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THE DESIGNERS OF English Milled Coinage

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The new silver groat
introduced in
1836 at the suggestion
of Joseph Hume



Halfcrown of
William IV with
crowned shield
reverse



The ill-fated double florin
struck only between 1887
and 1890

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THE DESIGNERS OF English Milled Coinage by H W A LINECAR

On the design and engraving side the Wyons were now firmly in the saddle, even though Pistrucci's St George continued to be used from time to time down to the present reign. A little explanation as to who was who in the family is now needed.

Thomas (I) Wyon (1767-1830) has been appointed Chief Engraver of HM Seals on 30 September 1816. His son Thomas (II) (1792-1817) was apprenticed to him but he also received training from Marchant. In 1811 he was appointed Probationer Engraver at the Mint and on 13 October 1815, age 23, he was appointed Chief Engraver, unfortunately he developed consumption and died in September 1817.

On Thomas' death the post of Chief Engraver was left vacant which left the way clear for his cousin, William Wyon (1795-1851), who had been appointed Assistant Engraver in 1815 and for Pistrucci who held the same position.

When Pistrucci was created Chief Medallist in 1828, William Wyon was appointed Chief Engraver. He was succeeded by his son, Leonard Charles Wyon (1826-1891), who was actually born in one

of the houses in the Mint. In 1844 he had been appointed Second Engraver when Merlen retired and when his father, William, died in 1851 he at age 24, was given the title of Modeller and Engraver.

The various titles under which the designers and engravers worked will have been noted, but to all intents and purposes L C Wyon was Chief Engraver. He and his father before him had a more profound effect on the coinage than any other engravers and, including the work they did for the colonial coinage, then getting into its stride, their output was tremendous.

Crowned shield

The coinage of William IV (1830-1837) needs little comment. The obverses were all by Chantrey/William Wyon and the reverses by Merlen, that of the gold bearing a crowned shield. The half-sovereign was struck on a slightly smaller flan in 1834 while those of 1836 had a slightly larger head, being struck from the die for the sixpence. A 2 pound piece is known, struck as a Proof only in 1831 with its reverse the same as the halfcrown.



Halfcrown of William IV with crowned shield reverse

That piece had a crowned shield, heavily mantled, superimposed on the Collar of the Order of the Garter, with the St George pendant incorrectly facing left. The shilling and sixpence state their value in words within a crowned wreath. This type of reverse was used, both here and in the next reign, to prevent the pieces being gilded and passed as sovereigns or half-sovereigns, which happened when either had arms.

What is said by some to be a pattern for a 5 pounds was struck in gold in 1831. In fact it was really a pattern crown, struck at the request of a private individual. Some pattern crowns were also struck in silver, in one case in lead, all these having the halfcrown type reverse and on an undated silver example Merlen seems to have noticed that the pendant St George had been facing in the wrong direction, and has turned him to face right.

William Wyon and soon became known as a 'Joey'.

The reign of Victoria (1837-1901), the longest in British history, saw a great deal of interesting work at the Mint, which itself went through a reform. The machinery installed in 1810 and later was out of date by 1870 and subject to breakdowns. New presses began to be installed in 1872 and on 1 February 1882 work was stopped for ten months while the remaining old machinery was removed and the whole place refitted. Electrically driven machinery increased after the setting up of a generating station within the Mint and electric lighting followed.

After a great deal of discussion the administration was changed in 1870, the Chancellor of the Exchequer became titular Master and the Mint was run by the Deputy Master. The position is the same today.

The new silver groat introduced in 1836 at the suggestion of Joseph Hume



A new silver coin, the groat or fourpence, with a seated Britannia on the reverse appeared in 1836 and 1837 at the suggestion of Joseph Hume, who is said to have been angry at giving a cabman a half-sovereign tip on a dark night in mistake for a sixpence. The new piece was entirely by

Queen Victoria came to the throne on 20 June 1837 and, by what must have been a considerable effort at the Mint and by William Wyon, the sovereign, half-sovereign, shilling, sixpence, Britannia groat and a threepence additional to, but of the same design as the Maundy coin, had all

appeared by 1838. The halfcrown followed in 1839 and the crown in 1844.

The obverses were designed and engraved by William Wyon, whose portrait of the Queen received considerable approbation, while all the reverses were designed by Merlen and engraved either by William or L C Wyon. The crowns and halfcrowns had a crowned shield of arms and a wreath with rose, thistle and shamrock below. The shillings and sixpences stated their value within a crowned

lettered and plain edges in 1847, a Proof in gold with plain edge in 1847 and patterns with lettered and plain edges in 1853.

These details are given since the coins have always aroused speculation as to whether they were ever intended for circulation. Rayner and L&S hope that the question has now been settled, pieces of both 1847 and 1853 which have circulated have certainly been seen.

The reason for striking these crowns has never been made clear. Forrer says 8,000

The Young Head portrait of Victoria designed and engraved by William Wyon



wreath. The Britannia groat was entirely by William Wyon, as was the threepence, though the obverse was engraved by Merlen.

All this series are known to collectors as the Young Head type and take us up to 1887. There were however two exceptions, the Gothic crowns of 1847 and 1853 and the Godless and Gothic florins of 1849-1887, and of these a short account is necessary.

The Gothic crown, so called because of its mediaeval style, was struck for circulation in 1847 and 1853. There was a pattern with plain edge in 1846, Proofs with

were struck by Royal Command for distribution to London bankers. The writer has often wondered whether they commemorate the fact that the House of Lords moved into its new chamber on 15 April 1847 and the Commons into theirs on 4 November 1852. The whole structure of the New Palace of Westminster is Victorian sham Gothic by Sir Charles Barry (1795-1860).

William Wyon designed and engraved the obverse which had a bust of the Queen, wearing a crown and a lace edged dress. The reverse was designed by William Dyce



The Gothic crown, so called because of its mediaeval style

and engraved by Wyon and the four crowned shields of arms with rose, thistle and shamrock in the angles and the Star of the Garter in the centre was revived with lettering in the Gothic style. How Dyce (1806-1864) came into the picture is not known. This account differs slightly from that in the writer's book on the same subject, where he had misread Rayner's table of production.

Decimal experiment

There had long been an agitation or a decimal coinage and as an experiment a florin, one tenth of a pound (two shillings), was struck in 1849 and from 1851 until 1887. The issue of halfcrowns was suspended from 1851 until 1874. All the new coins carried the florin/one tenth of a pound legend and copied the Gothic crown style of design.

The 1849 issue omitted DEI GRATIA from the Queen's titles. It became known as the Godless Florin, hardly a welcoming title for a new coin which, on this account, might well have suffered abortion as did the florin of Edward III (1327-1377) from which it apparently took its name.

By 1851 it had been redesigned on a slightly larger flan and D.G. was included in the legend. There are numerous minor varieties, some coins carry die numbers, said to be included to check the life of dies as did the shillings and sixpences of about the same period.

The designer/engraver arrangement was as for the Gothic crown and although Wyon died in 1851, his design, carrying his w.w. initials, was continued until 1877, during which year the initials disappeared.

There were numerous patterns and Proofs for the florin design, numerous artists seem to have had a field day, but a considerable collection of their work was, unfortunately, dispersed before it could be recorded.

In 1887 the Queen's fifty year Golden Jubilee was marked by a complete redesign

of the coinage. The Silver Jubilee of 1862 passed without numismatic comment. The obverse of the Jubilee coins showed the Queen in 'widow's weeds' as they were sometimes called, since Albert, Prince Consort had died in 1861. Perched apparently precariously on top of her head was a small dress crown. The design was by Sir Joseph Boehm, RA and as it was from a live sitting the Queen must have approved of it. The public did not however, and a storm of disapproval resulted in a redesigned coinage in 1893.

The sovereign had the St George reverse revived for it, (the previous issue had a shield, crowned and wreathed until 1871-1874) while the half-sovereign continued with the shield. The elaborate halfcrown reverse had its crowned shield enclosed in the Garter and the Collar.

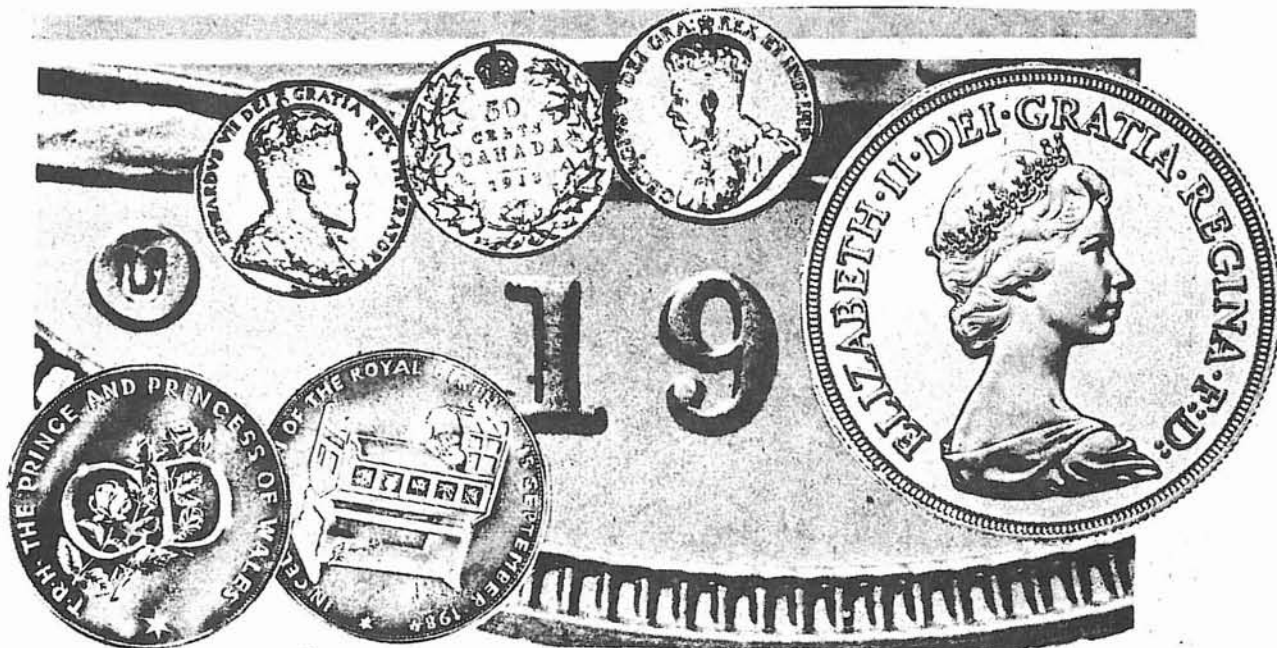
The florin lost its Gothic reverse, which was replaced by four crowned shields, sceptres in saltire and the Star of the Garter in the centre, a redesign of the pre-reform gold reverse. The shillings and sixpences also had the crowned shield within the Garter.

These were soon gilded and passed off as Young Head sovereigns and half-sovereigns so by late 1887 the sixpence had been changed to state its value. Apart from the use of the St George and Boehm's design the real work of engraving and design was carried out by L C Wyon, with Merlen's reverse for the second type sixpence.

Often mistaken

A new coin, the double florin appeared, value four shillings, struck only between 1887 and 1890. By design it was an enlarged version of the florin, but being nearly the size of the crown, then in more general use and for which it was often mistaken, its striking was discontinued.

This being the height of the opulent reign of Victoria a 5 and 2 pound piece, Proof and ordinary, was struck in 1887 only, each



A few key terms in numismatics

ACCOLATED, CONJOINED, JUGATE: Design with two heads facing the same direction and overlapping.

ADJUSTMENT: Filing down the face of an overweight planchet. Such filing marks often survive the coining process. This is common on 18th century coins.

AE: Abbreviation for copper, brass, or bronze in coinage. (aes)

AG: Abbreviation for silver.

ALLOY: Mixture of more than one metal, usually preceded by the name of the most predominant or most important metal in the mix, such as nickel alloy.

ANNEAL: To soften dies, planchets or metal by heat treatment.

AR: Abbreviation for silver. (Argentum, obsolete.)

ASSAY: The analytical test to determine the purity and weight of metal.

AU: (1) Abbreviation for gold (aureus). (2) About uncirculated.

AUTHENTICATION: Authoritative determination of the genuineness of a numismatic item.

BAG MARKS: Slight scratches and nicks acquired by coins in contact with others in a mint bag. Most common on large and heavy silver and gold coins.

BILLION: A low-grade alloy used for some minor coin issues consisting usually of a mixture of silver and copper, and sometimes coated with a silver wash.

BLANKS: Flat, round metal discs or planchets from which the coins are made.

BROCKAGE: A coin with the same design raised on one side and incuse on the other, caused by a previously struck coin sticking in the die and striking another blank.

BULLION: Uncoined gold or silver in the form of bars, ingots and plates. Bullion value is a term used in reference to value of metal content in common and mutilated gold and silver coins.

BUSINESS STRIKE: Any coin struck with the intention of circulating.

CABINET FRICTION: The friction on uncirculated coins attributed to their storage in a collection.

CAMEO-EFFECT: A description of the appearance of certain gold and silver proof coins which have frost devices on highly polished fields.

CARAT: The degree of fineness of gold. Pure gold is 24 carats and most gold coins have a fineness of 22 carats.

CHOP MARK (SHROFF MARK): A small punched impression applied by Chinese (chop) or Indian (shroff) banks or change offices to attest to the full weight and metallic content of coin.

CLASHED DIES: Damaged dies caused by the absence of a planchet at the time of striking. Each die retains a portion of its opposite's design, in addition to its own. The resulting coins show a partial impression of the reverse design on the obverse and/or vice versa. Such marks will be referred to as clash marks.

CLEANED: A general term referring to cleaning a coin by any method. This often reduces the value and is not recommended.

CLIPPED PLANCHET (CLOSE PLANCHET): A planchet less than fully round due to the adjacent planchet having been punched too closely, or having been punched too closely to the edge of the metal sheet.

COIN: A piece of metal with a distinctive design, a fixed value, a specific weight and diameter, which was issued by a government as money.

COLLAR: The part of the die which affixes to the edge of the planchet to prevent movement during striking. Reeded edge coins are made by having the collar grooved: 12-sided five-cent nickels are made by having regular round blanks struck in a 12-sided collar.

COMMEMORATIVE: A coin issued to commemorate a special event or honour an outstanding person.

COUNTERMARK (COUNTERSTAMP): A punch mark officially applied to a coin or to a segment of a coin to change its value and/or to revalidate it where issued or elsewhere; or privately applied usually as an advertisement, a spoof or a fraud.

DEBASEMENT: Debasement of a coin takes place when the issuing authority reduces the purity of the metal, lowering the intrinsic value of the coin but circulating it at par with the previous coins of the original purity. This happened in Canada in 1968 when the silver content of coins for circulation was replaced entirely with nickel.

DENTICLES: The device used around the periphery of a coin to discourage counterfeiter.

DEVICE: Any design feature appearing on the obverse, reverse or edge of a coin.

DIADEMED: A coin where the portrait head has a headband of fillet as a sign of royalty.

DIE: Engraved metal pieces used to impress the design of a coin on a blank planchet.

DIE BULGE: A roundish, raised area on a coin caused by the swelling of a die.

DIE CRACK: A raised line appearing on a coin reflecting a stress crack which developed on the die.

DIE STRIATION: A series of fine, raised and nearly parallel lines resulting from extreme pressure used in the striking of a coin. Occasionally seen on well struck gem business strikes.

ELONGATED COIN: An oval medalet produced by a roller die using a coin, token or medal as a planchet — usually a cent.

ERROR: A coin, token, medal or paper money item evidencing a mistake made in its manufacture.

ESSAI: A trial piece from dies already accepted for regular coinage. It may bear a date or mint mark other than on the coins issued for circulation or it may be a different metal.

EXERGUE: The lower part of a coin or medal which is usually divided from the "field" by a line under which is contained the date, place of minting or engraver's initials.

EXONUMIA: Numismatic items not of government issue; e.g., tokens, medals and scrip.

F
FACE: The surface of a coin or token; referred to as either the obverse or the reverse.

FDC: Mint bloom; uncirculated. Derived from the French term, Fleur de Coin, having the same meaning.

FIELD: The open areas on either side of a coin not occupied by the portrait, design or inscription.

FIRST-STRIKE: A coin struck from new dies. Usually fully struck and frequently proof-like.

FLAN: The blank metal cut to shape but before receiving the die impression. Also called a planchet.

FULLY STRUCK: Refers to a coin on which all of the intended design is in evidence.

G
GEM: A relatively flawless piece of superlative quality.

H
HAIRLINES: Minute lines or scratches sometimes visible on a coin, caused by cleaning or polishing.

HAMMERED COIN: A coin produced by one or more hammer blows against the stem of an upper die, acting on a planchet set on an anvil die. Most ancient and medieval coins were produced by one variant or another of this process.

HIGH POINTS: The highest points on the design of a coin. The first points to show wear.

I
IMPAIRED PROOF: A coin struck as a proof but no longer in mint state.

INCUSE: Coins with either obverse or reverse design sunk below the coin's surface. A design raised above the surface is in relief.

INGOT: A piece of precious metal shaped in a mould. Much of the gold reserves of various nations are stored as ingots and bars.

INTRINSIC: The intrinsic value of a coin is the actual metal value of the coin. Canadian silver coins before 1968 are worth more intrinsically than the face value, while the nickel 10¢, 25¢, 50¢ and \$1 coins from 1968 to date are worth less intrinsically than the face value.

IRIDESCENT: A multi-coloured blending or toning, frequently found in older uncirculated coins.

L
LAMINATED PLANCHET: A "peeling off" of a top layer of the metal of a planchet.

LEGEND: The principal inscription on a coin.

M
MAJOR VARIETY: A coin of the same date, mint mark and denomination as another, but struck from another pair of dies and having at least the major device added, removed or redesigned.

MATTE PROOF: A proof coin for which the planchet is treated in a manner other than polishing. A dull and grainy finish is achieved.

MAVERICK: An unidentifiable specimen.

MEDAL: A commemorative metal piece in honour of a person or event. Not money.

MEDALLET: A small medal.

MILLED EDGE: Prior to use of collar dies the edge design was milled onto the edge of the planchet before the minting process. After the introduction of collar dies milling of edges was introduced to thicken the circumferential border of a planchet so that the border ridge or design will be adequately raised when striking takes place (upsetting).

MINOR VARIETY: A coin of the same date, mint mark and denomination as another, but struck from another pair of dies and having at least the major device added, removed or redesigned.

MINT ERROR: An incorrectly struck or defective coin produced by a Mint.

MINT LUSTER: The sheen or bloom on the surface of an uncirculated numismatic object resulting from the centrifugal flow of metal caused by striking with dies. Mint luster or bloom is somewhat frosty in appearance as opposed to the mirror-like smoothness of the field of a Proof.

MINT MARK: Letter designation for a branch mint product.

MOTTO: A phrase exemplifying an ideal or principle of a nation.

MULE: A coin struck from dies not designed to be used together.

N
NICKEL: (1) A nearly silver-white hard malleable metallic element commonly used in combination with other metals for coinage. (2) United States and Canadian five-cent pieces.

NUMISMATICS: The science, study or collecting of coins, tokens, medals, orders and decorations, paper money and similar objects.

O
OBVERSE: The "face-up" side of the coin, regarded as more important than the reverse side and usually bearing the portrait of the monarch.

OVERDATE: The date made by an engraver at the mint punching one or more numbers on a previously dated die.

OVERSTRIKE: A coin where part of the design, particularly the date, appears over another design or date.

—Insight

P
PATINA: A green or brown surface film frequently found on ancient copper and bronze coins caused by oxidation over a long period of time. Also by moisture and certain soils.

PATTERN: A proposed coin, prepared officially by the Mint or by the authorized agent of a coin-issuing authority or prepared unofficially by an outside entrepreneur usually for submission to a coin-issuing authority. A pattern may be struck in a variety of metals on a normal or thicker than normal planchet and may bear, either in the die or by counter-mark, some indication of its character, such as the word ESSAI or PROVA. Some patterns, particularly modern ones with the differentiating words referred to, are struck in considerable numbers for presentation or propaganda purposes or with a view to accommodating or exploiting coin collectors.

PIEFORT: A piece struck on a planchet twice or more the normal thickness.

PLANCHET: The disc of metal or other material on which the dies of the coin, token or medal are impressed; also called blank, disc, flan.

PROOF: (1) A piece produced by a technique involving specially prepared dies and planchets and usually special striking, resulting in particular sharpness of detail and a virtually flawless surface. Official U.S. Treasury department language in describing Proof coins is: "...pieces made from carefully selected coin blanks that have been highly polished before being fed to the presses. The dies made solely for this purpose are also highly polished, and are buffed during use. In order to minimize the scratches and abrasions, the coins are hand-fed to a slow-moving press. The slower action assures sharper, more even impressions and makes the design much more distinct. Each coin is struck twice. The finished coins have an almost mirror surface."
 (2) A bank note or other form of paper money specially printed as a sample or specimen but not intended for circulation. It is often printed on paper other than that used for regularly issued notes.

R
REDEDED EDGE: The result of a minting process which creates vertical serrations on the edge of a coin. This process is performed by a collar die simultaneously with the striking of the faces of the coin.

RELIEF: A relief design is one where the lettering and design are raised above the surface of the coin.

RESTRIKE: Any coin struck later than the date appearing on the coin.

REVERSE: Opposite from obverse. The back or "tails" side of a coin.

ROTATED DIE: Dies are positioned and locked on a coining press by means of a key. When these keys come loose, rotation can occur resulting in the next coin being struck with the obverse and reverse dies rotated. Coins struck from rotated dies are errors.

S
SHIN PLASTER: A term applied to Continental currency, U.S. fractional currency and sometimes to low denominations of American obsolete paper money, when referring to currency of little or no value.

SOUVENIR COIN: A token of a commemorative or promotional character which may purport to have some limited exchange value.

SPECIMEN: (1) A coin or bank note prepared often with special care as an example of a given issue. Sometimes, particularly with bank notes, surcharged with "SPECIMEN" or a similar word. (2) A synonym for a numismatic item, e.g., a very rare specimen.

SPURIOUS: A false piece made to deceive, often an original creation rather than a copy of a known item. Not genuine; counterfeit, false.

T
TOKEN: Usually a piece of durable material appropriately marked and unofficially issued for monetary, advertising, services or other purposes.

TRADE DOLLAR: A token used by a municipality primarily as a tourism promotion, and redeemable in most stores in the issuing municipality.

V
VIGNETTE: A pictorial element of a bank note design that shades off gradually into the surrounding unprinted paper or background rather than having sharp outlines or a frame.

W
WIRE EDGE: Slight flange on coins or medals caused by heavy striking pressure, often characteristic on Proof coins (also KNIFE EDGE). The metal is squeezed up the side of the die faces by the collar die.

WOODEN NICKELS: Substitute for coins first used in the 1931-35 depression, having originated in Tenino, Washington. Issued in round or rectangular form and in many denominations. Currently used for advertising and souvenir purposes.

WORKING DIE: Die used to strike coins directly as distinguished from a master die or developmental hubs.

**MARCH TORONTO INTERNATIONAL AUCTION HIGHLIGHTS DECIMAL,
GOLD, PAPER AND ANCIENTS**

The March Toronto International Coin Fair Auction will once again be conducted by Nadin-Davis Auctions of PO Box 95, Stn A, Ottawa Canada K1N 8V1. The catalog, just released, contains over 1200 lots covering the entire numismatic spectrum. Highlights include fine collections of gold coinage, Canadian paper money, historical medals, Roman Republican silver and world coinage.

The auction takes place at the T.I.C.F. in two sessions: Friday, March 22nd at 7:00 p.m., and Saturday March 23rd at 1:30 p.m.

RARE TOKENS, MEDALS, DECIMAL IN EARLY LOTS

Session 1 commences with a brief offering of the popular "Canadian trade dollars" and related items. Among rarities in this section are a pair of custom-struck presentation trade dollars with wreath reverses from Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, several rare off-metal strikings and a few rare or unique specimen pieces. These are immediately followed by a selection of medals relating to Toronto, the venue of the sale, including the scarce "Toronto Zoo Medal" by celebrated Ontario medallist Dora de Pedery Hunt. Several Numismatic Convention medals, including the rare presentation strikes of several years' C.N.A. Conventions, are included.

DECIMAL RARITIES ABOUND

The auction bristles with decimal coins, with over 400 pieces included. While estimates on some lots are as low as \$8, every portion of the numismatic spectrum is catered to. The following highlights are included: 50¢ 1908 and 1911 (both toned specimens), expected to bring \$2600 and 3500 respectively; the first \$1 1949 struck from the new dies by the engraver Thomas Shingles; 5¢ 1921, VG+ (estimate \$2200) and 1925, Choice BU, among the finest known (est. \$1600); 10¢ 1893 Round Top 3, thought to be the finest presently on the market (Abt. EF, est. \$3700), 1-¢ 1875H UNC (est. \$3900), 25¢ 1905 toned UNC (est. \$1250), \$1 1948 Choice BU (est. \$1500-2000), the rare 1965 Specimen set, Newfoundland 1¢ 1872H, Specimen, and 20¢ 1882H, BU.

GOLD OPENS SESSION 2

Session two of the auction, on Saturday March 23rd at 1:30 p.m., commences with ancient and modern world gold. Three Roman aurei are followed by British hammered and struck gold, and a miscellany from around the world. Canadian coins return to the spotlight as several groups of five, ten, twenty and one hundred dollar pieces are offered: highlighting this section are an Uncirculated 1914-C sovereign and uncirculated \$5 1914. A complete set of Newfoundland gold coinage could be bought at this one sale, with several high grade pieces offered, most notably the \$2 1880, notoriously rare, in AU condition (est. \$5000). After a brief offering of British gold several U.S. gold coins are to be sold, including an uncirculated 1893 \$2½, an AU 1910 Indian Head \$10, and a sensational MS-65 \$10 gold (estimate \$5,000). These superb lots precede and should set the scene nicely for the sale of the H Stuart Lowerison paper money collection.

THE BANKNOTE COLLECTION

The name of H Stuart Lowerison ("Stu" to his many friends and associates in the syngraphic world) is well-known throughout Canada and particularly in the Maritime Provinces. The death of this fine collector has brought onto the market his exquisite collection of Canadian banknotes, not to mention a superb accumulation of Canadian gold coinage and many related numismatic items.

Mr Lowerison's collection displays fascination with three aspects of banking history: banking in the Maritimes, the sea and ships, and "quality". His collection is remarkable for the consistent high grade of its contents, as for the beautiful vignettes of ships and shipping displayed on so many of the notes chosen to swell its ranks. Particular attention was paid, not only because the owner lived in Fredericton but also in light of their particular concentration on shipping themes, to the Maritime banking institutions.

The auction offerings commence with 12 items from the British Colonial period in Newfoundland (there are further notes from this period cataloged with the chartered banks, mentioned later). Several Newfoundland government cash notes, including a 1906 \$1 in Very Fine, are followed by five examples of the Government of Newfoundland issue of 1912, all of which are better than VF and one of which, the \$1 1920, is uncirculated!

Canadian national issues were collected, most sensibly, largely by major type, with the result that there is no over-burdening of the offerings with minor varieties. However, a few duplicates do enter the listings. An EF 1870 25¢ note starts off the Dominion section, of which the highlights include the following: \$2 1923, purple-brown seal in AU; \$1 1911, Green line, UNC; two examples of the \$4 1902, including one in VF condition; \$4 1900, Very Fine and quite rare, estimated to bring \$1200. Among the Bank of Canada issues are some interesting sets of matched serial numbers up to the \$100 face denomination, and an uncirculated 1935 English \$20 and EF \$25.

Rarities contained in the Chartered section of the collection are too numerous to mention all. Early note of all the "big four" Canadian banks of today are represented a-plenty, as are items from the Bank of British North America, Commercial Bank of Newfoundland, Dominion Bank, Imperial Bank, Merchants Bank of Canada, Merchants Bank of Halifax (\$5 1892 in good VF, exceedingly rare), Molsons Bank, The Bank of P.E.I. (no less than seven notes), La Banque Provinciale du Canada, The Bank of Toronto, the very rare Traders Bank of Canada, the Union Bank of Canada and the Union Bank of Newfoundland. A real highlight will be made of these latter notes, which include an uncirculated \$2 1882 (estimate \$1600), an AU \$10 1889, and an EF \$20 1889 (estimates \$2500 and \$2000 respectively).

The final real thrills of the banknote offerings are issues of the Royal Bank of Canada for Georgetown, a \$20 1938 in VF-EF condition, ex. Spink, and for Port-of-Spain, Trinidad - a \$5 1938, VF-EF. A vignette pull for the earlier of these two notes is offered a little later in the auction, alongside the small cut "sealing" found on the Union Bank of Newfoundland \$10 1889.

While the H Stuart Lowerison collection is not the only great Canadian banknote collection, it is one of the most significant to come onto the market for some years and ranks as one of the most important accumulations in private hands. No doubt many collectors and dealers will be fascinated to watch the results of this trend-setting sale.

NEXT: CANADIAN HISTORICAL MEDALS

The "Sherbrooke Collection" of Canadian historical medals is

next to cross the auction block, with some 200 lots including fine Governor General Medals, probably the finest collection of medals of the Lieutenant Governors in private hands, medals listed by Jos. LeRoux, and a good assortment of older and recent Canadian medals. Highlights include a rare early silver service medal of the Hudson's Bay Company, a rejected pattern Quebec Lieutenant Governor's medal (6 known), and no less than four Lieutenant Governor medals of New Brunswick, four from British Columbia, three from Ontario and one from the North West Territories.

SUPERB ANCIENTS

Superb ancient coins are included in the next portion of the sale. A near Mint State tetradrachm of herakleia in Ionia leads off the offerings, with a nice selection of high grade and common Greek, Egyptian and Roman coins being included in the sale. Highlights include a mint state denarius of Pupienus (est. \$2600), and a lovely and diverse collection of Republican denarii, some 50 pieces in all.

SMALL MILITARY SECTION

The military section of this auction is uncharacteristically small, though the quality of the few items offered is high. A superb group of six medals to an unknown Nazi recipient includes issues from the Reich and from Austria; followed by a specimen striking of the Distinguished Conduct Medal and a superb Queen's South Africa medal to a man wounded at Potgieter's Drift.

WORLD SECTION ROUNDS OUT

The auction is rounded out by two nice consignments of world coins, as diverse as any, but including of note selections from the "Sands" collection of high-grade early British coinage. VF-EF and better examples of hammered pence of Redwulf, Eanred, Burgred, St Eadmund, Siefred, Cnut, Alfred the Great, Edward the Elder, Eadred, Auehelred, Harold I, Edward the Confessor, William the Conqueror, and many later monarchs are included in this section, bound to draw specialists from across the continent. Also of note are a superb Commonwealth Crown and Gothic Crown, and later a most unusual selection of Scottish medals (four in all). The sale ends with a mail bid only section of extremely large and bulky lots, which include jewellery items, ancient, Canadian and world coins, Canadian mint products, tokens and medals and the like.

CATALOGS AVAILABLE

Catalogs of the magnificent March TICF Sale are available from Box 95, Stn A, Ottawa Canada K1N 8V1. The cost is \$3 each, or clients may prefer to subscribe to one year's catalogs at the low price of just \$10 for the remainder of 1985. The next Nadin-Davis auction will be conducted in April in conjunction with the Ontario Numismatic Association's annual convention in Stratford, Ontario.

Grading coins

Excerpted from the Charlton Standard Catalogue of Canadian Coins, the most widely accepted guide to Canadian numismatics.

Early standards for grading Canadian coins that appeared in the first Charlton catalogue in 1952 used terms such as Very Good and Extremely Fine to describe different grades or states of preservation. Since that time grading standards for Canadian coins have been considerably refined.

Following the introduction in 1977 by the American Numismatic Association of a numerical grading system for United States coins, since 1979 the Charlton Standard Catalogue has utilized a similar numerical grading system for Canadian coins listed in this catalogue.

Uncirculated coins can be divided into three major categories:

MS-70 (Perfect Uncirculated). MS-70 or Perfect Uncirculated is the finest quality available. Such a coin under 4x magnification will show no bag marks, lines or other evidence of handling or contact with other coins.

A brilliant coin may be described as "MS-70, Brilliant" or "Perfect Brilliant Uncirculated." A lightly toned nickel or silver coin may be described as "MS-70, toned" or "Perfect Toned Uncirculated." Or, in the case of particularly attractive or unusual toning, additional adjectives may be in order such as "Perfect Uncirculated with attractive iridescent toning around the borders."

Copper and bronze coins: To qualify as MS-70 or Perfect Uncirculated, a copper or bronze coin must have its full lustre and natural surface colour, and may not be toned brown, olive or any other colour. (Coins with toned surfaces which are otherwise perfect should be described MS-65 as the following text indicates).

MS-65 (Choice Uncirculated). This refers to an above average Uncirculated coin which may be brilliant or toned (and described accordingly) and which has fewer bag marks than usual — scattered occasional bag marks on the surface or perhaps one or two very light rim marks.

MS-60 (Uncirculated). MS-60 or Uncirculated (typical Uncirculated without any adjectives) refers to a coin which has a moderate number of bag marks on its surface. Also present may be a few minor edge nicks and marks, although not of a serious nature. Unusually deep bag marks, nicks and the like must be described separately. A coin may be either brilliant or toned.

CIRCULATED COINS

Once a coin enters circulation it begins to show signs of wear. As time goes on the coin becomes

more and more worn until, after a period of many decades, only a few features may be left.

Dr. William H. Sheldon devised a numerical scale to indicate degrees of wear. According to this scale, a coin in condition 1 of "Basal State" is barely recognizable. At the opposite end, a coin touched by even the slightest trace of wear (below MS-60) cannot be called Uncirculated.

While numbers from 1 to 59 are continuous, it has been found practical to designate specific intermediate numbers to define grades. Hence, this text uses the following descriptions and their numerical equivalents:

Choice About Uncirculated-55. Abbreviation: AU-55. Only a small trace of wear is visible on the highest points of the coin. As is the case with the other grades here, specific information is listed in the following text under the various types, for wear often occurs in different spots on different designs.

About Uncirculated-50. Abbreviation: AU-50. With traces of wear on nearly all of the highest areas. At least half of the original mint lustre is present.

Choice Extremely Fine-45. Abbreviation: EF-45. With light overall wear on the coin's highest points. All design details are very sharp. Mint lustre is usually seen only in protected areas of the coin's surface.

Extremely Fine-40. Abbreviation: EF-40. With only slight wear but more extensive than the preceding, still with excellent overall sharpness. Traces of mint lustre may still show.

Choice Very Fine-30. Abbreviation: VF-30. With light even wear on the surface; design details on the highest points lightly worn, but with all lettering and major features sharp.

Very Fine-20. Abbreviation: VF-20. As preceding but with moderate wear on highest parts.

Fine-12. Abbreviation: F-12. Moderate to considerable even wear. Entire design is bold. All lettering visible, but with some weaknesses.

Very Good-8. Abbreviation: VG-8. Well worn. Most fine details such as hair strands, leaf details, and so on are worn nearly smooth.

Good-4. Abbreviation: G-4. Heavily worn. Major designs visible, but with faintness in areas. Other major features visible in outline form without centre detail.

About Good-3. Abbreviation: AG-3. Very heavily worn with portions of the lettering, date and legends being worn smooth. The date is barely readable.

While the above general definitions of grades are quite useful for many series, each particular series is best graded by referring to grading details specifically dealing with it. A new grading text is nearing completion. In the meantime it is suggested that the reader use the following brief descriptions of the obverses of the various Canadian series. At the end of these the reader will find details of both obverse and reverse in the grading of the 50-cent series.

TORONTO
INTERNATIONAL
COIN FAIR

Toronto's prestigious coin show.

January 28, 1985

TO: ALL NUMISMATISTS

I am pleased to invite you to enter a competitive exhibit at the upcoming Spring 1985 TORONTO INTERNATIONAL COIN FAIR.

Attached are the total rules governing the competitive exhibits at the Show to be held at the Lakeshore Inn, 2000 Lakeshore Blvd. West, Toronto, Ontario on March 22 to 24, 1985. Basically, THERE ARE NO RESTRICTIONS so as to allow you the freedom to put your talent and ideas to the test.

Note that in addition to an attractive participation certificate for ALL exhibitors, special rosettes will be awarded to the best exhibits accompanied by SIZABLE CASH AWARDS!

I look forward to receiving your exhibitor application.

Numismatically yours,



Walter Ciona
Exhibit Chairman



EXHIBITOR RULES & REGULATIONS

1. There are no restrictions as to exhibiting rules whatsoever. These include a) the size of cases if exhibitor-supplied, b) the number of cases per entry, c) the number of entries per exhibitor and d) presentation of material (i.e. props such as signs, maps, charts or flags may be placed outside of the exhibit case if the exhibitor assumes responsibility for them). So as to allow you to give vent to your creative ideas, we repeat: **THERE ARE NO EXHIBITING RESTRICTIONS WHATSOEVER!**
2. Set-up time is between 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. on Thursday and between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. on Friday of the Show weekend.
3. There will be no category system for the judging. All entries are judged against each other for the awarding of cash prizes and plaques.
4. ALL exhibitors will receive an Appreciation Certificate.
5. Judging will be on the basis of the following point system:

Eye Appeal	15%
Neatness and Originality	15%
Information conveyed to the viewer	25%
Numismatic material (condition, rarity and completeness)	15%
People's Choice	30%
	100%
6. Judges representing the numismatic hobby and the graphics industry as well as convention-goers will judge exhibits on the following basis:

Graphics Representative:	
Eye Appeal	15%
Neatness and Originality	15%
Numismatic Representative:	
Numismatic Information	25%
Numismatic Material (condition, completeness, rarity)	15%
People's Choice	
Judged on the basis of 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Exhibit with the most votes of the general public participating in the judging will be allocated 30%. Runners-up will receive a percentage proportionate to the number of votes received.	30%
	100%
7. Prizes will be awarded as follows:

Best exhibit:	\$100.00 in cash plus rosette
First runner-up:	50.00 in cash plus rosette
Second runner-up:	25.00 in cash plus rosette
8. Decision of the judges is final. (The names of the judges will be announced in the numismatic press prior to the Show and in the T.I.C.F. Programme.)
9. Winners will be announced at the Banquet on Saturday evening.
10. Teardown of exhibits will commence at approximately 4:30 p.m. on Sunday.



EXHIBIT APPLICATION

TO: WALTER CIONA
EXHIBIT CHAIRMAN
P.O. BOX 973, STATION "B"
WILLOWDALE, ONTARIO
M2K 2T6

SPACE: [] I will need space for ___ cases total for all my entries. (I understand there are no restrictions as to the number of cases I may enter, in one or more entries.)

CASES: [] I am supplying my own display cases. Each case is ___ " wide x ___ " deep outside.

[] I will need T.I.C.F. to supply ___ standard size cases (28-1/2" x 16-3/4" inside clear dimensions).

LOCATION: [] Because of my ideas in exhibiting, I will definitely need wall space for ___ cases.

SET-UP: [] I expect to set up my displays between 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. on Thursday.

[] I expect to set up my displays between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. on Friday.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: [] I confirm that I will be on hand at the Banquet on Saturday evening to accept my cash award and rosette if one of my exhibits is judged in the top three. (It is not compulsory to be present when winners are announced at the Banquet. Rosettes will be placed on the winning exhibits on Sunday.)

SECURITY: [x] Reasonable security measures will be provided throughout the convention. Exhibitors are warned that the presence of security personnel and systems does not guarantee against loss, a policy of insurance or a promise to indemnify in the event of loss by fire, theft or otherwise.

PLEASE PRINT: NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
DATE _____ SIGNATURE _____

TWO SHOWS IN NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION SET 1985 SCHEDULES

Collectors living in or near Ottawa, or visiting Canada's national capital region, will have plenty of opportunity to visit local coin shows throughout 1985.

The Central Ottawa Coin Show, held at the Hotel Roxborough downtown at the intersection of Metcalfe and Laurier Streets, will be held once each month on the last Sunday of each calendar month. Dates so far confirmed are thus January 27, February 24, March 31, April 28, May 26 and June 30 for the first half of the year. The bourse features dealers specializing in everything from Canadian coins to world type and ancient coins. A limited amount of bourse space is available for some dates: interested dealers may contact Paul Nadin-Davis, the show's organizer, at PO Box 95, Station A, Ottawa Canada K1N 8V1.

The Ottawa Coin & Stamp Dealers' Association will be holding their monthly show at the Nepean Sportsplex in the town of Nepean, which borders on the City of Ottawa to the West. This show will be held on the second Sunday of each month, and features stamp as well as coin dealers.

Opening hours to the general public are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for both shows, and out-of-town guests can always expect a special welcome from show organizers. The City of Ottawa Coin Club meets the fourth Monday of each month at the National Archives Building on Wellington Street, commencing at 7:30 p.m. Again, visitors are always very welcome.

Association News:

MEMBERSHIP

The following applications have been received. If no objections are received, acceptance will appear in the MARCH 1985 issue of the ONTARIO NUMISMATIST.

1245 BENJAMIN MATTHEWS, 24 ADMIRAL RD., KITCHENER, ONT., N2M 1R1

1246 ANDRE FECTEAU, 694 DES MELEZES, STE-FOY, P.Q., G1X 3C7

BRUCE RASZMANN
Membership Chairman

Old stocks may be worth thousands

A 66-year-old Toronto woman received a rather pleasant surprise when she learned that some old Marconi Wireless Telegraph of Canada stock certificates she thought were worthless were in fact worth \$11,500.

"They were bought by her grandfather about 1914 and left to her by her father," says Micheline Masse, founder-president of the Stock Market Information Service Inc. of Montreal. "She contacted me wanting to know their worth and was delightfully surprised."

The woman was one of many who often lose track of their holdings' values.

For example, Marconi Wireless Telegraph changed its name in 1925 to Canadian Marconi. Every year, more than 6,000 companies change name either through mergers, takeovers or amalgamations, Masse says. Shareholders, unaware of what happened, find it next to impossible to trace their securities.

In other instances, when companies go out of business or declare bankruptcy, there often are liquidation funds left available to the unsuspecting security holders.

Furthermore, certificates can have value as collectibles because of the popularity of scripophily (the art of collecting old certificates) as a hobby.



STASIA EVASUK

Age of reason

"Who knows how many old stock certificates are lying fallow in the Toronto area?" Masse wonders.

A University of Montreal graduate, Masse began collecting old stock certificates in 1964 for their design and beautiful engraving, with the intention of papering a wall in her living room.

"Out of curiosity," she says, "I decided to research a few of them and see if they were indeed worthless. One stock certificate had a value of \$5,000."

Ever since, she has been a "stock sleuth."

What started as a hobby turned into a full-time responsibility. Twenty years later, Masse is the head of an established company with a staff of analysts, researchers, secretarial personnel and an office equipped with the latest computers. One wall of her office is papered with old worthless stocks and bonds, although some

are worth money as collectors' items.

Extensive travel has helped Masse form a world-wide network of researchers. And knowledge of five languages — English, French, Spanish, Italian, German — allows her to research companies almost anywhere in the world.

"Musty old stocks found in grandpa's attic or in aunt Millie's tin box often reveal themselves to be stores of unsuspected treasures," Masse says. "Our job is to determine their worth."

Her love of old stocks grew through the years and influenced her in co-founding the Canadian Chapter of the Bond and Share Society, a club for collectors of old stock certificates.

Masse can be contacted by writing to the Stock Market Information Service Inc., P.O. Box 120, Station "K", Montreal, Que., H1N 3K9, 514-256-9487.



Michelle Masse: Founder of Montreal stock information service helps trace old stocks and find their true value. One woman learned that stocks she thought were valueless were worth \$11,500.

SHOW AND BOURSE

CENTRAL OTTAWA COIN SHOW

Roxborough Hotel,
Downtown Ottawa, Ontario
10 a.m to 4 p.m.

information....

R. Paul-Nadin-Davis
Box 95, Stn. "A",
Ottawa, Ontario,
K1N 8V1 (613-235-1916.

FEBRUARY 24, 1985
CENTRAL OTTAWA COIN SHOW

MARCH 31, 1985
CENTRAL OTTAWA COIN SHOW

APRIL 28, 1985
CENTRAL OTTAWA COIN SHOW

MAY 26, 1985
CENTRAL OTTAWA COIN SHOW

JUNE 30, 1985
CENTRAL OTTAWA COIN SHOW

MARCH 9, 1985
NORTH YORK COIN CLUB
ANNUAL SPRING SHOW

North York Community Hall
Yonge Street, North York, Ont.
9:300 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

APRIL 13, 1985
HAMILTON COIN CLUB

Firestone War Veterans Hall
67 Kenilworth Ave. N.,
Hamilton, Ontario
see enclose notice.

APRIL 19-21, 1985

THE STRATFORD COIN CLUB



LOOKING AHEAD TO 1985

HOST CLUB
O. N. A. CONVENTION 1975
"Where Hospitality Began"

HOST CLUB - O.N.A. CONVENTION - 1985
OUR SILVER ANNIVERSARY

"HOW SWEET IT IS"

We hope to see you then.

MAY 4, 1985
OSHAWA & DISTRICT COIN CLUB
ANNUAL SPRING SHOW
OSHAWA CENTRE

SEPTEMBER 28, 1985
OSHAWA & DISTRICT COIN CLUB
25th ANNIVERSARY COIN SHOW

For information...
Box 212, Oshawa, Ontario,
L1H 7L1

WORLD COIN WEEK

APRIL 21 - 28, 1985

"Numismatics: Open the Door With Books"
General Co-ordinator: Mayor L.H. Scoop Lewry, P.O. Box 1982,
Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan Canada S6H 7N7

Ontario Numismatic Association

23rd Annual

Convention & Coin Show



The Victorian Inn, Romeo Street
Stratford

APRIL 19, 20, 21, 1985

25 DOOR PRIZES

- Bourse
- Displays
- Auction

- Delegates Meeting
- Free Tours
- Banquet

Day Admission \$1.00 — Pre-Registration \$10.00

Stratford
*"Return to
Hospitality"*



For information, write:
Stratford Coin Club
Box 262
Stratford, Ontario
N5A 6T1

METRO TORONTO COIN EXHIBITION



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***** 25 MAJOR ONTARIO DEALERS *****

***** FREE *****

AUTHENTICATION, GRADING,
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***** SPECIAL SEMINARS *****

***** DOWNTOWN LOCATION *****

to be held at:

Bond Place Hotel

65 Dundas St. E

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 24

SUNDAY APRIL 28

SUNDAY JUNE 23

SUNDAY JULY 28

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 22

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC 10:00am to 4:30pm

For further information, please contact Ingrid K. Smith: (416)920-6461
P.O. Box 865 Adelaide St. P.O., Toronto, Ont. M5C 2K1

METROPOLITAN TORONTO
COIN EXHIBITIONS

at the
BOND PLACE HOTEL in Downtown Toronto
65 Dundas Street East (at Bond St.)
Off Yonge St. at the Dundas TTC Subway

Sunday February 24 Sunday April 28 Sunday June 23

Sunday July 28 Sunday September 22

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC 10:00am to 4:30pm

Finally...at last...a monthly coin show in Toronto and one with a difference! Visit us. You will be impressed. A show designed with the collector's interests in mind.

Presenting a comprehensive exhibition staffed by professionals and operated in an informal and friendly surrounding. You can buy or sell. If you wish to do neither, then visit our EXPERTS BOOTH. Get some numismatic opinions, answers to your questions, or tell us what's on your numismatic mind.

Admission Adults - \$1.00 and all children under 12 and senior citizens are free.
Admission refundable against any numismatic purchase over \$10.00.

Exhibits Twenty-five booths featuring Canadian coins and banknotes, tokens, trade dollars, US coins and banknotes, foreign coins, ancients, and militaria.
Professionals on hand include:

LONDON COIN CENTRE, M.K. FINDLAY, K.L. COINS, RANDY WEIR, ACTION COINS, ALPINE STAMP & COINS, BOB ARMSTRONG COINS, SILVER DOLLARS REG'D, SARNIA COIN MART, PROOF POSITIVE, ROSS D. KING, SIMCOE NUMISMATICS, J&D COIN SHOP, WM.S. GRANT COINS, CHRISTINA & INGRID SMITH, LONDINIUM.

Experts Booth Visit this unique booth and learn from the experts. Qualified staff will offer the following services at no charge during Show hours:

- coin grading
- authentication of coins
- coin attribution
- coin evaluations
- browse through our extensive literature display
- learn how to store and protect your coins
- find out what coins are good long term investments

Meet the Press In attendance will be:

BOB AARON - coin columnist for the Toronto Star and Canadian Coin News.
BRIAN CORNWELL - grading and rare coin columnist for the Canadian Coin News
and Price Trends Editor for the Canadian Coin News.

Special Seminars Review our plans to hold seminars in Toronto on GRADING, COIN INVESTMENT, and COIN AUTHENTICATION.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THESE ACTIVITIES: Write Ingrid Smith, Box 865, Adelaide Street P.O., Toronto Ontario M5C 2K1 or call (416) 920-6461.

COME VISIT US!!

MARCH 30th., 1985
PETERBOROUGH, ONTARIO.

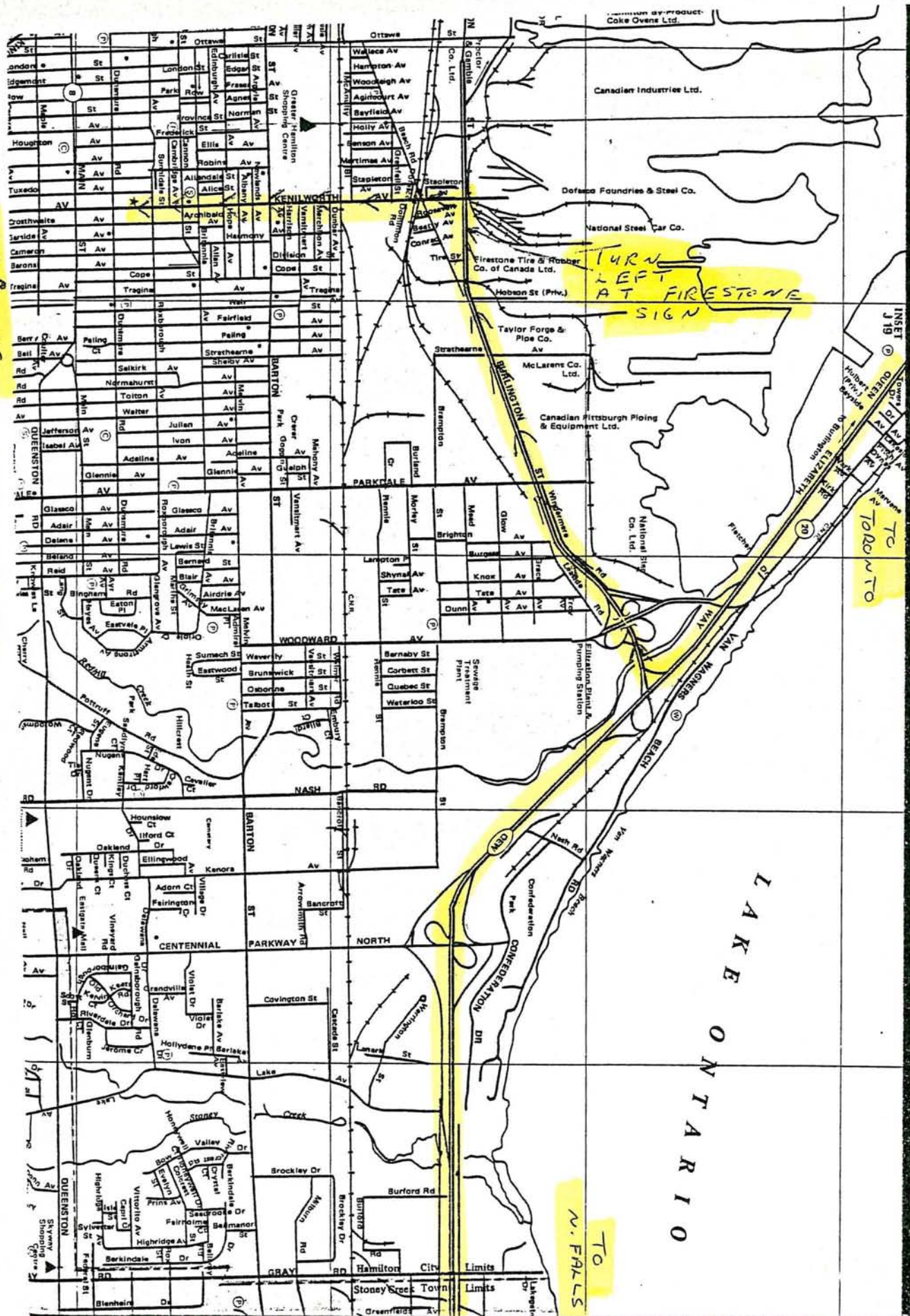
PETERBOROUGH NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION'S
ANNUAL SHOW
Peterborough Square
(Downtown Peterborough)
360 George Street, North.
Admission Free = Free Parking

ADDL. INFO.... DAVE CALL
Upr 219 Simcoe Street,
Peterborough, Ontario, K9H 2H6
Telephone... 705-748-3625

MAY 4th, 1985
REXDALE, ONTARIO.

THISTLETOWN COIN & STAMP CLUB'S
ANNUAL COIN & STAMP SHOW
Albion Public Library
1515 Albion Road.
INFO... Bob Porter
P.O. Box 1143, Sta "B",
Weston, Ontario, M9L 2R8.

STAIR IS
67 KENILWORTH AVE N.



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