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Mexican Silver Coin

After a two-year delay, the government of Mexico has released its legal-tender one-ounce silver coin. The coin is being called the "Libertad" — a name inspired by the design on its reverse, which bears a winged representation of Victory.

The Casa de Moneda in Mexico City struck 950,000 examples of the coin in 1982, but the government chose to withhold them from sale until now. Each contains exactly one ounce of .999 fine silver. According to Mexican officials, no further 1982-dated pieces will be struck and future issues also



Mexican Libertad is a silver coin.

will dated according to the year of their production. This should make the Libertad more attractive to collectors than restrike bullion-type coins whose mintage is open-ended and frequently continues long after the year whose date they bear.

The Libertad will be sold for its bullion value plus a modest premium. The premium will be comparable to that of other legal-tender silver coins, such as pre-1965 United States dimes, quarters and half dollars, according to Bruce L. Kaplan, vice president of A-Mark Precious Metals Inc. of Beverly Hills, Calif., exclusive U.S. distributor for the new coin.

According to Mr. Kaplan, A-Mark will use the same marketing distribution system that is utilized for other major foreign bullion coins. For further information, contact A-Mark Precious Metals Inc., 9696 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, Calif. 90212.

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Association News:

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

THE REASON THAT THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIST HAS BEEN LATE IN THE PAST 4 MONTHS IS THAT I INJURED MY LOWER SPINE IN JUNE 1984. I HAVE BEEN HOSPITALIZED TWICED AND CONFINED TO MY BED AT HOME TO HEAL THE INJURY.

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK MY WIFE NINA FOR HER ASSISTANCE IN HELPING ME IN GETTING THE NUMISMATIST TO THE PRINTER AND IN THE MAIL.



BRUCE R. WATT

EDITOR



4 years of charm school right down the old drain!

40th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF MONTE CASSINO.

Artist-Sculptor Andrew PITYNSKI, has designed a new medal to commemorate the Battle of Monte Cassino. The artist's basis for this medal was not only to immortalize the glory of the Polish forces on Italian soil, but also the Warsaw Uprising. It is a cry of despair, thrown to the sky and to those who did not come to the aid of the fighting Warsaw heroes.

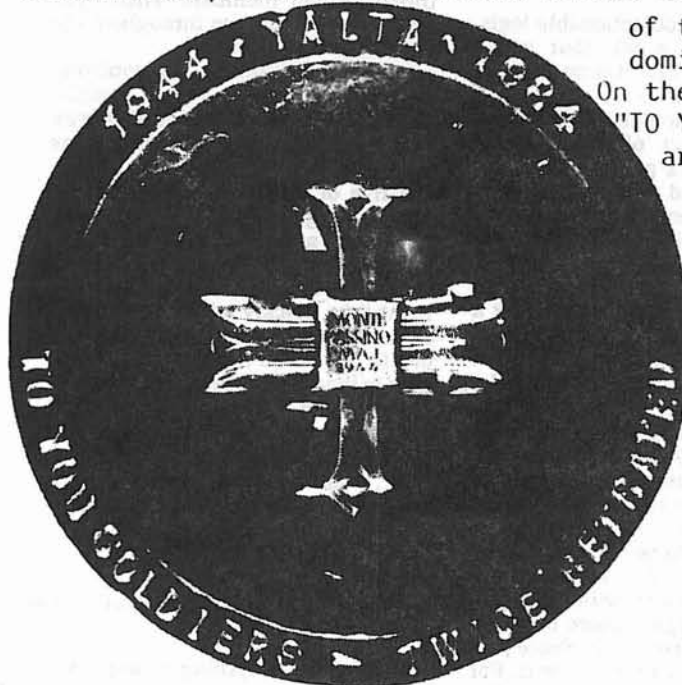
The upriser, "Angel of Death", screaming in despair, kneeling by the manhole to the canal and is holding in his arms a killed, young boy-scout "Child of the Uprising", a gun in the gutter, on his chest a cross and an empty ammunition pouch.

The reverse of the medal is dedicated to the battle of Monte Cassino. The composition illustrates a hill at which at the top boast the ruins



of the monastery. The soldiers cross dominates the entire hill.

On the top and around the inscription: "TO YOU SOLDIERS TWICE BETRAYED". The artist addressed himself to the United States, Great Britain and the entire world who betrayed the Polish soldiers in Yalta. For this, not only Poland, which is held by the brutal Soviet force, is paying dearly, but also the entire world that is standing idly by.



The medal is cast in bronze. Dia: 3.5 inch. Weight: 1 pound. Issued 40 pieces. Price: \$150.00.

Contact the artist directly:
Andrew PITYNSKI, Ettl Fram,
Rosedale Road.
PRINCENTON, NJ. 0 8 5 4 0.

A young woman told her friend that she had decided to marry a rather eccentric millionaire.

"But," protested her friend, "are you sure you want to do that? Most people think he's a little cracked."

"He may be cracked," the young woman admitted, "but he certainly isn't broke."



Dealers' Organization Planning Its Next Moves

Coin and bullion dealers are ready for Round Two in their fight against Big Brother, Washington-style. The fight began last year, when dealers formed the Industry Council for Tangible Assets — ICTA — to counteract what they considered overzealous government regulation. Since then, the new organization has done much to help safeguard the interests of buyers and sellers of coins, bullion and other tangible assets.

As it starts its second year, ICTA has new leadership and a new set of priorities. Luis Vigdor, vice president of Manfra, Tordella & Brookes Inc. in New York, stepped down as chairman and two co-chairmen have succeeded him. They are Jesse Cornish, director of public relations and chief monetary specialist for Investment Rarities Inc. of Minneapolis, and Joseph H. Povey, manager of public relations for Johnson Matthey Inc., a leading manufacturer of precious-metal products with corporate headquarters in Malvern, Pa. The co-chairmen have set new goals for the year ahead.

Both men agree that the first order of business is to firm up ICTA's membership base and consolidate gains already made. At present, the organization has about 450 members, consisting overwhelmingly of producers, wholesale distributors and retail sellers of coins and other items made from gold and silver. The new leaders hope to attract members from other fields — sellers of stamps, diamonds and artwork.

"There are between two and three thousand reputable dealers out there in the coin and bullion industry," Mr. Cornish said, "and we plan to recruit as many of them as we can."

"What we have to do," he added, "is lay it on the line. The basic question for each of these dealers is simply this: 'Do you want to be in business next year?' If they do, then they should take heed of what's happening with officialdom because the regulatory pressure is on. If they want to stay in business, they'll help us with our fight because it's a matter of survival."

Under Mr. Vigdor's leadership, the fledgling organization made impres-

Book of the Year

New York coin dealer Scott A. Travers has received the "Book of the Year" award from the Numismatic Literary Guild for his recent volume, "The Coin Collector's Survival Manual." This is the top award given to authors of books by the NLG, a national organization composed of editors, writers and researchers in the numismatic field. The book, already in a second printing, is available in both hardbound and soft-cover versions. These are priced at \$14.95 and \$9.95. Many coin shops have the book in stock or it can be ordered from the publisher, Arco Publishing Inc., 215 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10003. ■

sive strides. Most obviously and basically, it opened a full-time office in Washington, D.C., headed by Donald C. Evans, a long-time lawyer-lobbyist. This established the industry's presence and gave it an influential voice.

It helped deter objectionable legislation, including a bill that would have banned the importation of South African Krugerrands. It also helped delay the implementation and soften the likely impact of the Internal Revenue Service's proposed Regulation 6045. It would require dealers to file an IRS form every time they purchased gold or silver bullion or "bullion-type" coins.

Internally, the organization took a crucial step toward burnishing the industry's image by drafting a code of ethics for ICTA members. In Mr. Povey's view, the ethics code provides a key line of defense against infiltration of ICTA by companies engaged in disreputable practices. He considers this the keystone for future growth and health.

"That's going to be our basic stake in the ground," Mr. Povey said. "After the members read the code, they'll have to sign a piece of paper saying they'll adhere to it. Some people aren't going to want to sign it. For one thing, it requires you to submit a financial statement by a recognized certified public accounting firm. We suspect we may lose a few members because of it, but if people won't sign this code, then they shouldn't be in the organization."

As a second line of defense to protect the buying public, ICTA has also

been studying ways of providing insurance for members' customers. According to Mr. Cornish, this would be aimed at protecting buyers from fraud.

"Mainly," he explained, "fraud boils down to two things: non-delivery and delivery that isn't good. If you send in your money and you don't get delivery, that's fraud right away. If you get delivery and it isn't as specified, that's fraud, too. That would cover things such as misgraded coins, for example."

Under a proposal drafted by Alexander and Alexander, a New York insurance company, an aggregate pool of money would be available to pay successful claims. Each member's maximum coverage and premiums would be fixed in accordance with the volume of his business.

Although they are stressing internal concerns, ICTA's new co-chairmen haven't lost sight of the external threat to their members. Their eyes will be on Washington throughout the next 12 months.

"Legislative liaison and lobbying are a big part of what a trade association is in business for," Mr. Povey said, "and those will continue to be as important for ICTA as ever. There are five or six pieces of legislation and IRS regulations that concern us right now, and we plan to stay right on top of them."

"We're not fighting the government," he quickly added. "We don't believe in that or in fighting our way of life. All we're fighting for is freedom in the marketplace, and freedom for the buyer to have some privacy." To contact the organization, write to ICTA, 214 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002.

A fellow who always saw spots before his eyes went to see an eye doctor.

"I can't find anything wrong with your eyes," the doctor said. "Have you ever seen a psychiatrist?"

"No," the puzzled patient replied, "just spots."



"S O L I D A R I T Y" MEDAL



Issued in Poland on the first anniversary of creation of the "SOLIDARNOŚĆ"

Bronze. 62 mm. Designer unknown.

Requests have been received from readers for the address of Lech Wałesa, leader of the now banned Solidarity union in Poland. Your letters can be sent to Wałesa's home at: Ul. Pilotów 17D-3, Gdańsk, Poland.



Obv.: Outline of the Polish borders. Inside the inscription: SOLIDARNOŚĆ, with Polish flag. Above letters: "NSZZ". Around in Polish: +NIEZALEŻNY SAMORZĄDOWY ZWIĄZEK ZAWODOWY + . Underneath: + 1 9 8 1 + .

Rev.: Profile of Jasna Gora Monastery. Around the inscription in Polish: W PIERWSZĄ ROCZNICĘ POWSTANIA. Underneath + 1980 + SIERPIEŃ + 1981.



NOBEL PRIZE WINNER - Lech WAŁESA on the 100 złotych Bill.



This is a coupon issued in Poland to support financially the Solidarity movement in Poland. The date of issue is 31 of August 1983.

Olympic coins still paying off

The latest from the Olympic Coin program: August sales put an additional \$4.7 million in the coffers of the U.S. Olympic Committee, raising its total revenues from coin sales to \$52.6 million.

U.S. Treasurer Katherine D. Ortega says the government has sold \$250 million in gold and silver coins since the program began last year. Officials



THE COINS: USA sales revenue stands at \$250 million so far.

hope to keep the coins selling through the end of 1984 with the help of a national television

advertising campaign beginning Oct. 22. The message: Coins make good gifts.

DID YOU KNOW:

by Terry Kolt.

Assistant Editor, Stratford Coin Club

At our last meeting Roy Hollingshead was kind enough to loan me a fantastic book by Ted Schwarz entitled Coins As Living History. If I'm allowed to keep it for another while I will touch on some of the highlights of this book which I found very interesting.

This month I will let you read the Introduction of this book, then in future bulletins I will extract excerpt from it.

The Introduction:

If you take a few coins from your pocket, what do you have? Some circular pieces of metal stamped with different designs? A down payment on a meal at your favorite restaurant? Or perhaps the cost of the latest motion picture? No matter how you view your pocket change, I doubt if you hold it in very high regard.

There is more to your coins than you might imagine, however. The pocket change most of us have viewed so casually all our lives has far more meaning than just the value of the metal it contains. Coins have been a major force in helping to advance civilization. They permitted the division of labor that has allowed society to industrialize. In ancient times they spread news of major construction projects, changes in political leadership, and other important events. They have served as mini-newspapers, objects of art, and even sources of propoganda. It might well be said that for over 2,000 years, coinage has been a miniature mirror of the story of mankind.

Barter was the means of exchange for ancient civilizations. If one family had wheat and another family had cows, they would get together and try to decide how much grain was a fair exchange for each cow. Trade was arbitrary and values were often decided at the time of bartering. Ten bushels of wheat might buy a cow one month, while eight bushels might buy a similar cow from the same family in a different month.

Such early trade kept men close to the land and close to their homes. If all you owned were chickens, you couldn't risk taking them to a different part of the country because you couldn't be sure that anyone would be interested in trading for them. You knew that near your home you could get the vegetables you did not grow from a neighbor who enjoyed an occasional chicken dinner. But if you took a few hens and went traveling, you would have a sparse diet if people in the territory you were visiting did not value your chickens enough to trade for them.

In order to allow a certain amount of freedom of movement it was decided that necessary goods should have consistent values. At first values were expressed in the form of tools and weapons of war. For example, everyone needed an axe no matter where he lived. If the axe was used as a standard, then a man could know that two of his chickens were worth two axes. He could take his chickens to the

vegetable grower and ask for the number of vegetables that were the equivalent of two axes; this was a set amount which did not vary anywhere.

Later, tools and weapons were abandoned as the media of exchange. Cattle seemed more important, so goods and even services were rated in terms of cows. A week's physical toil might be worth half a cow, for example, or a crop of corn would be worth ten cows. Unfortunately this system failed to take into consideration whether the cow was big or small, strong or sickly, old or young. The concept was good but a standard was lacking. To make matters worse, it was difficult for some people to keep cattle. Wealth became as great a burden as poverty.

The concept of coinage evolved slowly. Once coins became common, people had a freedom they had never experienced before. A farmer could sell his crops and receive bits of metal in exchange. He could then place the metal pieces in his pocket and travel to a far off city where he could use the coins to rent a place to sleep and obtain a meal. He was no longer forced to stay at home to be certain his barter objects would be accepted by others. Coins gave him the freedom to travel unencumbered and without fear. He could obtain goods and services wherever he went, always at fixed rates. He could become an artist, a shoemaker, a wagon maker, or take up any other non-agricultural profession, secure in the knowledge that the coins he received for his work would enable him to eat as well as when he lived on a farm.

And so our story begins. Next month we will examine the true stories told by and about coins that make them a living history.

About the author: Ted Schwarz.

Ted Schwarz is a professional writer/photographer who was born in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1945 and presently resides in Tucson, Arizona, with his wife and a miniature schnauzer. He attended Case-Western University, majoring in psychology and sociology, and then studied with the New York Institute of Photography. He has written a humor column for several newspapers and wrote a nationally syndicated comic strip for two years. His writing on numismatics dates from when his first article was printed in COINS Magazine; he was fifteen years old. His work has appeared in magazines ranging from Modern Bride to Engineering News Record to Nation's Cities, and he writes regularly for most of the numismatic newspapers and magazines, including Britain's Coin Monthly.

SHOW AND BOURSE

OCTOBER 12th-14th, 1984

TORONTO, ONTARIO.....TOREX FALL SHOW
Harbourfront Building.
222 Queen's Quay West.

OCTOBER 27th., 1984

NIAGARA FALLS, ONTARIO.....NIAGARA FALLS COIN CLUB'S
Annual Coin Show
Stamford Lions Hall
Portage Road North.
Niagara Falls.

OCTOBER 28th., 1984

STRATFORD, ONTARIO.....STRATFORD COIN CLUB'S
Annual Coin Show
Kiwanis Community Centre
Lakeside Drive Stratford.

NOVEMBER 3rd., 1984

OSHAWA, ONTARIO.....OSHAWA & DISTRICT COIN CLUB'S
Annual Anniversary
Coin-A-Rama
Oshawa Centre
King St & Stevenson Rd.,
Oshawa. 9:00 A.M. - 5:30 P.M.

NOVEMBER 4th, 1984

WINDSOR, ONTARIO.....Windsor Coin Club's
Fall Show
Knights of Columbus Hall
Goyeau St . Windsor.

NOVEMBER 9th-11th., 1984

TORONTO, ONTARIO.....TORONTO INTERNATIONAL COIN
FAIR

Lakeshore Inn
2000 Lakeshore Blvd, W.,
Toronto, Ontario

**COINS IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL:
Ottawa's Lively Numismatic Scene**

by Paul Nadin-Davis

It's almost an old adage in the numismatic world that Ottawa has all the potential and none of the realization of a major numismatic centre. As a resident of some five years standing in the City hearing this said is startling to me, as in fact there is an absolute wealth of numismatic activity in Ottawa. For those who might not be familiar with all its aspects, this article presents just some of the numismatic adventures available to visitors and residents to the most beautiful Capital City in the world!

Museum and Collection Exhibits

Presently at least two exhibits of major numismatic significance are available to visitors to Ottawa: the Bank of Canada's Currency Museum, and the War Museum. I have spent many happy hours in each. In addition, the National Collection of Medals is located in Ottawa, under the auspices of the picture division of National Archives Canada, though displays tend to be only of small parts of this collection. The majority of pieces in this accumulation are stored in archival fashion. Nevertheless the National Archives are generally well worth a visit for the many diverse displays which may be available at different times. The national holdings of trade dollars also form part of the National Medal collection.

(1) The Currency Museum

I have written in many journals, previously, of the various permanent displays of tokens, early currency history, primitive money, and Canadian coinage in this museum. Since I last wrote the collection has been significantly improved by the opening of a new Gallery displaying a virtually complete collection of Canadian and Newfoundland coinage in extremely high grade. A visit to this magnificent collection is a must for the decimal collector.

The Currency Museum currently is displaying a special exhibition, also, entitled "The Silver Nuisance". This attractive exhibit, centred around a silver tea service, tells the story of the silver crisis of 1870, immediately after Confederation. There is an excellent write-up of this exhibition in the current (August 1984) edition of *What's On in Ottawa*,

available from 200-450 Rideau St, Ottawa, Ont K1N 5Z4 Canada.

"The Silver Nuisance" will be on display from August 12 to November 11, 1984; hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and Saturdays, 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays; after Labor Day, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday, 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday. Further information is available from (613) 563-8914.

(2) The Canadian War Museum

This excellent national museum is located on Sussex Drive, only minutes from downtown Ottawa, adjacent to the beautiful Rockcliffe Park (where the Prime Minister and Governor General, among others, have their Ottawa residences). Its permanent display covers two floors, and on the upper floor is a temporary exhibit entitled "Women and War". The exhibit is designed to show the contribution of women in warfare throughout the centuries, and while it is composed mainly of items from the museum's own collection does have several items not normally available for display.

The War Museum as a whole is certainly a must for those with an interest in medals and decorations; a whole gallery is devoted to a comprehensive display of Canadian, British and American medals, in concert with a healthy selection of other world decorations. In addition throughout the permanent display, which contains uniforms, weapons and other instruments of warfare (as diverse as aeroplanes and depth charges), there are many medals of the military and commemorative types complementing the points made by other artefacts. The Canadian War Museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the "Women and War" exhibit remains at the museum until September 1985.

Coin Shows

The Ottawa area is presently blessed with no less than two series of regular coin shows. The first is held in the suburb of Nepean, the second in the heart of Downtown Ottawa.

(1) The Nepean Show

The Ottawa Coin and Stamp Dealers' Association, a loose-knit organization of individual dealers from the region, holds its monthly show the second Sunday of each month in the Nepean Sportsplex. This modern Sports complex is located about 20 minutes' drive from Ottawa downtown, and is served by public transport. To find the Sportsplex by car, one drives westbound on

the Queensway (the main east-west artery) to Woodroffe Avenue South, and South on Woodroffe Avenue until the Sportsplex is seen on the left of the road. Attendance of dealers seems to vary from about 5 to 15, and opening hours for the public are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

(2) The Downtown Show

A commercial "coins only" show, the "Central Ottawa International Numismatic Show" (C.O.I.N.S.) is held at the newly renovated Roxborough Hotel at the intersection of Laurier and Metcalfe Streets in downtown Ottawa (four blocks South of Parliament Hill). 1984 dates are: Sunday, September 30th; Sunday, October 28th; Sunday, December 23rd. This show has only nine tables but is almost always a sell-out for dealers, and due to a healthy advertising programme is expected to draw substantial numbers this Fall. There is plenty of parking on the surrounding streets, and free City parking only a block and a half away. Opening hours to the public are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and further information can be obtained by calling (613) 235-1916. 1985 show dates have not yet been finalized, but will probably be the last Sunday in each month.

Coin Auctions

Although a brief attempt was made in previous years to establish a regular coin auction, this appears to have failed through ill health on the part of its promoter. Commencing in 1985, however, a new programme of Ottawa numismatic auctions is planned by my company, Nadin-Davis Numismatics. The first auction in this series will be conducted at the Roxborough Hotel on Saturday, February 23rd, with viewing in the morning and the auction session in the early afternoon. Prospective consignors or bidders may find out more by contacting me at PO Box 95, Station A, Ottawa Canada K1N 8V1.

Coin Clubs

Ottawa boasts just one fine Numismatic Society, the City of Ottawa Coin Club (C.O.C.C.). Its meetings are held at the Public Archives Building (National Library) on Wellington Street, a few blocks west of Parliament and virtually next door to the Supreme Court of Canada. The club meets at 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month, and the programme generally includes an educational portion, a brief business meeting and a members' auction of about 40 lots. Visitors are always very welcome.

The Mint

By appointment, visitors to our Capital City may see the ultimate way to "make money" in progress. The fortress-like Ottawa Mint is located on Sussex Drive, next door to the War Museum. My experience has been that it is relatively easy to get an appointment for a tour; all that is required is a phone call the previous day with a polite request, in most instances. Visitors are cautioned not to pick up any souvenirs from the floor! The Ottawa plant makes Canadian one cent pieces and foreign coins: visitors are generally shown the entire manufacturing process for the one cent piece, and a souvenir shop is available for the purchase of mint products at the end of the journey through its facilities.

Coin Shops

The City of Ottawa and its environs contain a number of coin shops - at least six - each unique in character. Here, after admiring so many publicly owned coins, you may have the opportunity to add to your own collection!

Ottawa Welcomes ALL Numismatists!

As you can see, our National Capital Region is by no means devoid of numismatic interest, as the many prominent numismatists resident in the area would certainly attest. Whatever the time of year and whatever your interests, you are probably the missing ingredient to make Ottawa's numismatic scene complete!



CANADIAN HISTORICAL MEDAL PRICE GUIDE AVAILABLE

The long-awaited first edition of the Price Guide to Canadian Medals by Paul Nadin-Davis was published in Ottawa, Canada on October 1st. Based on the work of Dr. Jos. LeRoux, the noted Canadian numismatist who authored the standard catalog of Canadian medals around the turn of the century, the book is the first comprehensive attempt at a price guide for this extensive series.

Dr LeRoux's basic work, "The Canadian Coin Cabinet", has been the standard reference on Canadian medals ever since publication in the 1890s. It encompasses every type of medal issued in Canada from early Indian Chief medals to the prolific commemorative issues of the late 1800s. A supplement was issued a few years later containing many new issues, which unfortunately were only listed with brief descriptions.

The LeRoux work was reprinted in Winnipeg in 1964, and again in Ottawa by Nadin-Davis Numismatics/Douglas Robins in 1983. The reprint was a huge success, with many hundreds of copies selling immediately. The need remained for a price guide.

In addition, the original work says nothing of metals in which the various medals were issued.

Dr. Nadin-Davis's new edition contains detailed listings of metals in which the various medals are known to exist, along with pricing for the most common grade in which each medal is found. Extensive additional notes detail varieties, mulings, etc., based on a survey of several major collections of Canadian medals.

Of necessity there are several blanks in the new work, as examples of some medals were simply not located or there were no reported sales available to assist in pricing. Blanks have been left in the appropriate places for users to add new information as it becomes available.

The new price guide will be extremely useful as a checklist, for it contains integrated listings of all medals in LeRoux's original work and medals in the supplement.

Copies of the Canadian Medal Price Guide are available at \$10 postpaid from Nadin-Davis Numismatics, PO Box 95, Station A, Ottawa, Ont. The basic LeRoux volume (1983 reprint) which is required for use in conjunction with the price guide, is also still available in limited quantity at \$15.00, also postpaid.

Homemade medal marks Sudbury's science centre

OFFICIALS of government and industry gathered in Sudbury recently for the unveiling of a newly-minted medallion marking the opening of Northern Ontario's new science centre, Science North.

Minted in Ontario gold and nickel by the Royal Canadian Mint in Ottawa, the medallion features a coinage process developed by Inco Ltd. at its research facilities near Toronto. Proceeds from the sale of the medallion will assist the current operation of Science North.

The medallion is 38 mm (1.5 inches) in diameter. It depicts the new Science North exhibition centre on the obverse side, and the activity of mining, the chief occupation associated with Sudbury, on the other. The gold and nickel used in the medallion were mined in the Sudbury vicinity, and the coinage strip was produced at Inco's rolling mill in the same area.

Science North, which opens next month, features exhibits which rival and in some cases surpass those of the Ontario Science Centre in Toronto. Its beautiful buildings contain a cavern theatre hewn from solid rock and a magnificent new three-dimensional film. The exhibit floors concentrate on interaction, participation and first-hand communication.

Exhibit themes focus on a Northern experience — living things, our universe from atoms to galaxies, treasures of the earth, survival in the Far North, human performance and a central theatre with a fast-paced demonstration of the basics of science.

The new Science North medallion was made by a process which electrolytically plates a layer of pure gold on a nickel base. Because of the value of the gold, the thickness of the coating on the medallion is only about .3 microns thick — about 3/10-millionth of a metre. In order to ensure that such a thin coating of gold sticks to the base, the gold is hardened by Inco before striking.

Testing of the Inco process has shown that the coinage it produces displays superior wear and corrosion resistance qualities when compared with other gold-colored coins now in use around the world.

In the case of the Science North medallion, pure nickel strip produced at the Canadian Alloys division of the company was punched into blanks and rimmed (the adding of a raised edge) at the Royal Canadian Mint. Then the blanks were gold-plated, and the gold



Newly minted: Medallion marking opening of Science North was made with process developed by Inco.

hardened. Finally, the blanks were returned to the Mint for striking.

Inco hopes its new process will be used on the small-size circulating dollar coin which the Royal Canadian Mint would like to produce. After years of tests, the Mint has concluded that if Canada is to have a truly circulating dollar coin, it will be about 26.5 mm in diameter (slightly larger than the 25-cent piece), and somewhere between 7 and 7.5 grams in weight. It will probably not be round, but instead have 9 or 11 sides, and will be yellow to aid in identification.

Also in contention for the proposed Canadian one-dollar coin is a process developed by Sherritt Gordon, called nickel aureate. This gold-colored material contains none of the precious metal, but rather a brightly-colored bronze coating on a core of Sherritt's own nickel-bonded-steel.

Collectors interested in purchasing a cased specimen of the new gold-coated medallion for Science North may send a cheque for \$10.95 plus sales tax to Science North, 100 Ramsey Lake Rd., Sudbury, Ont. P3E 4S8.

☆☆☆

Closer to home, the community of Beaverton, on the east shore of Lake Simcoe, is celebrating its centennial this year with release of a trade dollar.

The dollar tokens are \$1.50 each. Special collector versions are available in silver for \$28, gold plate and rhodium for \$7, and bronze at \$3.50. All prices are postpaid.

The centennial tokens may be ordered from Beaverton Centennial Committee, c/o Bonnie Wilson, 570 North Street, Beaverton, Ont. L0K 1A0.

SPEAKING OF TOKENS



The tokens pictured here were used in Ontario as a means of currency at a time when government coinage was scarce owing to a copper shortage. Many were commemorative in nature and some depicted the early industry and commerce in the province.



Tokens are interesting because they represent history and show in fine detail the various modes of travel in those days. Some depict barrels of cod fish or pork indicating the method of preserving perishable items due to lack of refrigeration. On one issue of tokens, the name "JAMAICA" can be seen on the barrel and indicate that the whiskey trade was one of the first established in the province.



The financial aspect of the province can be seen in the half and one penny issues of the Bank of Upper Canada, which had branches in Kingston and Toronto.



To the collector desiring something different to collect at a price that is still within his pocket book, token collecting offers diversity of subjects combined with the feel of history. Take a token between your fingers and let your mind wonder. Who held this token. Was it nobility or commoner, soldier or farmer. Who designed the token and where was it made? What of the times when it first made its' appearance? These questions and many more can be envisaged. At the time most of these tokens made their first appearance, a war was being fought in Toronto, Niagara and Stoney Creek.



There are various means of token collecting. They can be combined with modern issues to make up a theme, or they can be used to trace the early history of Ontario. Oftentimes token collectors will specialize in collecting items depicting the military, trains, ships, famous people, historic landmarks. Others collect bank issues. Whatever your interests, you will find it in tokens.

Take time to be friendly. It is the road to happiness.

The best of all governments is that which teaches us to govern ourselves.



NEWS AND COMMENTS

F. Fesco, Past President
~~Lakeshore Coin Club~~
 City of Ottawa Coin Club

1. Jim Charlton is reestablished as Canadian coin trend editor of Coin World International. In an extract from his views on the Canadian Market he speaks of dealers thus: "...there does appear to be more emphasis on integrity and pleasing customers that getting rich quickly, as was the case with some dealers in the boom years of the early 1960's and the more recent silver melt days." This is always welcome, from a collector's point of view.

2. The Canadian "shinplaster" (25 cent note) was once a popular Christmas gift - as was the Canadian silver dollar later. But when gift coins were not readily available at the banks this custom faded away. Some collectors have struck their own greeting tokens (e.g. Fred Bowman & Elizabeth Wynn Wood), and Jerry Remick is trying to revive interest in doing so, Christmas medals have been struck by Spain, Portugal and Germany.

 Britain had the same situation with crown coins as gifts, particularly since the persistence of leading numismatists of the day revived interest by persuading the minting of the 1927 style crown. The Isle of Man started a Christmas crown fad in 1979 which led to distinctively designed 50p coins designated "Chrastmas". The Kingdom of Tonga has also adopted the idea with a Christmas pa'anga. Israel produces Hanukkah coins and Panama has a poinsetta coin.

 Now, if we could only create the right spirit to go with the coins, perhaps the cradle of the Christian, Judaic and Islamic faiths might not rock so violently.

3. The Isle of Man has come up with yet another coin marketing ploy. As a pilot scheme they have introduced a new "noble" containing an ounce of platinum. Prices are expected to fluctuate as gold does under speculative market pressures. 25,000 will be struck to test their appeal to investors.

4. The Singapore Mint has recently opened a Coin Gallery which shows the history of the country's coinage from its founding in 1819 to the present day. A specially constructed coin press is available to visitors who wish to mint their own souvenirs - a fine Do-it-yourself idea!

5. Jim Zagon, one of Ottawa's outstanding professional photographers, recently had a well received and reviewed exhibition of a selection of his international subjects at the Architectural Bookstore. Jim does the cover photographs for the Bank of Canada's monthly Review and has created the official visual record of the many thousands of coins, tokens and notes in the Bank's Currency Museum.

"ORIENTAL CELEBRATION" LIST RELEASED

Pricelist No. 38 of Nadin-Davis Numismatics was released early in October, and is entitled "An Oriental Celebration". According to Paul Nadin-Davis the list is in appreciation of the third annual Hong Kong International Coin Expo, recently held in Hong Kong, where the firm were successful in purchasing a good quantity of oriental and Canadian material. Its oriental theme is reflected in the articles contained in the list as well as some of the coins offered.

Feature articles on "The longest-lived coin types of all time" and Northern Sung Dynasty cash are provided by the firm's in-house orientalist, Frank Fesco, while other articles include details on a new LeRoux Canadian Medal Price guide and an introductory guide to buying by auction. Diverse offerings in the list include new and old numismatic books, including new releases, ancient coins including a particularly nice small group of Ptolemaic coins of Egypt, and a new selection of military medals.

Among the highlights of the list is the largest selection of Canadian and Newfoundland coins ever offered by Nadin-Davis. This ranges from Canada one-cent pieces to Newfoundland \$2 gold, along with cased silver dollars, Canadian mint sets and the like. The quality of coins offered is generally high, with an emphasis on "collectability" (common coins are choice, key dates are generally in middle grades). Several great rarities are included, such as a 1921 5¢ VG, 20¢ 1858 in five different grades, 25¢ 1905 Uncirculated and 1911 in Gem, 50 cents 1890H in about VF condition and a Proof 1908 half dollar.

The Canadian coins offered are particularly strong in George VI material, with most dates of all denominations offered in high grades. This series is somewhat depressed at present and the Nadin-Davis offering represents an unusual opportunity to complete sets at very competitive prices. An attractive discount schedule enables customers purchasing several coins to make significant savings over and above the competitive individual prices.

Also new in stock is a significant offering of Canadian paper money from three collections recently purchased by the firm. Highlights include a rare 1897 Dominion of Canada \$1, an issued 1837 \$1 note of the Lower Canada Bank (previously unknown in issued form), and an 1853 issue of the Central Bank of New Brunswick. Although in poor condition this note is apparently one of three known to exist!

The World Coinage section of the list contains, as one would expect, a nice offering of inexpensive and rare Chinese material, with emphasis on the Sung Dynasties. Also included are the new British Royal Mint issues of Proof and piedfort pounds, an exquisite Commonwealth Crown, a new find from the Gulf States, a rare (unlisted) Honduras pattern, and a nice collection of high-grade (but not uncirculated) Southern Rhodesia coins of the last two Georges.

The Nadin-Davis catalogs are available by subscription only. \$10.00 is the fee now being charged for subscriptions to run until December, 1985. The firm can be contacted at PO Box 95, Station A, Ottawa, Ont K1N 8V1 Canada.

