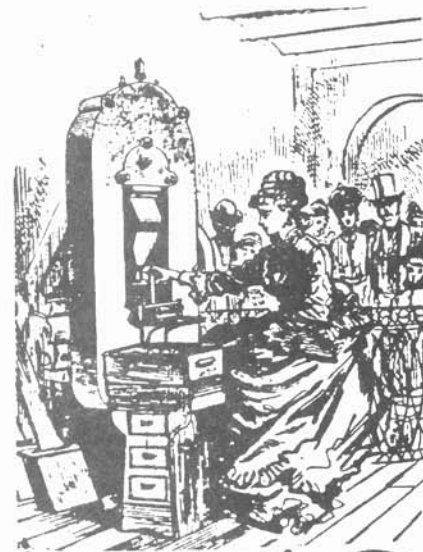
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OLD MINT SCENES

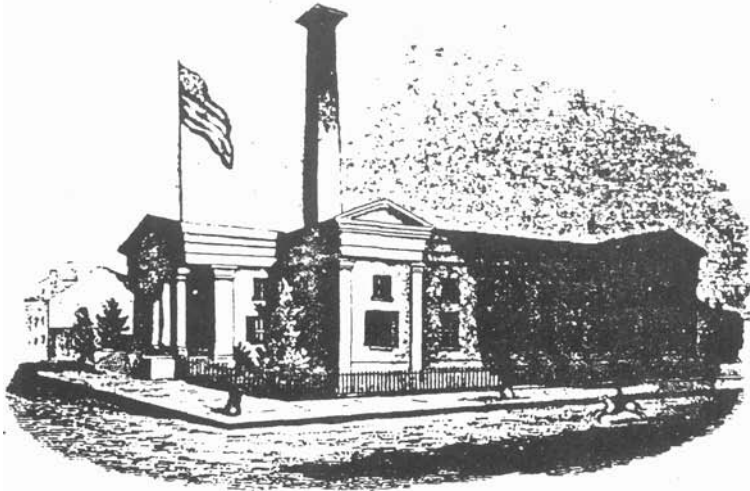


The U.S. Mint located in Philadelphia about 1900.

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The U.S. Mint located in Philadelphia about 1900.

TURN OF THE CENTURY ENGRAVINGS
GIVE A RARE VIEW OF
THE EARLY DAYS OF COINING

OLD MINT SCENES

by SANFORD J. DURST

ILLUSTRATED HISTORY

UNITED STATES MINT

WITH MOST HISTORICAL ENGRAVINGS AND ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE MINT OFFICERS AND A COMPLETE DESCRIPTION OF AMERICAN COINAGE

From the earliest period to the present time; the Process of Melting, Refining, Assaying, and Coining Gold and Silver being fully described

WITH BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF THE

MINT OFFICERS FROM ITS FOUNDATION TO THE PRESENT TIME.

IN WHICH ARE ADDED

A GLOSSARY OF MINT TERMS

AND THE

LATEST OFFICIAL TABLES

OF THE

Operations of the different Mints and Assay Offices, showing the Annual Production of Gold and Silver in the United States and Foreign Countries, with Monetary Statistics of the World.

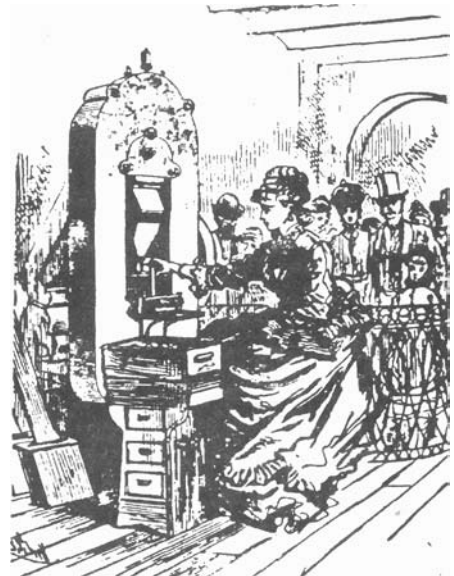
WITH PHOTO-ILLUSTRATIONS AND FINE ENGRAVINGS AND THIRTY-TWO PLATES OF RARE COINS.

New Revised Edition, Edited by the Publisher.
(Twenty-four Thousand).

SANFORD J. DURST
Numismatic Publications
New York, N.Y.

Most collectors are aware that the minting process today is handled by highly sophisticated, often computerized machines. But few of us may be aware of exactly how coins were produced before our modern technical age.

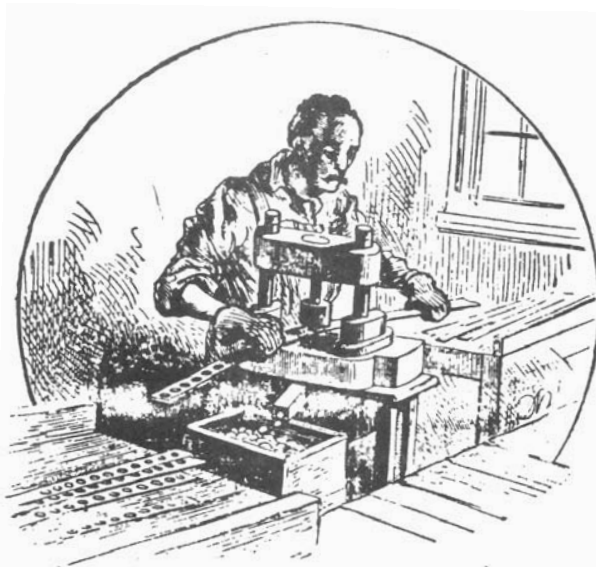
A book, HISTORY OF THE U.S. MINT AND COINAGE first printed at the turn of the century has just been published by Sanford J. Durst, Numismatic Publications, 133 E. 58th St., New York, N.Y. and it gives us that information along with highly graphic steel engravings of actual minting machines. In these exciting scenes of the Old Mint, we see the coining process not from the viewpoint of 1977, but through the eyes of 19th century visitors.



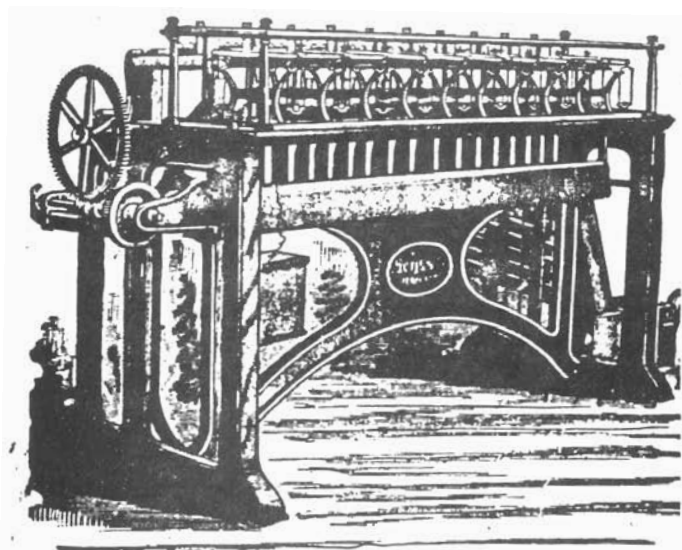
"The coining room, the most interesting to the general visitor, occupies the larger portion of the first floor on the east side of the building. The rooms are divided by an iron railing, which separates the visitors on either side from the machinery, etc., but allows everything to be seen."



"The rolling room – the pressure applied (to the metal) is so intense that half a day's rolling heats not only the strips and roller, but even the huge iron stanchions weighing several tons so hot that you can hardly hold your hand on them. When the rolling is completed the strip is about six feet long, or six times as long as the ingot (from which it came)."

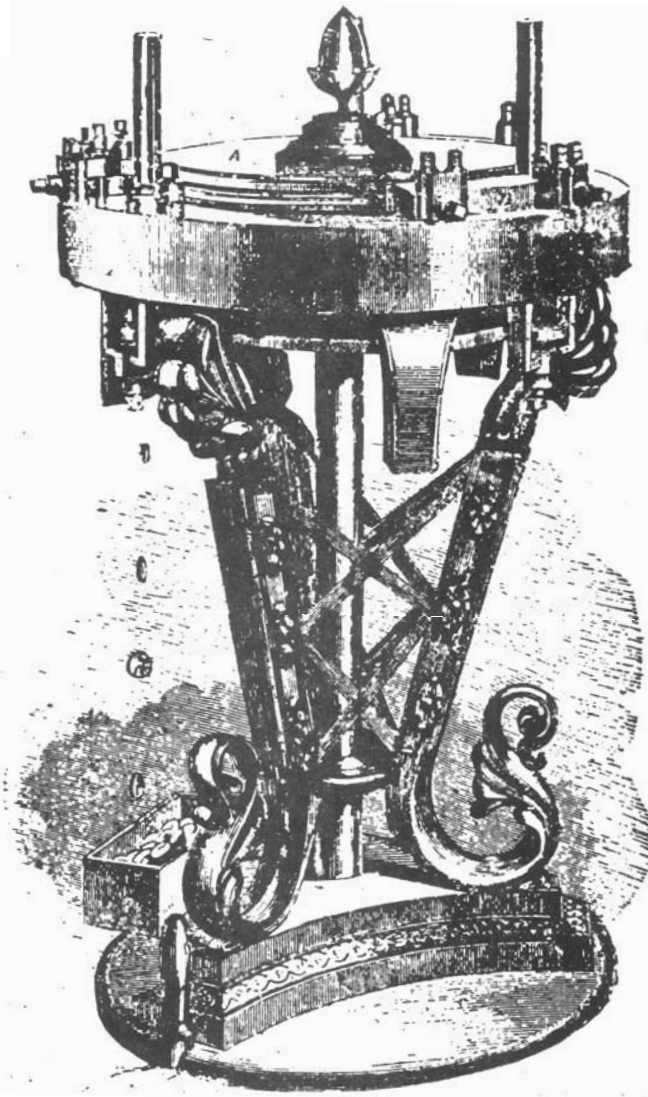


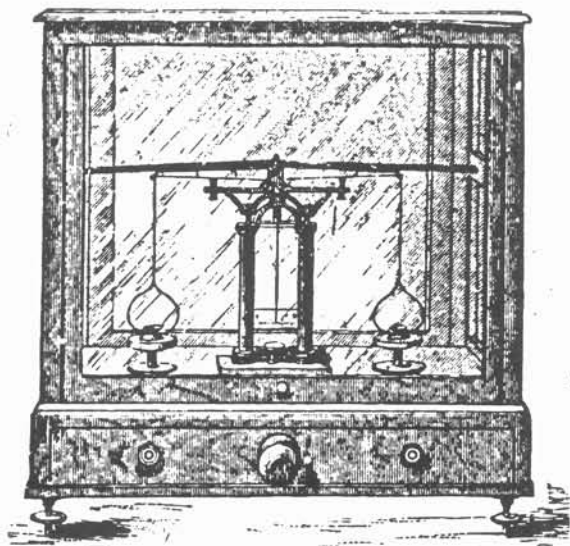
"After being thoroughly washed, the strips are consigned to the cutting machines. These are in the rear of the rolling mills and are several in number, each when in active operation cutting 225 planchets per minute. The press now used consists of a vertical steel punch . . . in a round hole. . . cut in solid steel plate."



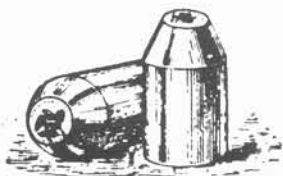
In the weighing room are both balance scales and automatic weighing scales. "The scales are wonderfully delicate and are examined and adjusted every morning. . . It is estimated that about 1500 million dollars worth of gold has been received and weighed in this room; probably nine tenths from California. . ."

"The planchets . . . are received (in the milling room) and in order to protect the surface of the coin, are passed through the milling machine. The planchets are fed to this machine through an upright tube, and, as they descend from the lower aperture, they are caught upon the edge of a revolving wheel and carried about a quarter of a revolution, during which the edge is compressed and forced up. This apparatus moves so nimbly that 565 halfdimes can be milled in a minute; but, for larger pieces, the average is about 120. In this room are the milling machines and the massive but delicate coin presses."



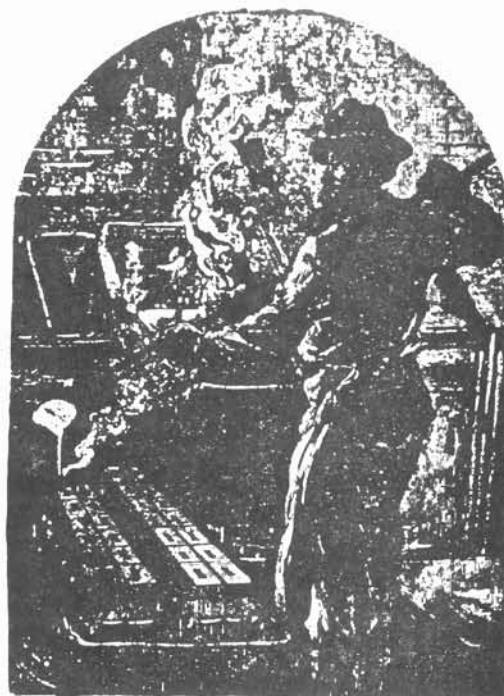


"The planchets (having been cut) are then removed to the adjusting room where they are adjusted. This work is performed by ladies. After inspection they are weighed on very accurate scales. If a planchet is too heavy, but near the weight, it is filed off at the edges; if too heavy for filing, it is thrown aside with the light ones to be remelted. To adjust coin so accurately requires great delicacy and skill as too free use of the file would make it too light. Yet by long practice, so accustomed do the operators become that they work with apparent unconcern scarce glancing at either planchet or scales . . ."

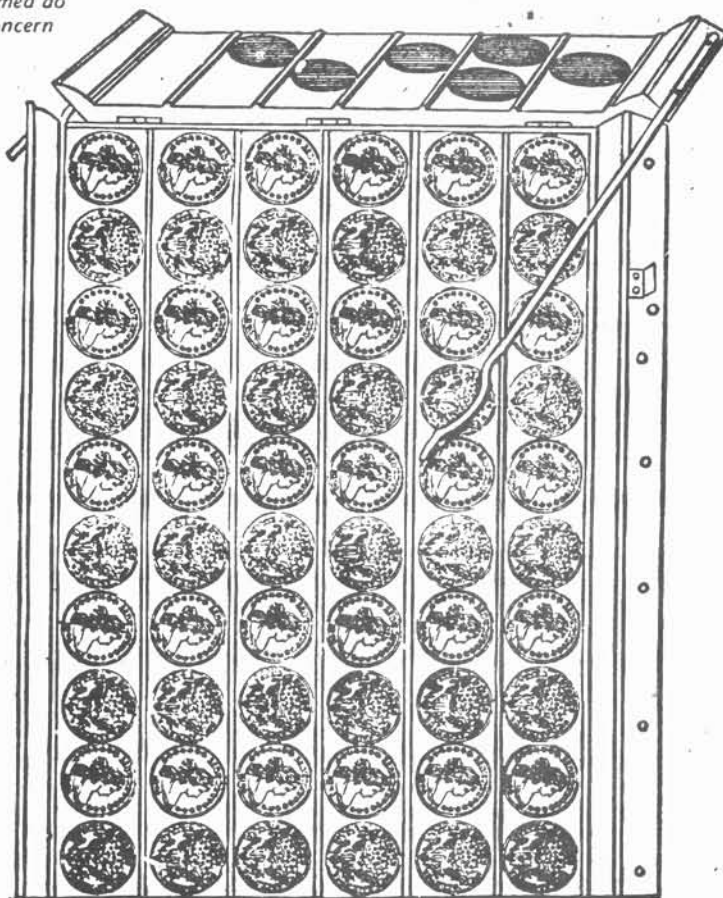


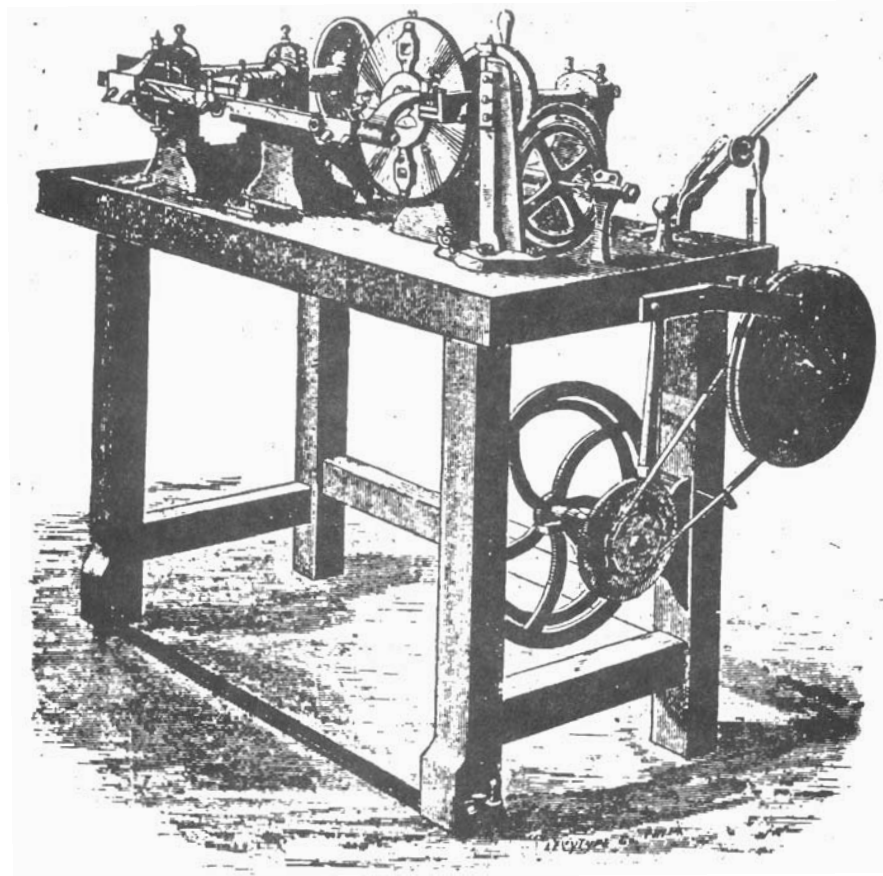
"Dies for coining are prepared for engravers especially employed at the Mint for that purpose. The process of engraving them consists in cutting the devices and legends in soft steel, those parts being depressed which, in the coin, appear in relief."

"The Counting Board is used for silver pieces and sometimes for small gold. By this process 25 dollars in five-cent pieces can be counted in less than a minute. The 'boards' are a simple flat surface of wood, with copper partitions, the height and size of the coin to be counted, rising from the surface at regular intervals and running parallel with each other from top to bottom. They somewhat resemble a common household washing board, with the grooves running parallel with the sides but much larger. The boards are worked by hand . . ."

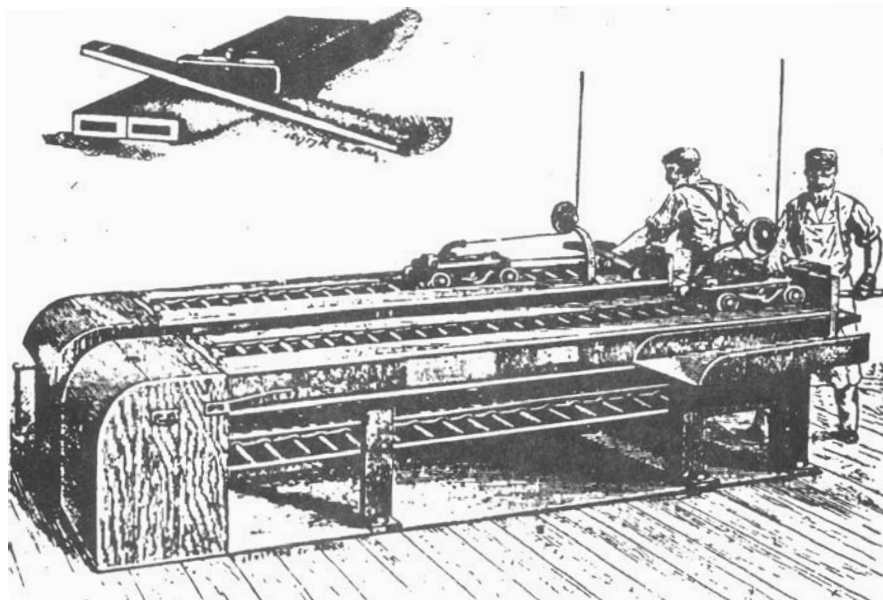


"The melting rooms are on the first floor in the west side of the building. Here all the metal used in coining is alloyed and poured into narrow molds. The copper and nickel melting rooms, wherein all the base metals used are melted and mixed, is on the same side and adjoining the gold and silver . . ."





"The transfer lathe, a very complicated piece of machinery is used in making dies for coins and metals. By it, from a large cast the design can be transferred and engraved in smaller size in perfect proportion to the original. . . . Ingots (below) are about 12 inches long and half an inch thick and vary in breadth. . . The value of gold ingots is from \$500 to \$1,400."



After heating, the metal strips go to the drawing bench. "It resembles a long table with a bench on either side, at one end of which is an iron box secured to the table. In this are fastened two perpendicular steel cylinders firmly supported in a bed to prevent their bending or turning around. . . It (strip of metal) is drawn between the cylinders which operate on the thick part of the strip with greater power than upon the thin, reducing the whole to an equal thickness."

Leonardo Da Vinci: Coin Designer



The Mona Lisa Painting by Leonardo Da Vinci Created between 1503-06 was on display in the United States in the early part of 1966.

Warranted raves for this masterpiece have been loud and long from an art-thirsty American public in the press and television. Possibly few reading or listening realized that other masterpieces by Leonardo, in other forms, have been Present on this Continent for many years.

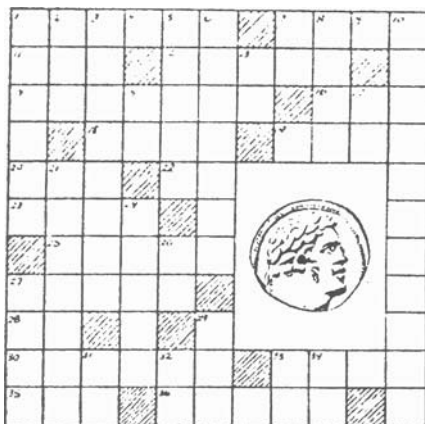
The diversity of Da Vinci who in modern times has been referred to as the "great unfinisher," established for him a reputation for design second only to that of his art. Amusingly enough, he could well be the first modern numismatic designer to have created a two-headed coin, and therefore responsible for the phrase - "heads I win, tails you lose."

The bust adorning each side of this silver Testone (equivalent to a modern shilling) are of Giovanni G.M. Sforza with the short hair (1481) and his nephew Ludovico M. Sforza long-haired.. (1494). It was hand-struck in 1504. It is a combination of two separate coins of the actual period in which he was commissioned by his Patrons who were then the Regent and reigning Duke of Milan.

Leonardo Da Vinci, 1452-1519, titled *Homo Universale* "universal man", was celebrated as a designer, sculptor, architect, engineer, scientist as well as a famous painter. His insatiable love of knowledge and research resulted in his appointment as principal engineer for the Martesna Canal, military engineer for Cesare Borgia, designer of the Cathedral of Milan, contestant to Michelangelo for the wall of the Palace Vecchio, and in his latter years advisor to the Medici Pope Leo X.

Incidentally, the Mona Lisa was never finished, and the subtle smile that plays on the mouth of La Gioconda. could have been the result of a compelling whispered comment by Leonardo to the effect that "after this painting is completed I will return once more to the designing of coins."

Coinword Puzzle



Across

1. Coin of Lydia, 7th Cen. replaced by the darics & sigloi
7. Time gone by
11. Woman on our quarter, 1892-1916 pronoun
12. Peruses
1. Cut or carve in sunken patterns
16. Eastern standard time, abbr.
18. Facility
19. Coin condition
20. Another name for the bird on our coinage
22. Comparative suffix
23. Parts of Mail Bid Sale
25. Silk lace or netting
27. l i t of Arabia (quadruped)

28. Near
 30. Small Greek coin of bronze —mite
 33. Musical composer, German
 35. Feminine title of address, Abbr.
 36. $\frac{1}{4}$ shekel of silver, biblical
- ### Down
1. Coin of Tyre, 126 BC-70 AD (shown)
 2. Denomination U.S. Note,
 3. Another name for silver, Gr.
 5. Delete
 6. Side of a coin
 7. Money compensated
 8. Adrift
 10. Coin of Alexander the Great obverse, head of Heracles, reverse, zeus on throne.
 13. Bronze or minor coin, abbr.
 15. Sun God, ancient Egyptain
 17. Yes, Spanish
 21. Turner or agitator
 24. Rain mingled with snow
 26. Variety, 1858 U. S. cent, nbb.
 27. Serene
 29. Denomination U.S. Note, Washington Portrait
 31. Postscript, abbr.
 32. Either
 33. Bachelor of Arts, abbr.
 34. Exclamation of surprize

SHOW AND BOURSE DATES

SEPTEMBER 11th, 1982

Barrie, Ontario HURONIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
Annual Coin Show
Bayfield Mall, Bayfield St., N.
Barrie, Ontario.

SEPTEMBER 18th 1982

St. Catharines, Ontario.....St. Catharines Coin Club
Annual Coin Show & Banquet
Club Heidelberg, 569 Lake St,
St. Catharines, Ontario.

SEPTEMBER 30th to OCTOBER 3rd, 1982

Toronto, Ontario.....The Torex Collectables Show
Harbourf Building,
Queen's Quay, West, Toronto,
ront

SEPTEMBER 26, 1982

Sarnia, Ontario..Blue Water International Coin Show
Holiday Inn, Sarnia, Ontario.

OCTOBER 16th, 1982

Tillsonburg, Ontario..... Tillsonburg Coin Club's
Fall Coin Show
Lions Auditorium, Tillsonburg, Ont

OCTOBER 31th, 1982

Stratford, Ontario.....Stratford Coin Club's
Annual Coin Show
Kiwanas Club, Lakeside Dr.,
Stratford, Ontario.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE CLUBS

Keep that CLUB NEWS coming in, folks!!!

INGERSOLL COIN CLUB C59

The June 21st meeting of the Ingersoll Coin Club was held in the Senior Citizen Room at the Lions Hall on Thames Street. One Bourse dealer was busy attending to the needs of a large representation of members and guests in attendance.

Vice President, Stella Hodge called the Ladies Night Meeting to order at 8:15 P.M. with a warm welcome to all and an invitation to any guest to become members to the club. Mrs Hodge informed those who wished to join, that the membership for the balance of the year will be half price.

Len Coles read an article which stated the 1911 Canadian Pattern Silver Dollar, which was purchased by Carltons Numismatics Inc., of Birmingham, Michigan for \$325,000.00 in 1981. is now valued at \$750,000.00. It's owners goal is to sell the coin for at least a \$1,000,000.00.

Jack Griffin reported that while searching for arrow heads he had found an 1857 U.S. dime.

A fifteen minute break was hosted by T. Masters and several helpers which they served strawberries, ice cream and cake.

Stella Hodge spoke on the problems the U.S. Mint was having trying to get the public and banks to accept the 520 million Anthony Dollars that they have stored in their vaults.

A successful 40 lot auction concluded the evening.

WATERLOO COIN SOCIETY C1

The June meeting featured Bill English speaking about about "How To Clean and Protect Coins" and the Sheldon System of grading coins. A total of 33 members and guests were able to benefit from Bill's many years of experience and his knowledge.

John McIntyre conducted a 31 lot auction and was success-

ful in selling all but one of the lots.

The 8 o'clock draw was won by Bill Turnbull.

The Feature Draw winners are as follow:

1st Prize- Agnes Whetham

2nd Prize Agnes Whetham

3rd Prize - John Regitko.

NORTH YORK CCIN CLUB C74

The "On Time Attendance Draw" for the June 22 meeting produced the name of Dr. J.S. Wilkinson, and as he was not in attendance, the prize was not claimed.

A trio of guest speakers was featured in the June programme. George Fraser, Harvey Farrow and John Regitko presented their thoughts on the storing, recording and photographing of ccin and paper money collections.

The lucky draw prize winners were Leon Saraga, Paul Johnson, Harry Lennox, Joseph Talavera, Bob Porter, Frank Dennis and John Regitko.

A light lunch was served at the conclusion of the meeting.



puzzle on page 120

Classical COINage

by JOEL MALTER

The use of animals on coins is of course, not only an ancient motif but modern as well. Yet on modern coins the postures the animals motifs take are usually quite rigid and **sterotyped**. In recent centuries the animal forms have become heraldic and somewhat lifeless.

In ancient Greece, the implementation of animals on coinage brought on wide varieties of designs, some of which I'd like to illustrate and discuss. It is possible for a "topical collector" to put together an amazing collection of ancient Greek coins which show just a few different animal in an amazing assortment of concepts.



The horse as depicted on the plate below shows the animal standing rather stiffly in front of a palm tree on a bronze coin of Carthage. The horse in the center is a runaway Seattle Slew, riderless, with just part of the bridle showing.



The **third** coin shows a pair of horses pulling a chariot. These are, of course, many other types that could be shown. The famous horse head tetradrachm from Carthage, the four horse chariot from Syracuse, and the many variations of the winged horse, Pegasus, from the staters of Corinth.

The dolphin appears quite frequently on the coins of ancient Sicily in conjunction with a female head - the goddess of fertility. (The dolphin was recognized as a special "fish" by the Greeks who understood its mammalian differences from the other creatures of the sea.) What better sea

animal could symbolize the fecundity of the mother goddess than a mammal who gave milk to its young. But the dolphin had another frequent depiction on ancient coins—that of a means of transportation for the youthful hero, Taras, who is seen on a stater from Tarentum. (There are hundreds of variations of this theme in Tarentine coinage. The most famous collection of this series by Vlasto was published years ago in a book that was impossible to



obtain. Fortunately, it has recently been reprinted and is currently available.) On one curious coin from Istrus, the dolphin is in an awkward posture having been lifted from the safe sea by a sea-eagle.

The lion also appears on a great many ancient coins. In one of its earliest appearances it is shown as a beast of prey attacking a bull and eating the hind quarter of its victim. On a number of smaller silver coins from Cnidus only the lion's profile and front paw are visible. A similar posture is seen beside the Cnidus coin on an electrum hekte from Lesbos. The lion's skinned scalp is shown on another hekte on the plate below. The lion is also shown attacking bulls from the other direction such as on the Tarsus stater below the hektes. And, of course, the lion's scalp graces thousands of coins with the head of Herakles.

