

MONTHLY - BULLETIN

CITY OF OTTAWA COIN CLUB

P.O. Box 6094 Station "J" Ottawa, Ont.

VOLUME 3

JULY 1970

NUMBER 7

JUNE MONTHLY MEETING:

The 30th meeting was attended by 29 members and 1 guest. The President indicated a requirement for a volunteer to produce the monthly bulletin. If no volunteer is forthcoming, notices of meetings will be sent by post card. Jack Roberts expressed the importance of having an Editor for the monthly bulletin.

The President expressed sorrow at the news of the death of Douglas Wark of Sarasota, Florida. Mr. Wark had a display of Canadian coins at the last Ottawa Coin Show. The President also spoke of Mr. Williams, the former Mint Master, whose death occurred recently.

The next Coin Show will be at the Beacon Arms Sunday July 12th. A sum of \$500.00 was credited to the Club account. It was mentioned by J. Roberts that donations to the Club could be made for specified purposes, such as buying prizes for the Coin Shows. Some discussion centered about the restrictiveness of the Constitution which limited membership to the Club to those living within a 50 mile radius of Ottawa. (A notice of motion is covered in this Bulletin.) J. Roberts felt that fees and money made from auctions should be sufficient for the Club and if not, that dues be increased.

Mr. Roberts clarified for Club members the problems associated with publicity for Coin Shows. He stated that for 3 years he endeavoured to have an item in "Whats On In Ottawa", without success. He said that he was heard on the radio four times, but was let down by the TV stations. He mentioned that delay in the decision respecting the location of the show has a direct bearing on the success of any publicity for that show. On this point he strongly urged that the Chairman for the 1971 Coin Show be appointed now. A motion was made which was seconded by Jeff Holmes. The President then appointed Jeff Holmes. Jeff accepted.

Jeff Holmes reported on the Coin Show held in The Chateau and gave the following highlights: All trophies are being engraved. There were a great number of exhibits from Club members. Neatness of exhibits was good, but most members generally lost points because of lack of numismatic information. A number also lost in low eye appeal and originality. Condition of coin displays was average. On behalf of Diane Holmes, Jeff reported a banquet deficit of \$17.60.

Jeff Holmes stated that at future Coin Shows, displays would have to be set up before show opens. There will be some consideration to having additional classes at the next show, perhaps covering Gold Coins and Medals. There is a shortage of display cases and members are encouraged to have their own. In order to have a display it is necessary to be a member by April 1st of that year.

Dick Nash reported on Finance in respect of the Coin Show. The total receipts came to \$1,013.38 while disbursements were \$950.79, leaving a Net Profit of \$62.59.

It was moved and seconded that a vote of thanks be given those who made the show a success. A thunderous applause recorded this appreciation.

The President reported that all Bourse tables were sold. A discussion on whether numismatic information should be displayed outside the case or not, ended with a motion that information be inside the case. Though some disagreed, the motion was carried.

An announcement was made that Sherritt Mint was not taking orders for coins from Trinidad and Tobago. These coins apparently cannot be obtained outside Trinidad.

The Door prize was won by J. Roberts and special draw by Tom Sullivan.

Dick Nash and Tom Sullivan were appreciative of the night off because there was no auction.

PRESIDENTS PAGE

With this issue of the club bulletin we have a new editor and assistant editor. Al Driega is the new editor and he will be assisted by Mrs. Ruth McQuade.

I wish to offer my best wishes to Al and Ruth and I am sure you will join me in this. They will need all the help they can get to fill the pages of the bulletin with worthwhile material concerning our hobby, be it news or articles on numismatics. I am sure that they are both aware that the club bulletin is not the place to vent one's own personal feelings but to report the news in a straight and unbiased way with regards only to the facts. If you have any news or you have written any articles on any facet of our hobby, please send it to our new editor for insertion in our bulletin.

I wish at this time to thank our previous editor for the fine job he has done in the past. Jack has worked very hard to maintain a high standard in our bulletin and his work has shown to be well received by all our members. It is with some regrets that we see Jack step down, but we are sure that he is being followed by two very able people.

With Jack's report on the Coin Show at the previous club meeting his term of Coin Show Chairman also expired, so now Jack can join the ranks and enjoy the Club meetings with no responsibility.

Getting away from the bulletin I would like to ask all club members and the executive in particular not to enter into any negotiations on behalf of the club without written authorization by me; also that they incur no expense without my approval other than that which has been voted on and passed at a regular club meeting.

EDITORS PAGE

Being a very new member to the Ottawa Coin Club, I always looked forward to receiving my copy of the monthly bulletin because it kept me informed and made me aware of a number of interesting features in coin collecting. All of a sudden our Editor is retiring, and the Bulletin may fold up for want of an Editor. It still amazes me how I wound up as your Editor, however, here we are with our first edition with the hope that we can maintain the fine standard set by your previous Editor Jack Roberts. Ruth McQuade is the other half of the Bulletin Staff and between us both, we will endeavour to keep you informed of events and facts as they occur, and to get the publication out on time. (This statement is true subject to not being caught up in the rotating mail strike.)

At this time I would like to make a plea to the membership for support in the way of articles and newsworthy items. Looking back over

the past issues I have noticed that there are some regular contributors of articles, but with the number we have in the Club, I would think it not unreasonable to expect a greater number of contributors. I take note of the fact that those members who are also dealers, attend a number of Coin Shows in various parts of the country, yet there are few, if any, first person articles about the shows they attend. Although these are invariably covered in Coin Newspapers and periodicals, it would be nice to have one of our member attendees give his personal account of these shows.

At the end of our regular meetings I will approach certain members with a request that they do an article for a FELLOW MEMBER column, much in the same fashion as the one on Maj. S.S. CARROLL which appeared in the June issue. I agree with our last Editor's comment that articles of this type help us appreciate our fellow club members and I would like to continue these thumbnail sketches on a regular basis.

Every Editor who has taken over the responsibility of producing the Bulletin has, at some point in time, expressed dismay and concern over the lack of co-operation, support and contributions of articles from the members. Coupled with this observation was the concern that there was never any shortage of non-constructive criticism. I would like to point out to these two factions, the non-contributors and dissenters, that this position is voluntary and will only be filled if articles and constructive criticism are forthcoming. Without these two essential elements, I can give you no assurance of the continued publication under my direction. I sincerely hope that you will support your Club through tangible action (with pen in hand.)

Starting with the next issue I propose to reproduce a controversial quote or editorialize on selected subject matters for the purpose of getting readers reactions. This will give you an opportunity to express your point of view for the benefit of all readers. Standard ground rules will apply in that they should be well written and will be subject to editing for length and good taste.

With this I leave you with the thought

"Is there a "mint" in coin collecting?"

NOTICE OF MOTION

Moved by Jack Roberts, Seconded by Paul Sullivan that reference in the Constitution which limits membership into the City of Ottawa Coin Club to those persons living within a 50 mile radius of Ottawa, be deleted. Amended Constitution would read as follows:

ARTICLE 111 - MEMBERS - ELIGIBILITY & PRIVILEGES

Section 3

Any person of good reputation, 18 years or over, shall be eligible to apply for regular membership, providing their application is sponsored by a Club Member in good standing.

Section 4

Any person of good reputation, under 18 years of age, shall be eligible to apply for Junior Membership, providing their application is sponsored by a Club Member in good standing.

COINS STRUCK IN CANADA FOR FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Paul Sullivan F.R.N.S.

When I started to work on my display for our 1970 coin show I picked a topic that I thought would be interesting not only to myself but also interesting to anyone looking at it. One field that I knew very little about and I thought that I should know more about was "What coins were struck in Canada for other countries."

With help from the C.N.A. library, various coin publications and my good friend Major Sheldon Carroll I set out on the information trail. The information listed below represents about 11 months of research, unfortunately no one publication listed all the information that I required. The reference books I used are listed below:

Modern Latin American Coins by Robert Harris
A Guide Book of English Coins by K.E. Bressett
The Guide Book & Catalogue of British Commonwealth Coins by Remick, Linecar and James.
Current Coins of the World by R.S. Yeoman
News releases from the Sherritt Mint
The Royal Mint and the Royal Canadian Mint reports

The work that I have put into this has given me much pleasure over the last year and I would recommend that any member who wishes to add to his knowledge to try this type of research, it will give you hours of constant challenging work that I am sure you will enjoy to the fullest.

G R E A T B R I T A I N SOVEREIGNS

In 1908 a branch of the Royal Mint was opened in Ottawa. This year saw the first of the so-called "Canadian Sovereigns". The sovereign being a sterling, not a decimal denomination, frequently brings up the question whether those struck in Ottawa with the "C" mint mark can be considered as Canadian coins. For this reason, I have included them in this display.

Sovereigns were struck with the portrait of King Edward VII in the years 1908, 1909 and 1910. The portrait of Edward was by George W. de Saulles, Chief Engraver of the Royal Mint, London, England.

Sovereigns were struck with the portrait of King George V in the years 1911, 1913, 1914, 1916, 1917, 1918 and 1919. The portrait of George was by Sir Bertram Mackennal.

The St. George and the dragon on both Edward and George sovereigns is the famous Pistrucchi design.

The mint mark "C" is found on the reverse side of the coin, on the ground under the dragon, centered above the date.

The total mintage of the Edward "C" sovereign was 44,921

The total mintage of the George "C" sovereigns was 582,913

The gold content of the sovereign is .2354 Troy ounces

N E W F O U N D L A N D

Prior to Newfoundland's union with Canada in 1949 she had an 82 year history of decimal coinage. The first coins being the 1865 series and the last coins struck in 1947.

The years, denominations and mintage figures of the Newfoundland coins with the "C" mint mark are, as follows: GEORGE V

Large cents copper	1917, 1919 and 1920	1,304,553
Five cent silver	1917 and 1919	401,163
Ten cent silver	1917 and 1919	305,147
Twenty-five cent silver	1917 and 1919	628,718
Fifty cent silver	1917, 1918 and 1919	976,651

GEORGE VI

small cents copper	1941, 1943, 1944 and 1947	3,709,942
Five cent silver	1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946 and 1947	1,993,428
Ten cent silver	1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946 and 1947	1,308,764

Grand total of all Newfoundland coins struck in Ottawa 10,628,347

Until 1944 the content of the silver coins was .925 silver and .075 copper. It was then changed to .800 silver and .200 copper.

The obverse of the George V coins was done by Sir Bertram Mackennal and the obverse of the George VI coins was done by Percy Metcalfe.

J A M A I C A

Coins of Jamaica have been struck at three mints since 1869 when the first coins were made. The three mints were: The Royal Mint, London, England; The Mint, Birmingham, England and the Royal Mint in Ottawa.

In 1918 and 1919, Farthings, Half Pennies and Pennies were struck in Ottawa. The mintage figures are:

Farthings	
1918	208,472
1919	401,462
Half Penny	
1918	251,184
1919	312,245
Pennies	
1918	187,267
1919	251,101

Total mintage of all Jamaican coins struck in Ottawa 1,611,733
The mint mark "C" is between the first two and the last two numbers in the date; example, 19 c 18

D O M I N I C A N R E P U B L I C

One of the earliest mints in the Western Hemisphere was established at Santo Domingo in the year 1542. Coins were struck for a number of years before the mint was closed prior to the end of that century.

In the year 1937 a contract was made with the Royal Canadian Mint in Ottawa to strike coins in the following denominations: one, five, ten, twenty-five centavos and a half peso to correspond in size with the United States one, five, ten, twenty-five and Fifty cent coins.

The obverse of the coins picturing an Indian was designed by Henry Padget.

The dies were prepared in England and the coins were struck in Canada in the first three months of 1938. There is no mint mark on these coins.

Mintage figures, size and metals used in coins are, as follows:

Denomination	Size	Metal	Mintage
One centavo	19mm	Bronze	1,000,000
Five centavos	20mm	Nickel	2,000,000
Ten centavos	18mm	Silver	1,000,000
Twenty-five centavos	24.5 mm	Silver	560,000
Half Peso	31mm	Silver	500,000
Grand Total Mintage			5,060,000

LEBANON

In the year 1968 the Sherritt Mint of Canada was commissioned to strike a coin for Lebanon to commemorate and assist the United Nations Food and Agriculture program. A one Livre coin was struck in July of 1968. The coin was designed by Paul Koroleff and engraved by H.Kratz and H. Markwardt.

The specifications were:

Mintage	Diameter	Weight	Thickness
300,000	28mm	9.5 grms.	1.7 mm

SYRIA

Again in 1968 the Sherritt Mint was commissioned to strike coins for a foreign country. Three coins of a non-commemorative nature were struck between August 1968 and July 1969.

The specifications were:

Denomination	Mintage	Diameter	Weight	Thickness
25 Piastres	15,000,000	20.3 mm	3.3 grms.	1.15 mm
50 Piastres	10,000,000	23.4 mm	5.0 grms.	1.32 mm
100 Piastres	10,000,000	27.0 mm	7.5 grms.	1.49 mm

These coins were designed by the Central Bank of Syria and engraved by Edward Becker.

Syria also contracted the Sherritt Mint to strike their F.A.O. coin in the 100 Piastres denomination.

The specifications were:

Mintage	Diameter	Weight	Thickness
500,000	27.0 mm	7.5 grms.	1.49 mm

The design for this coin was done by Khazid Assali and the engraver was Edward Becker.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

In 1969 the Sherritt Mint struck a single coin for Trinidad and Tobago's contribution to the United Nations Food and Agricultural coin plan. The design was submitted by the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago.

The specifications were:

Denomination	Mintage	Diameter	Weight
One Dollar	250,000	32 mm.	12.63 grms.

This coin was released in the Spring of 1970.

(Note: I had given serious consideration to dividing this article into two parts, however, I felt that in doing so it would impair it for reference purposes, and it is published in its entirety..... Editor.)

MINT REPORT

The May Mint report was not received in time for the last months Bulletin and is now promulgated for the information of members

Denomination	May, 1969	To May 31, 1969	May 1970	To May 31, 1970
\$1.00	140,050	3,945,437	270,000	2,551,022
50¢	1,120,200	4,825,249	102,000	1,492,022
25¢	1,556,200	62,765,249	2,128,000	8,984,002
10¢	2,590,200	58,431,249	1,390,000	8,300,002
5¢	666,500	12,781,549	486,000	3,264,002
1¢	29,695,200	98,270,249	21,421,200	103,465,202
	35,768,350	241,018,982	25,797,200	128,056,252
Uncirculated Coin sets	31,920	228,087	37,646	137,326
Uncirculated Dollars	19,970	319,177	35,109	106,564

C O M I N G E V E N T S

- Aug. 5-8, 1970 C.N.A. Annual convention in Halifax, N.S.
write to Halifax Coin Club
Box 243
Armdale P.O. Halifax, N.S.
- Aug. 18-22, 1970 A.M.A. 79th National Convention
St. Louis, Missouri, U.S.A.
write to Jerry Hillebrand
6301 Wade Ave.,
St. Louis, Missouri, U.S.A.
- Oct. 3-4, 1970 Ottawa Coin Dealers Assoc. Convention
Chateau Laurier, Ottawa, Ont.
write to Peter Degraaf
778 Bank St
Ottawa 1, Ont.

REMEMBER OUR NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE
TUDOR ROOM, CHATEAU LAURIER, ON MONDAY JULY 27, 1970



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VOLUME 3

AUGUST 1970

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JULY MONTHLY MEETING

The 31st meeting was attended by 21 members and 2 guests, and for a change in pace was held in the L'Orangerie Room of the Chateau July 27th.

The new volunteer editor Al Driega and Assistant Editor Ruth McQuade were appointed. The President congratulated them on the fine job of their first bulletin.

The following notice of motion submitted by Jack Roberts which will be incorporated in the By-Laws of the City of Ottawa Coin Club, will be voted on at the next meeting:

"Moved that the sum of \$500.00 be deposited in a separate account named the "City of Ottawa Coin Club Exhibition Fund", with the intent that all funds donated to this special account, will be for the express purpose of purchasing prizes for winners at the City of Ottawa Coin Club Exhibitions."

The notice of motion to amend Article 3 of Section 3 of the constitution which restricts members to within 50 miles of Ottawa was carried.

With respect to the C.N.A. convention in Halifax, Paul Sullivan stated that he had received notice that exhibit cases were restricted to a size not larger than 18" x 30". A discussion followed and it was felt that this information should have been published in the C.N.A. Journal. The new ruling will be questioned as it had been changed without notification to the membership.

The president announced a coin show to be held at the Beacon Arms, August 9th by the Ottawa Coin Dealers Association.

Dr. Pace had for display and persual by members, a book entitled "Coins in History". The draw was made by Trevor Paine with Jack Phillips winning the door prize, which will be presented to him at the August meeting. Hec Dagenais collected 55¢ in fines from those members who did not wear badges. Proceeds from sale of tickets amounted to \$5.50, half of which was won by Paul Sullivan (What - again?). After adjournment an auction was conducted by Peter Degraaf.

EDITORIAL

Several years ago the past president of this club suggested to the Minister of Finance that the Post Office distribute proof-like sets of Canadian Coins because of patterns of scarcity developed by 1967 dollars and 50-cent pieces which appeared to be ending up in the hands of selected dealers.

Since this representation to the Minister of Finance, The Royal Canadian Mint has become a Crown Corporation as of 1 April 1969. It was reputed that Coin collectors and dealers in Canada hailed this development suggesting that many benefits would result when the Mint commenced operations as a Crown Corporation. A Ministry of Finance spokesman said prior to 1 April 1969, that the new Corporate arrangement for the Mint could show profits in the purchase of gold and silver at current market prices for striking of long-desired commemoratives and would also enrich our coin, token and medallic history.

It is true that the coin collector who is a member of a coin club or a Numismatic Association would and does benefit by this new corporate arrangement, but what about the thousands of amateur collectors who do not belong to a club or association and in many instances are not aware that proof-like sets are only available through the Mint. I believe that these amateur collectors should be praised for their enthusiasm for their country's coinage and history and should be afforded the opportunity of easy acquisition of proof-like sets of Canadian Coins from any Post Office in the country.

Since the Mint is a Crown Corporation which operates on a business-like basis, accruing annual profits, it is considered that distribution of Canadian proof-like sets through post office outlets will most certainly increase the profits of this Corporation and moreover it will encourage the amateur collector to appreciate his country's coinage and history as well as make him proud to display the beautiful work his country's mint has done.

A PRIZE FOR EVERY ENTRY

At the recent C.N.A. National Convention which was held in Halifax from 5th to 8th of August, two C.N.A. members, who are also members of the City of Ottawa Coin Club, walked away with awards and trophies for each display entered.

Jack Roberts took FIRST prize in the British Commonwealth Coins with his display of Maundy money, and FIRST prize for the Commemorative Medal Category with a display of C.N.A. Convention Medals. He also took THIRD prize in the Canadian Decimal Series for his complete type set of Canadian coins.

Joe Schkwarek took a FIRST in the Canadian Military Medals category which also won him the "BEST OF SHOW AWARD", and the Professional Numismatic Guild Trophy for the same display.

These were the only 4 entries from Ottawa C.N.A. members and each entry won an award(s). Well done J.J.

THE BRITISH NICKEL BRASS THREEPENCES
Ruth McQuade

It became evident in the late 1930's that the small silver threepences were too small for convenience (like our Canadian 5¢.) A new denomination or rather a new shape and metal for a threepence was to be issued in Edward VIII's reign. A twelve sided coin made of nickel brass was issued. Its unusual shape aroused mixed feelings, but by 1941 it had almost completely superseded its silver rival. Bus conductors declared it was the easiest coin to be recognized in the blackout. However the small silver threepences continued to be issued until the middle forties, when production ceased. The only silver threepences now issued are with the annual Maundy sets.

Edward VIII Threepence:

This denomination was never put into circulation, but with other coins of Edward VIII was struck by the Royal Mint ready for issue in 1937. On the abdication in December 1936 these coins were put into the melting pot. It appears, however, that just a few of this denomination escaped the pot, and at least one specimen somehow or other got into circulation where it was found by a woman in East Anglia in her change. It is traditional that monarchs should face in the opposite direction from their predecessor. Edward VIII was convinced that he presented a better picture when his profile faced left (it was his turn to face right,) so his coins were designed to please him. The obverse was by Paget and the reverse by Miss Madge Kitchener, depicting a Thrift plant, date and denomination. Her design enclosed the Thrift plant in a circle.

George VI Threepence:

The obverse of this coin was designed by Hugh Paget. The reverse was redesigned by Percy Metcalfe from the original by Miss Madge Kitchener. The Thrift flower was changed and better lettering substituted. In 1949 when India became independent the Ind:Imp was dropped.

The THRIFT plant or Armeria is a hybrid bearing pink to rosy pink flowers. To me its delicacy appears ill fitting to such a rugged coin. In 1961 the Post Office issued three stamps to commemorate the Centenary of the P.O. Savings Bank. Two of these stamps bear the Thrift plant.

Elizabeth II Threepence:

The obverse of this coin was designed by Mary Gillick and the reverse, which portrays a Portcullis under a crown, the date and the denomination, was designed by William Gardner. In 1954 the Britt:Omn was omitted. The last issue of threepences was 1967 as Britain is now preparing to introduce the decimal system. On March 1st 1966 the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced in the House of Commons the Government's decision to adopt a decimal currency system in February 1971.

A PORTCULLIS was a strong grating of oak, the lower points were shod with iron, hung so as to slide up and down in grooves with counter-balances. It was intended to protect the gateways of castles etc. The defenders having opened the gates and lowered the portcullis, they could then send arrows and darts through the gratings. A Portcullis was in existence until modern times in a gateway at York. Someone has ventured to suggest that in Psalm XXIV, "Lift up your heads, oh ye gates," is an allusion to a similar contrivance. The chained portcullis depicted on the reverse of the Elizabeth II threepenny coins was originally the badge of the Beauforts and later appeared from time to time on Tudor coins. Later it was adopted as the badge of the Palace of Westminster. It is found in the decoration and furniture of the two Houses of Parliament. Mr. Gardner designed the portcullis, under a crown, to match the angular outline of the threepenny coin.

This set of British Threepenny pieces, each weighing 105 grains, to me makes an interesting collection, and I thought these were interesting facts:

1. The existance of a rare coin. One of the few known Edward VIII threepenny coins may be seen in Canada, having been purchased by the Nickel Foundation for the Glenbow Museum, Calgary.
2. The silver threepences continued to be struck at the same time as the Nickel Brass threepenny pieces until 1946.
3. Including the Edward VIII piece there were five types in a thirty year span.
4. There were very small mintages in 1946 and 1949.
5. Proof coins were struck in 1937, 1950, 1951 and 1953.

Note: Members may recall that I exhibited these coins at our recent coin exhibition in May.

DISASTER

It was suggested that there is one sure way to get some millions of coins back into circulation. It involves no loss to the taxpayer; in fact it would reap a substantial profit for the Mint. This solution to a great part of our problem is so simple that that is probably why it has been overlooked.

The solution has to do with thousands of coins hoarded by the speculator. It does not involve passing punitive legislation against hoarding coins. Such legislation would have little or no effect on the people who hoard coins for speculation. With punitive legislation you must spend additional money for enforcement, and the general public would suffer in two-fold fashion.

All we need to do to get those hoarded pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, halves and dollars back into public use is to set up the proof-striking department of the Mint to duplicate any coin from the past that any citizen wants. With this one move we would knock the props from under the inflated coin market, and all of the hoarded coins would have to compete in price with the Mint's reasonably fixed figure for making them.

DID YOU KNOW?

Canada started minting silver dollars and large cents the year after United States discontinued theirs.

That of the original minting of 50,000 One Peso Trujillo Commemoratives by the Dominican Republic, 30,550 were melted by the government after his assassination, leaving only 19,450 according to official records.

Coins or coinlike objects were first issued in Asia Minor in the later 7th century BC and in the far east at about the same time.

A SELLING TRANSACTION

Suppose for a moment that you have just been given your change at the corner liquor store and, with the hot sun making your eyes squint, you see that the half-dollar in your sweaty fist is a Queen Victoria type. It seems to be in good shape, so you make a mental note to be sure to use a magnifying glass on it and consult the catalogue at the first opportunity.

By the time you've walked the half-block home, the quart of brandy has gotten heavier, and reaching home, you lighten the load considerably. You forget the coin until after dinner, when the hot soup and a cup of black coffee trigger the memory.

It's funny how magnifying glasses seem to wear out. You'd think they could make one that doesn't lose its power. You have to raise this one so high that the coin lying on the table, seems to waver. You focus it correctly and the date hits your eye. Hey 1894.

Isn't it odd how your friends can consistently find semi-valuable coins? It isn't envy that you feel, but you know that if you take the "r" out of friend it spells fiend?

Damn this magnifying glass! 'Hm braid is clear but not too sharp. No bad nicks or scratches.

It's surprising how quickly that coin catalogue can get lost. It was right here yesterday - or was that the day before? Aha! Now how did it get that dusty? You'd think the little woman would take care of a valuable book like this.

1894 in pretty good shape. In uncirculated condition it would be worth \$2000.00. You're dreaming now and you'd better drop down a notch. In Extra-fine it would be worth \$700.00. Now that's not bad at all! This half-dollar is Extra-fine. Just to be on the safe side, let's see what plain old Very-fine says. Ah, here we are \$300.00.

This coin is too good to be just fine. Anybody in their right mind would know that. Come Monday we'll just trot down to our friendly neighbourhood coin dealer and pick up a few hundred dollars. We won't even mention it to the little woman. It will be nice to have some extra money rattling around in your pocket for a change.

The week-end drags through the happy, sleep, hangover, get well, happy, sleep, hangover cycle and pretty soon it gets to be Monday.

You walk with assumed nonchalance into the coin shop and carefully drop the half-dollar so that it will ring prettily.

The benevolent dealer smiles a greeting and comes over with ebullient camaraderie. God's good and all's right with this beautiful world. The brotherhood of man is a wonderful thing when fortune grins so widely. He picks up your find and screws a little jeweller's glass in one eye. You wait, breathless, through the long, careful appraisal. He opens his eye and deftly catches the glass in his free hand. You admire his dexterity. This is a sterling fellow, man among men.

"It's a good coin, isn't it?" You are happy and know, deep in your heart, that it is a beautiful coin.

"What did you want to do with it?" His voice is gentle and his eyes are kind. You are a little ashamed that your eyes are a patriotic red and white.

"I'd like to sell it." All of a sudden you're carried away with fantasy. "You see, it's a spare. I have no use for two of them."

"Oh, you have a collection?" You nod happily and don't feel the guilt that should be building up at such a patent lie. The only collection you have is a collection of empties that you've forgotten to dispose of. But you do know enough about coins to brazen it out.

"Yes I have a set or two." That's the right touch - just a little modesty. It's a shame to take advantage of this nice man's gullibility.

"It's a good hobby. I'm pretty well stocked on these, but I'll tell you what I'll do. I'll give you seven dollars for it."

Your face falls and you know it. Maybe he didn't see the coin in a good light. Better call his attention to the fact that it's in excellent condition, and that you know prices. That's it, he probably thinks you're some yokel right off the street.

"I figured it would grade up a little better than that - say, Very Fine?"

"Sorry. That's the best I can do. Tell you what - you say you're a collector - well, strictly as a good will gesture, I'll give you eight dollars for it. That way we can stay friends."

It sounds generous when he puts it in that light, but all of a sudden you notice that his eyes are not really kind at all; they have a meanish look. Come to think of it, you'd bet that he beats his wife and kicks his dog. Not that any self-respecting dog would have a master like this; not that any woman with any sense at all would have a husband like this.

You carry on a mental debate, and your self assurance vanishes in the face of this fellow's authority. There is the sly thought that you might take the coin elsewhere, but one deflation a day is enough. All of a sudden you want to escape the knowing scrutiny of those eyes. Decision comes quickly and besides, you need a drink after transacting all this business. Eight bucks is eight bucks and that is a quart and cab fare home.

"Okay, its a deal."

You pocket the limp bills and head for the liquor store. There is a little difficulty when you get home. You've forgotten to build up an explanation of where the money for the bottle came from. Your fertile imagination invents some fantasy that seems to pass inspection and all is well. You notice that the little woman hits the bottle pretty hard.

You make a mental note to chide her (at some future time) about her figure. You've read somewhere that liquor is very fattening. If you put it carefully, she might take it to heart. That would leave a lot more brandy that sure wouldn't go to waste.

All goes well, until a few days later you just happen to run into a coin-collecting friend. In the course of the bar conversation, someone mentions something about an 1894 half. You don't remember just who it was that brought it up. It might have been you, gloating over the sale of the coin.

What a coincidence! Your friend has just picked up a good specimen of the Queen Victoria 1894 half-dollar. He extols the virtues of the coin and remarks on the very low price he paid for it.

That's why he's in the neighbourhood. He's going back to that little coin shop to see if they have any more bargains. What did he pay for it? A mere \$60.00. It was a real bargain!

You're ready to close the conversation. There's a little something about it that makes you queasy in the pit of your stomach.

You'd rather not know really, but your friend is all wound up. He confesses that his place of bargains just happens to be right down the street.

You know the conversation has gone too far. That was the place where you sold your coin. Oh well, it did buy a bottle of booze, and paid the cab fare home.

(It is to be hoped that no member of this Club will take offence to this story, which is intended to provide an element of humour in this publication.....Editor)

The Mint report has not been received in time for this bulletin, but we hope it will appear next month.

COMING EVENT:

Oct. 3-4, 1970

Ottawa Coin Dealers Assoc. Convention
Chateau Laurier, Ottawa, Ont.

Write to Peter Degraaf
778 Bank St.
Ottawa 1, Ont.

REMEMBER OUR NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE HELD AT
THE CHATEAU LAURIER, ON MONDAY AUGUST 24, 1970



City of Ottawa Coin Club

Monthly Bulletin

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AUGUST MONTHLY MEETING

The 32nd meeting, attended by 30 members and 1 guest, was held in the Tudor Room of the Chateau on 24th August.

The motion of a special fund proposed by Jack Roberts in providing moneys for prizes for winners was amended as follows:

'The sum of \$500.00 be deposited in a separate account named the "City of Ottawa Coin Club Exhibition Fund" with the intent that all interest from funds deposited or donated to this special account will be used for the express purpose of purchasing prizes for winners at the City of Ottawa Coin Club Annual Exhibition.'

This motion, seconded by Ruth McQuade, was carried.

Reports were received on the Halifax Convention. The previous meeting recorded that the size of cases for C.N.A. conventions was not recorded in the C.N.A. Journal. However, it was learned that this decision was made in Calgary in 1968 and was published in the C.N.A. Journal. The Halifax show from reports, was not very well attended, but dealers appeared to be satisfied with buying and selling. About 50% of the auction material was of paper money, \$300.00 was made at this auction. The idea of having someone bid on your behalf was not considered very satisfactory. The exhibition was good and it was reported that the numismatic information on displays played and continues to play an important part in awards and prizes. As reported in last month's bulletin J. Roberts took first prize in British Commonwealth Coins with a display of Maundy money and first prize for the Commemorative Medal Category with a display of C.N.A. Convention Medals. He also took third prize in Canadian Decimal Series for his complete type set of Canadian coins. Joe Schkwarek took first in the Canadian Military Medals category, which also won him the Best of Show Award and the P.N.G. trophy for the same display.

At the C.N.A. General Meeting it was passed that dues be increased to \$8.00, though members from Ottawa strenuously opposed and stated increase in membership is preferable to increased dues.

Paul Sullivan reported on his discussion with Pat Turner, delegate from Point Claire that there are 2,700 members in the C.N.A. The Journal, it was felt, does not have sufficient information for the beginners in coin collecting.

Norman W. Williams is the first Vice President of the C.N.A. and Jack Roberts strongly recommended to the executive that a Club in Eastern Canada, preferably the City of Ottawa, nominate Mr. Williams of Vancouver for the position of President of the C.N.A. next year.

While on the subject of nominations, Paul Sullivan appointed Jack Roberts as Chairman of the Nominating Committee for the City of Ottawa Coin Club.

In 1971 the C.N.A. Convention will be held in Vancouver and 1975 in Calgary. The president suggested that perhaps the City of Ottawa Coin Club would have a convention in the near future. Tom Muir reported on the banquet which was well attended. There were 30-40 presentations which took considerable time to present and the dinner lasted until nearly midnight. Methods of raising funds by other clubs was discussed at the Delegates breakfast. Most clubs are apparently not well off financially and with the exception of Kitchener, which receives proceeds from festivals and dinners, most operate in the red.

Jeff Holmes had items for discussion concerning next year's show, and places that could be used were discussed at some length. No firm decision was made at this time. Most members thought a room large enough for both bourse tables and exhibits would be best. There will be a shortage of display cases and suggestions were made that these be obtained from a handicap group or made by one of the penitentiaries. Enquiries will be made and the Club might have several made to sell to members. Exhibitors are reminded however, not to rely on this source of supply and to take action now to insure they have their cases ready for the next show.

Hec Dagenais collected fines to the amount of 40¢. The president welcomed the only guest of the evening Mr. Cain, and called on him to draw the winning ticket. Tom Grossman won the prize but like Jack Phillips, the previous month's winner, he will receive his prize at a later date.

EDITORIAL

At the last meeting a statement was made that all Coin Clubs in Canada, with the exception of the one in Kitchener, Ontario, are running in the red. This got me thinking why this should be. Assuming that the above statement is true, then there must be something drastically wrong with the way coin clubs are operating. After all, most hobby clubs to be found throughout the country are generally self supporting and their existence is perpetuated through the genuine interest of its members. This leads me to conclude then, that membership to Coin Clubs has become stagnated. If this conclusion merits further consideration, then one only needs to ask himself, what have these Coin Clubs got to offer in return for the privilege of membership? Do they have an active programme? Do they go out of their way in encouraging new members to join?

I believe that the problem in Coin Clubs lies in the apathy of its members, as there are a number of ways in increasing membership. Kitchener for example receives proceeds from such things as strawberry festivals and dinners which they sponsor. No doubt they have an active entertainment committee, and through these social activities they perhaps have a lively and effective Club. Well what can be done to get

Coin Clubs out of the red? It would be interesting to know if Clubs have a "year-around" public information committee whose expressed purpose is to communicate and make contact with potential members. As a group we may have been encouraged to bring a friend to the meetings, but no matter how good our intentions are, apathy creeps in or we find reasons why we have made no special attempt to encourage new members to join the club. However, with an active "year round" public information committee, contacts could be made with adult and youth group organizations. I am sure that there are perhaps a dozen people in each Coin Club who would be most happy to take a small display of their coins to - Boy Scout, Boy's or Men's Club meetings and explain the interesting features about their display, and inform the group generally about the fascinating hobby of coin collecting.

The C.N.A. is reputed to be having financial difficulties also and has recently increased their membership dues. Perhaps they too should consider a more active programme to increase their membership. If existing dues, miscellaneous donations and convention income does not provide the necessary moneys with which to operate the organization, then there is only one solution to the problem and that is to increase membership not dues. Potential growth of any organization is measured by its increase in membership and not by the increased income necessary to operate it. To illustrate this point, there are 2,700 members in the C.N.A. and recently dues were increased by 33% (from \$6.00-\$8.00) so a net gain of \$5,400.00 is expected to be realized. However, if as a result of increased dues, membership falls by 10% then only \$3,780.00 will be realized, so the organization loses two ways; fewer members and less income. Chances are that fewer members will not significantly reduce the additional income necessary to run the organization.

In general it is felt that Coin Clubs and Numismatic Organizations who are in financial trouble should seriously consider increasing their membership through better public relations rather than relying on the "easy way out" by increasing dues.

ATTENTION MILITARY COLLECTORS

Have you any interest in improving your knowledge of General Militaria, i.e., Badges, Decorations, Flashes, Helmet Plates, Insignia, Medals, Miniature Medals, Orders, Ribbons, Swords and Weapons, Uniforms or Wings? If so, you should consider joining the recently formed Military Historical Club of Ottawa, which meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month January-June, and September-December inclusive, at 8.00 p.m. in the National War Museum.

At present the Annual Fee is \$3.00 for Seniors and \$1.50 for Juniors (those under the age of 18) but new members joining after September 1st are only required to pay 50% of this amount.

At various meetings to date, displays have been presented by individual members, and a film on Vimy Ridge was shown in April, short talks (5-10 minutes) on various aspects of Militaria, plus a swapping period on each occasion for badges etc., thus allowing members an opportunity of disposing of their duplicates and enhancing their own collections. Auctions have recently been introduced.

If you are interested, why not arrange to attend the next meeting and meet the members, or if you wish to become a member, please contact W.O. Craig, telephone 993-2302, who will be very glad to fill you in on any additional information you may require.

Many of the club members saw the "Birds of the World" display that won first prize in the "Topical" category at the City of Ottawa Coin Show, held in the Chateau Laurier last May. For the members who missed the show, the following tells what it was all about.

The display was made up of 31 different birds, appearing on 48 coins and medals that represented the moon, all the world's continents and 32 countries. Accompanying the display was an explanatory scrapbook, giving brief notes on the history of the coins.

The scrapbook attempted to make the interested aware that a study of coins yields information about the past, and preserves portraits that throw light on characters, religion and mythology; and that designs of birds have appeared on coins since 750-480 B.C.

For example, ancient Greek coins had on the obverse side the head of Athena, and her attribute the owl, on the reverse. Though the owl is a bird of prey, in thought it represents wisdom. Today it is the symbol of Athens.

The Marie Theresa Taler of 1780 has on the reverse the design of eagles. Eagles inhabit most regions of the world. Eagles are remarkable for power and stateliness of their flight; are the epitome of aristocracy and have been used for centuries as heraldic emblems. The Marie Theresa Taler is considered the world's most beautiful coin; is the forerunner of World Crowns, and the American dollar.

The American or "bald" eagle is the national emblem of the United States, and even though Benjamin Franklin voiced preference for the turkey over the predatory eagle as a national bird, the United States dollar, half dollar and quarter must, by law, bear a figure or representation of the eagle.

A United States political token of 1837, a substitute for a shin plaster, has on the obverse the design of the phoenix. The 1930 five drachmae Greek coin has a similar design.

The Phoenix was a fabled bird in Greek mythology. The Greeks probably took their idea of the phoenix from the Egyptians who worshipped the bennu, a sacred bird. Both birds represented the sun, dying in its flames each evening and emerging each morning.

The emu was designed by Kruger Gray on the 1946 Australian florin. Next to the ostrich, the emu is the world's largest bird.

The New Zealand birds on the 1966 coins were the kiwi, tui and huia. The huia has not been seen since 1907 and is believed extinct. The male huia fed by chiselling insects and larvae out of holes in wood. When it could not reach the prey, the female would haul it out with her long curved beak; a division of labour that is probably unique in the animal kingdom.

The Artic Ookpik was originally created in sealskin by an Eskimo woman at Fort Chimo; subsequently this design was used for a medal. The Ookpik is one of Canada's emblems.

Alex Coleville designed the Canada goose on the 1967 Canadian silver dollar. "It seemed appropriate since it is one of the world's most majestic creatures and is also particularly Canadian. There are other associations with travelling over great spaces, and a kind of serene dynamic quality in this bird."

W. B. Yeats was chairman of the committee that chose Percy Metcalfe's design of the hen and chickens for the Irish penny. The committee wished to avoid patriotic emblems. A quotation from Yeats,

though not applicable to the display, perhaps can be applied to the City of Ottawa Coin Club, with its many enthusiastic and lively members,

Where nobody gets old
and godly and grave,
Where nobody gets old and
crafty and wise,
Where nobody gets old and
bitter of tongue.

(I gratefully acknowledge the help given me by Club members and others in acquiring some of the coins, and supplementary information)

THE ROYAL CANADIAN MINT

The Ottawa Mint was originally established as a branch of the Royal Mint, London, under the (Imperial) Coinage Act, 1870, and opened on January 2, 1908. It operated as a branch of the Department of Finance known as the Royal Canadian Mint, from December 1, 1931 to March 31, 1969.

Effective April 1, 1969 the Mint was created a Crown Corporation by the Government Organization Act, 1969. The Act outlines the main corporate powers of the Mint as follows:

- (a) to produce and arrange for the production and supply of coins of the currency of Canada;
- (b) to produce coins of the currency of countries other than Canada;
- (c) to melt, assay and refine gold, silver and other metals;
- (d) to buy and sell gold, silver and other metals;
- (e) to assay, refine, store and otherwise deal with gold, silver and other metals for the account of Her Majesty or others;
- (f) to prepare and store shipments of coin, gold, silver and other metals and to move such shipments to or from the Mint;
- (g) to make medals, plaques and other devices; and
- (h) to do all such other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the objects and the exercise of the powers of the Mint.

The Numismatic section of the Mints annual report for 1969 reports that sales in 1969 were very modest in comparison to those in 1967, Centennial Year, and 1968, the 60th anniversary of the opening of the Mint. Only uncirculated coin sets and uncirculated dollars were sold during the year. However, orders were filled for the book "Heads and Tales" and for boxes for the dollar coins that were sold in 1968. Small stocks of both of these items are still available and the Mint will continue to accept orders until the present supplies are exhausted.

During the latter part of the year the Numismatic Section placed orders for the equipment required for the compilation of a mailing list of all its customers. It is expected that the brochures advertising our 1970 projects will be the first items to be dispatched to mailing list customers next year.

The following table shows the distribution of uncirculated coin sold to Sundry Persons by the Numismatic Section for the year 1969:

	Dollar	50 cents	25 cents	Nickel 10 cents	5 cents	Bronze 1 cent
Issued in Mint sets:	\$326,203.00	163,101.50	81,550.75	32,620.30	16,310.15	3,262.00
Issued separately:	211,112.00	100.00	50.00	20.00	25.00	12.00
	\$537,315.00	163,201.50	81,600.75	32,640.30	16,335.15	3,274.00

As a Crown Corporation the statement of Income and Expense covering the period 1 April 1969 to 31 December 1969 indicated excess Income over Expenses in the amount of \$586,919.00.

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

At this time of year the club is faced once again with the election of officers. This year is no exception to any other year with the nomination officer having very poor response to his requests for members to serve as officers.

I believe that anyone who joins a club and takes what the club has to offer should be ready and willing to do his share of work to better the club and to give a little of his time to serve as an officer. If he does not feel he can do his share he should not join any organization.

If you get a call from the nominating officer, think it over before you make a decision.

"The club has no future without an executive to run it."

Do you have a coin that is a puzzle to you? Bring it to the next meeting. Would members who have reference books on specialized fields, please bring them in to the meeting and we will make this "identification night."

I would like all members to help me in a survey I am making. Please answer the following questions and hand in your answers at the next meeting, or mail them to me.

1. Are you a member of the C.N.A.?
2. Why are you a member of the C.N.A.?
3. If you were a member, why have you let your membership lapse?
4. What would you like the C.N.A. to do to help you with your hobby?

I am not asking these questions out of idle curiosity, but with a definite purpose in mind. So please co-operate.

Thank you,

Paul Sullivan

P.O. Box 2353, Station "D"

OTTAWA 4, Ont.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOVEREIGN
by Ruth McQuade

It is always very tempting to go back to the first Belgic occupation, but for the purpose of outlining the development and evolution of the Sovereign it is sufficient to look at the Anglo-Saxon era as the proper starting point. From about 750 the Silver Penny held undisputed sway. It had its divisions, from time to time variations in design, alterations in weight and size of flan, but to all intents it was the same coin 500 and 600 years later. So for 600 years the Silver Penny was the only form of currency in England and then in 1257 Edward III carried out a daring experiment. He authorized the coining of a penny in Gold to be twice the weight of the Silver penny and to be equivalent to 20 Silver pennies. Bullion dealers, finding it very profitable, melted down these coins almost as soon as they appeared and after only three years the coining of such a piece ceased. Twenty years elapsed before the next attempt was made to put into circulation a coin larger than the penny. Some time was needed before silver and gold were properly equated. The Noble was the direct result of years of adjustment of values and was, one could say, a vehicle for propaganda. Its issue followed soon after the naval victory of Sluys. The coin shows the King standing in a ship. This particular coin and the couplet of the same period "Foure things our Noble sheweth us..King, Ship and Swerd and power of the SEE"...shows that supremacy at sea was something to be reckoned with even in those far away days. Gold was now firmly established and succeeding monarchs issued their attempts of following the example that Edward III had set them. 1662 saw the beginning of the Guinea, made from gold obtained from the same name place. It and its divisions were coined assording to trade exigencies and material being available for 150 years.

It was due to military necessity that the Guineas of 1813 were struck, the 80,000 costing about 27/ to produce, as the gold for their striking was purchased in the form of coins from India. In the great re-coinage of 1817 our old friend the Sovereign appeared, smaller in module and lighter in weight, remaining with us for almost 100 years, not much change taking place except that St. George and the Dragon took the place of the shield. That was the coin our Mothers and Fathers and Grandparents knew, but not us. Then in 1914 the beginning of the war saw the end of a coinage that had over 600 years of development behind it. The sovereign had plenty to commend it but one fault, so our parents told us - they could not obtain as many of them as they would have liked.

Will we ever have gold coins with us again? If history is a sure guide then the answer MUST be yes! We have had financial crises before, always overcoming them in time, so if the answer be YES there remain many chapters on the development of the sovereign yet to be written.

Extracts taken from a talk I heard given by Alderman Horace Hird, M.A., F.S.A. of Bradford.

The elusive Mint Report - perhaps next month

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE CHATEAU
LAURIER ON MONDAY SEPTEMBER 28,1970



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SEPTEMBER MONTHLY MEETING

Thirty-five members and three guests were present at the 33rd meeting of the City of Ottawa Coin Club held in the Tudor Room, Chateau Laurier on 28 September.

Jack Roberts, who reported on nominations for the next slate of officers, expressed disappointment at the response he received from members. He stated that members being approached next year should seriously consider accepting nominations for the various positions within the Club. After some discussion about the present dilemma, nominations were put forth for new members and with some of the present executives volunteering to serve for another term, the following executives will serve for the year 1970-71:

PRESIDENT	-	Paul Sullivan
1st VICE PRESIDENT		Graham Bryson
2nd VICE PRESIDENT		Tom Grossman
TREASURER		Dick Nash
SECRETARY		June Keall

A round of applause greeted those new members and those who volunteered to continue for another term. The president thanked Tom Muir for his services as one of the past Vice Presidents, and to Dr. Pace and John McCormick for their services as Directors of the Club. Dr. Pace and Tom Sullivan were respectively appointed as 1st and 2nd Directors for the new term.

Jeff Holmes reporting on the Coin Show for 1971, indicated that the month of April appeared to be the most suitable month for the show, and reported that:

(a) If the show is held at the Chateau in the same manner as last year the cost would be about \$125.00, and there would be an improvement in the lighting available.

(b) If held in the Ball Room of the Chateau the cost would be about \$200.00. This larger space would lend itself to accommodating both bourse tables and exhibits and would be more in keeping with the club members preference that the two activities be located in the same room.

(c) At the Holiday Inn, a double room 60 x 100 feet, very well lighted could be obtained at a cost of about \$200.00 for the full week-end. The room appears to be large enough for both bourse tables and exhibits, but Jeff suggested that the new executive look at the space before a firm decision is made. There is adequate parking facilities at this location. As a matter which was previously discussed, a suitable room for holding regular monthly meetings is available at the Holiday Inn at a cost of \$25.00 per a Monday evening. This will perhaps be discussed further at the next meeting.

Jeff outlined the requirements for several committees to be established now to ensure the success of the show. The names and make up of these committees are covered in this months bulletin. Jeff Holmes appointed Diane Holmes(his wife) as chairman of the banquet committee. (This is just cause for the Women's Liberation Movement.)

It has been agreed that competitive entries for exhibits will be restricted to paid-up club members as of 1 March.

Respecting cases for displays, Jack Roberts reported that he had not yet been able to contact the penitentiary officials, but will endeavour to do so before the next meeting.

Diane Holmes stated she would like slides for the CNA Library with suitable write-ups for the displays which won prizes at the last City of Ottawa Coin Club Show and the CNA Convention in Halifax. Tom Sullivan is available for taking the slide pictures.

Hec Dagenais collected 55¢ in fines from those who were not wearing their Identification Tags. He suggested the fine be doubled.

The draw for the door prize, which was made by one of the guests Mr. F.R.Charles, was won by June Keall. An auction conducted by Jack Roberts netted \$3.30 for the club.

EDITORIAL

It was not surprising to learn of the disappointment expressed by the Chairman of the nominating committee for the lack of a full slate of officers for the new term for the City of Ottawa Coin Club. This apathy among members is not new and has been around for quite some time - so why should any of us have been surprised? What is difficult to understand, however, is why should this apathy exist in a Club to which we all joined voluntarily? I can understand a natural reluctance to volunteer if you belong to a club associated with your work, or in a club which coerced you to join; but not a club which is the focal point of your hobby. I would like to believe, without stretching the point, that we all joined the club with the full knowledge that it requires an executive and various committees to carry out its programme - so why the reluctance to assume some of the executive duties when asked? What could possibly be our objection? This is rather a difficult question to answer.

I think we have all been guilty to some degree of subconsciously conditioning our mind not to volunteer for anything, not because of the few extra hours of work a month (although this belief is open to debate), but because of not really knowing in precise terms, the duties and responsibilities that go with the position. It is so easy to give a negative response to an enquiry to serve on the executive or chairman of a committee using the excuse that you do not really know what is involved and that someone else is better qualified. On the other hand if you knew what the job entails, your negative response could be interpreted as an admission of your own shortcomings or selfishness in not wanting to get involved. My personal experience has been that from

involvement comes enjoyment. This piece of philosophy is primarily for new members of the club who will ultimately have to make a decision when asked to serve in an executive capacity. I hope that the newly installed executive will give some consideration to expanding the list of general duties covered in the constitution, and through the media of this bulletin make these duties known before nominations are sought. With this approach, perhaps there will be more success with next years slate of officers.

While we are on the subject of volunteering, I note that an early start is being made to form the various committees required to programme our 1971 Coin Show. I sincerely hope that members will pick up these volunteer assignments to ensure the success of the occasion. Far too much work is left to the few individuals and I am sure you will all agree with me that it is most unfair - yet here they are back again this year with the same problems, hopes and aspirations. Lets have a change in attitude and all pitch in to make this the best Coin Show ever.

I regret I was not able to attend last month's meeting due to an illness, and further regretted my absence when I noted that no discussion took place on whether the suggestion of a "YEAR-AROUND" Public Information Committee had any merits. Communication forms the most essential part of any organization, and without it there is no possible way for future growth, if indeed we are concerned about increasing our membership of this club.

Al Driega
Editor

1971 ANNUAL COIN SHOW

It is intended that the 1971 Coin Show be held on a Saturday and Sunday in April - the exact place and date has not yet been established. The show will be open from 10a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday. Judging from the interest and participation at last year's banquet, it is proposed to hold another banquet type affair following the closing on Sunday evening.

As mentioned above all the final details for this show have not yet been worked out, but that should not deter us from taking the appropriate action now to ensure the success of the show. If there is one thing we learned from the last two shows, it is to organize early and to have more people involved, so that all the workload does not fall on the selected few. The following principal volunteers are required for the various committees and you are encouraged to put your name up at the next meeting.

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Numbers</u>
Publicity	3
Exhibits	2
Bourse Tables	2
Door	2 plus reliefs
Information	2 plus reliefs
Banquet	2
Security	1

There was some criticism of publicity last year, and it is hoped that those with ideas for increasing attendance won't keep them to themselves, or wait until after the event. This year we hope to avoid Mother's Day (maybe we could get Ottawa to declare a Dealer's Day) and Stanley Cup playoffs, but there are always counter-attractions, so the

publicity committee will need the help of all club members in spreading the word.

We hope there will be still more club exhibits than last time, however competitive entries will be restricted to club members only. No outside material will be allowed as all information must be contained within the case. Further detailed rules and application forms will be printed and included in future monthly bulletins.

NUMISMATIC INFORMATION carries the heaviest weight factor in the awarding of points, so you should get started now to do your research on your exhibit(s).

Jeff Holmes

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Sir:

In April 1969, I expressed grave concern, as did many other serious numismatists, regarding the existence of improperly struck coins being offered by dealers at fabulous prices. I accepted some criticism that aspersions were being cast on the efficiency and/or the integrity of Mint employees. Evidence produced at the trials of Mint employees that year seemed to substantiate my criticism.

The O.N.A. Bulletin of October 1970 devotes a page and a half to the possibility of "accidentally" misstruck coins, oddities and other varieties escaping inspectors and getting into the hands of dealers. For years I have maintained that it is impossible for inverted, partially inverted reverses, double strikes and other coins struck on odd planchets to be released legitimately to dealers.

A few weeks ago a Toronto paper referred to recent hanky-panky at the Mint, but Ottawa papers did not or could not print the item. Finally, on September 29th the whole sorry mess came to light in the Ottawa papers. While some pity may be expressed about the Mint employee's lack of resistance to temptation, there can be little, if any, justification for slipshod methods of inspection which permits employees to carry out such nefarious deeds without detection over a long period of time.

The Crown attorney's remarks described the crime as "more serious than any ordinary criminal could commit", coincides with those of honest coin dealers and serious collectors of Canadian coins. The aftermath of the Mint's 1967 mess had almost been forgotten when another mess occurs. Dealers who profited from the 1967 coinage escaped penalties but today's item indicate the R.C.M.P. is conducting "diligent" investigation into the affairs of various coin dealers handling this "variety" coinage. Surely the person that is reported to have paid the accused Mint employee about \$2,000.00 for the job could be prosecuted or is there also "insufficient evidence" to lay charges against him.

If the judge imposes a sentence as a deterrent in this case, surely the Mint should insist that dealers who handled these illegally distributed coins should also be charged, and the items in question seized. Judges would then have a chance to clean up this hobby by making an example of these dealers who have advertised these items for sale. The bad taste from this latest episode may take longer to dissipate but eventually the Mint may regain the fine reputation it once enjoyed.

J.E.Roberts

THE DARK SIDE OF COIN COLLECTING

The preservation and cleaning of coins heads the list as the most neglected coin subject, so says Mr. Charles Frank, a noted coin preservation specialist who is the author of "Coin Preservation Handbook".

Take the Mint sets which are sealed in plastic folders. Although plastic is an excellent barrier, it is a poor gas barrier, and the sulphur in the paper which you store your extra mint sets, compounded with moisture in the air forms a gas, sulphur dioxide, which readily permeates the plastic and corrosively attacks the mirror-like finish on the proofs.

In super humid climates, on the seas and in costal areas, as well as Ottawa during our prolonged soupy, muggy days, the life of a proof set in its original mint packaging is estimated to be about 5 years, if not periodically cleaned free of surface corrosion products. In humid climates its life is estimated at about 10 years, and in sub-humid climates its life is estimated to be about 15 years if not, again, periodically cleaned free of surface corrosion products.

In arid climates, the life of a proof set in its original mint packaging is estimated to be about 20 years. So, you can see, climate, weather and materials have a decided effect on coins in general, and collectors must familiarize themselves with long term preservation techniques or they will eventually have to resort to cleaning, out of necessity. Almost every proof coin removed from its original mint wrapping can be considered to have been subjected to cleaning techniques; otherwise what possible motive could there be for removing proof coins from their preferred form of packing?

To say that oxides, tarnish, patina and other forms of metallic corrosion enhance the beauty of coins is absolute nonsense. All forms of corrosion on metals are destructive.

MINT REPORT

Number of Pieces

Denomination	August, 1969	To August 31, 1969	August, 1970	To August 31/70
\$1.00	1,000	3,958,437	176,000	3,130,147
50¢	4,000	5,851,249	68,000	1,728,022
25¢	4,752,000	77,113,249	4,652,000	22,192,002
10¢	1,530,000	65,951,249	4,550,000	16,990,002
5¢	768,000	14,311,549	738,000	4,824,002
1¢	<u>25,386,000</u>	<u>181,124,249</u>	<u>27,918,000</u>	<u>182,965,202</u>
	32,441,000	348,309,982	38,102,000	231,829,377
Uncirculated Coin Sets	12,201	264,963	38,216	261,356
Uncirculated Dollars	5,862	342,018	34,156	222,637

SOON TO BE 21

In 1948 the Ottawa Coin Club was formed, but shortly many other outside collectors wished to be associated with the Ottawa Coin Club. By 1950 the members included people from many provinces and from the U.S.A.

It was decided in January 1950 that the Ottawa Coin Club should be reorganized into the Canadian Numismatic Association. The first twelve members who helped to make the association prosper were 1.L.J.P. Brunet, 2. Jim Hector, 3. M. Lafortune, 4. G.R.L.Potter, 5. Capt. S.S. Carroll, 6. N.T.Proudfoot, 7. W.C.Ellis, 8. Dr.C.M.Dent, 9.B.V.Seguin, 10. J.V.McGinn, 11. T.G.Beatty, 12. H.S.Naylor.

The first official publication was the C.N.A. Bulletin and the Corresponding Secretary and Editor was Mr. G.R.L.Potter. The President was Capt. S.S.Carroll, and the Librarian was Mr.T.G.Beatty, and these three are with us in the City of Ottawa Coin Club today.

The Association met in the Public Archives of Canada and the membership fee was \$1.00. In February 1951 the association decided to form chapters and appoint regional directors.

By October 1952 there were 350 members.

The bulletin continued for 6 years, then in January 1956 the first Journal as we know it appeared. By this time Mr. Potter was the president and Mr. Beatty continued to issue books. Much of the success of the bulletin goes to Mr. Potter, who did such a fine job editing the mimeographed bulletins.

There were now 7 Chapters: 1.Ottawa, 2.Calgary, 3.Peterborough-Lindsay, 4.Hamilton, 5.Cincinnati,Ohio, 6.Regina, 7.Vancouver. The chapters were abolished but restored and the number rose to over 30.

The Journal found its way to many museums and libraries all over the world. In 1958 there were 1,400 members.

The last membership I can find recorded is in the October last Journal and there were 2,700 members.

Next January the C.N.A. will be 21. Much has happened in our young life and it is interesting to speculate over what may happen in the next 21 years.

R.M.

Mr. R.C.Willey, the Historian of the C.N.A. has called my attention to the fact that T.H.Paget's name was not Hugh, Henry, Hubert or Herbert but in fact it is HUMPHREY. I am sure he would like us to spread the word about.

COMING EVENTS

- Oct. 24-25 Ottawa Coin Dealers Assoc Convention
Chateau Laurier Hotel, Ottawa, Ont.
write to Peter Degraaf, 778 Bank St. Ottawa
- Jan. 22, 23, 24/71 Montreal Coin Show
Mount Royal Hotel
Peter Degraaf auctioneer

There will be a monthly coin show at the Beacon Arms on the 2nd Sunday of each month, for the next several months.

TOUCH PIECES

Ruth McQuade

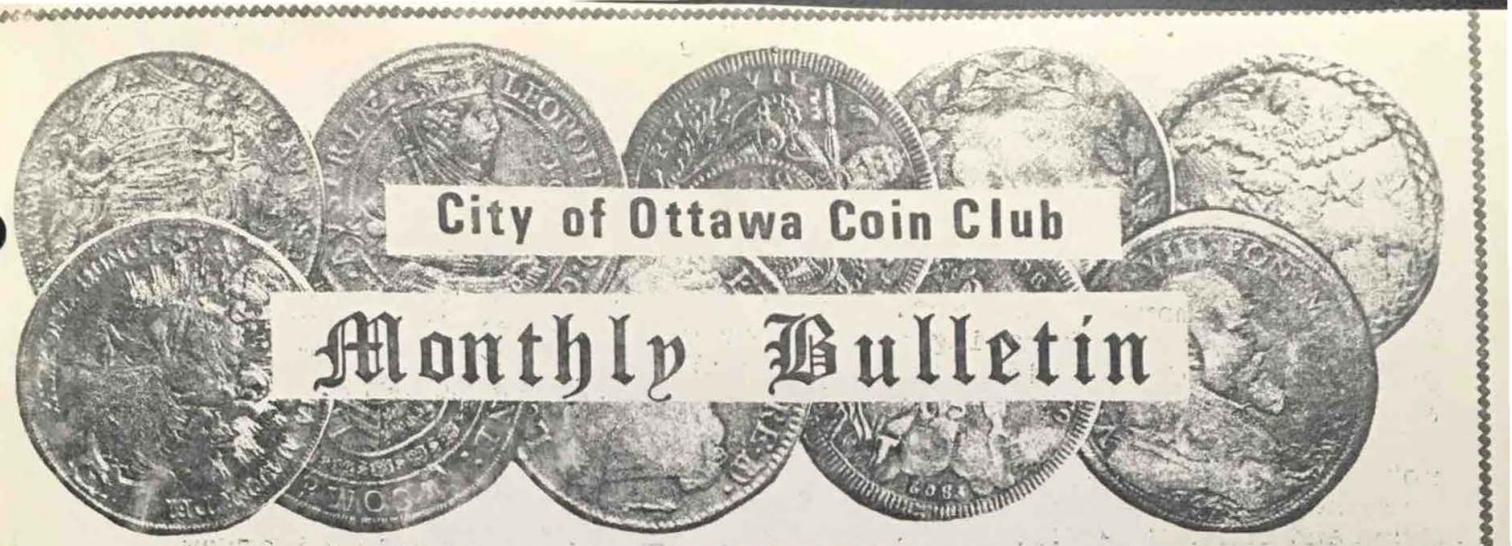
The story of Touch Pieces began in the Middle Ages when it was believed that the touch of the hand of a ruling King or Queen was the cure for scrofula, which became known as the "King's Evil" - not a complaint suffered by the King but a disease the King could cure. This complaint today is known as tuberculosis of the lymphatic glands, but in the Middle Ages it seems to have embraced ailments from boils, ulcers and even blindness. The ceremony of 'touching for the King's Evil' eventually came to be the presenting by the King to the patient of a gold piece to be hung around the neck by a ribbon or cord.

From France comes the first reliable record of the practice in Europe with the report that King Robert the Pious (996-1031) was "zealous in visiting the sick from whom the touch of his holy hand took away all their suffering." On each patient a sum of pence was bestowed. We first hear of the custom in England in the case of Edward the Confessor who shortly before his death healed a woman of scrofula, although no mention of a coin gift is made on this occasion. It is not until the reign of Henry VII we have any direct information about royal healing, but, "Doesn't the appearance of Edward IV's Angel of 1465 show some connection by its legend, 'By Thy Cross save us, Christ our Redeemer?'" However, speculation is left behind when we arrive at the seventh Henry's reign. We hear of his introduction of a religious service at his touching ceremonies and the altered legend on Mary Tudor's Angels shows that the practice of royal healing was indeed royal duty. The Kings of Scotland never attempted to heal but when James came to take up his English throne, he was advised that to discontinue the custom would detract dignity from the crown - prudence prevailed and James gave way. His Presbyterian principles, however, are shown in the altered service and the removal of the Cross on the Angels of his time.

Touching continued as a regular duty of the monarch until the death of Cardinal York in 1807 and, as far as Britain was concerned, the age of reason had arrived - science had ousted superstition. Perhaps touching was a quakery maintained to support the claim that Kings had a divine right to rule. But doesn't a little reflection show us much for which to sympathise with our predecessors groping after the light?

Extracts taken from a talk I heard given by Robert Kerr, O.B.E., M.A. of the Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh.

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE CHATEAU
LAURIER OCTOBER 26, 1970.



City of Ottawa Coin Club

Monthly Bulletin

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Station "J"

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OCTOBER MONTHLY MEETING

Thirty-six members and two guests were present at the 34th meeting of the City of Ottawa Coin Club held in the Tudor Room of the Chateau on 26th October.

After the minutes were read and adopted, the President and the members who subscribe or buy the "Coin World" paper were pleased and appreciative of the recent coverage given to the activities of the Club. It was hoped that this coverage would continue and that other papers follow suit.

Jack Roberts reported on the progress made in acquiring slides of winning exhibits from last years Coin Show. This follows on the suggestion that the Club as well as the C.N.A. Library should be in possession of such slides. It is hoped to have one or two ready for viewing at this forthcoming meeting. Jack mentioned that Charles Terry enjoys a second hobby of photography, and if anyone wishes to have pictures taken of their coins for both our library or the C.N.A. library, that he would probably oblige. One of the most satisfying feelings a collector could have is to have others enjoy seeing his collection from sharp colourful 3-d slides.

Two new members, James Williams and Ted Olszewski, and two guests, Ken Benson and Michael Curry were welcomed to the meeting. While on the subject of members, a few dealers who attend the monthly Coin Show were asked about the Coin Club and its activities. On this basis the dealers were encouraged to have some Club Application forms with them at future monthly Coin Shows. It is felt that this was a good way to perhaps get a few new members each month. (Up and at 'em fellas)

The membership was sorry to learn that Graham Bryson was in hospital, but sorrow turned to relief when it was learned that he would probably be home on the week-end. Mention was also made of Guy Potter's health, observing that he hasn't been around for the past couple of meetings. Who should turn up shortly after the business end of the meeting, but one of our founders, Guy Potter, looking as crisp as ever, clutching a few rare coins, medals and an interesting coin scale, for the members to admire and enjoy. He also submitted a fine article for the Bulletin, which appears in this issue.

Jeff Holmes had nothing further to report on the plans for our 1971 Annual Coin Show other than to mention that a few volunteers did

pass their names to him, but it was only a token number and he expects and requires more volunteers. Diane Holmes suggested quietly to a few of the members about having a party or get-together in February. Perhaps she will provide more details about this interesting proposal so that formal acceptance can be registered by the members.

Our Sgt-At-Arms, Hec Dagenais, collected 20 ¢ in fines for those not wearing badges. One of our guests, Michael Curry, drew the ticket for the door prize which was won by Harry Cain. Ed Suprey won the draw and his share was \$3.75.

An Auction was conducted by Jack Roberts which included a few lively items, while for some other items he really had to work to get a reasonable bit. At one point he was practically down on one knee for a 5¢ raise in a bid. There were some good buys to be had.

EDITORIAL

Several weeks ago I inherited the library of the City of Ottawa Coin Club. It was my intention to weed through whatever there was and to let the membership know what was available for their use, by publishing a list of the books and journals in the Bulletin. I regret to say that very little usable material exists in this library, and I am still debating whether the work in cataloguing this material would be justified. However, I have no objections to members coming over to browse through the material to see if they can make some use of it.

During the business of last month's meeting it was mentioned by one of the members of the Club that the first Ottawa Coin Club was founded about 25 years ago when Guy Potter and a few others had their first meeting at a house back in 1943 or 1944. This statement would appear to be in conflict with the article in the last Bulletin "Soon to be 21". I would be remiss in my duties if this confliction as to the proper date of birth of the club was not resolved. I contacted Guy Potter, one of the original charter members for confirmation of when the club was actually formed. I received a call back in which he made reference to a number of articles that were written but which did not establish for certain the actual date. Further research will be done on this subject and it is intended to clarify this point in next month's bulletin.

According to the calendar for the Club, our December meeting will fall on 28th December, and I was informed that this date will in all probability be changed to perhaps the first or second week in December. The firm date will be established at the meeting on the 23rd of November. By the time you receive this issue, your Bulletin staff of two will be well into working on the December's issue which will come out in advance of December's monthly meeting. It will be our Christmas issue and I would like to wind up 1970 with a gala edition by having a number of articles from members of the club - even if it is just to wish everyone a Merry Christmas. Please endeavour to write your article(s) and bring it(them) with you to the meeting on 23rd November.

A. W. Driega
Editor

GOODBYE, L/S/D!

Now that Britain has succumbed to the pressure of decimalization, so far as the coinage is concerned (for we still keep time by the sun, and the Babylonian sexagesimal system still controls angular measurements) it is perhaps worth while to examine the old system of pounds, or sovereigns, shillings, and pence.

We all know what a pound usually signifies - a standard of weight. Why then did the name come to be applied to a gold coin weighing today but 123.274 grains? Well, the answer is simple. Until 1816, the monetary standard was silver, and in the earliest centuries the coinage consisted, for the most part, of silver pennies, which took the place of the denarius in use when Britain was just another province of the Roman Empire; hence the use of the letter 'd' for penny. The law first provided that 200 silver pennies must be produced from one pound of fine silver, but this quantity was finally increased to 240 coins, as the relative value of silver declined. It is, however, worth noting that the silver penny, though it has long ceased to circulate, is still coined as part of the Maundy Money, and is still legal tender, though if you were foolish enough to try and spend it you would probably have an argument on your hands! I have sometimes found myself wondering whether there is another coin in the world with such a long history. So, to return to the pound, we see that this designation derives directly from the former silver standard. The alternate name of sovereign did not come into use till the appearance in 1489, under Henry VII, of a large gold piece on the obverse of which appeared a representation of the monarch crowned and holding orb and sceptre. The coin had a value of twenty shillings, and the royal image was for the first time more or less realistic, instead of the purely conventional representation hitherto in use. This coin may properly be regarded as the 'founding member' of a distinguished race whose descendant, the 'pound sterling' is probably the best-known and most widely accepted of all coins. It is true that, in 1257, Henry III issued a pure gold 'penny' worth twenty silver pence, but the issue was very small, and the coin is extremely rare; it had no successors, and must be regarded as an isolated freak.

But why, you may ask, 'pound sterling'? The term, although it may be used for gold, is reserved almost exclusively for silver. Our early silver was maintained rigidly at a high standard, while much of that produced on the continent was more or less debased; in these circumstances, the term 'sterling' soon entered most European languages as an adjective indicating high quality, and the pound represented, in gold, one troy pound of sterling silver.

The 'S' in L.S.D., although today denoting the shilling denomination, actually stands for 'solidus', a denomination introduced by Constantine in A.D. 312. Originally a gold piece, it appears to have corresponded roughly to the 'scilling' of Saxon times, and thus been adopted into the 'L-s-d' as representing the twentieth part of the pound, known today as the shilling.

G.R.L. Potter

THE VICTORIAN AGE

The English were shamefully slow - almost as slow as Americans - to give women the right to vote. Yet the two greatest ages in British history were when Queens ruled England - the Elizabethan Age and the Victorian Age.

It was in the 19th century that England attained her greatest prosperity and prestige, and the British Empire its greatest power. The British Navy was supreme; England was the "workshop of the world", her foreign commerce and investments exceeded those of any other country.

During Victoria's remarkably long reign of 65 years, some interesting coins appeared. In 1839, two years after she came to the throne, the charming "young-head" coins were struck. William Wyon, the Mint engraver, prepared a pattern for the five pound gold piece, but this coin was never issued. A rare item, it is famous for the interesting reverse which pictures the Queen as a graceful young girl guiding the British lion with her sceptre.

In 1847 the new crown (five shilling piece) was struck to celebrate the tenth year of Victoria's reign. This coin, known as the "Gothic" crown, is considered one of the handsomest examples of English coinage.

Many collectors are familiar with this coin, but may not know how it got its name. In nineteenth-century England, business and trade were all-important and life seemed humdrum in comparison to the romantic days of the Middle Ages. People of the Victorian Age delighted in reading about the glamorous past, in such novels as Sir Walter Scott's "Ivanhoe".

"Gothic" was the key-word for everything medieval, hence the name of this coin. Its inscription is in the old Gothic script, and the Queen's gown, elegantly jewelled and embroidered in the medieval style, is surrounded by an elaborately patterned edge. For the first time in almost 200 years, an English monarch appeared with a Crown.

In 1849, influenced by the example of France and the United States, England decided to experiment with the decimal coinage. The result was a two shilling piece called a "florin" (one-tenth of a pound or sovereign).

Despite its good-looking appearance, this coin created a minor scandal, and soon had to be withdrawn. It lacked the phrase *Dei gratia* or its abbreviation D.G. ("by the Grace of God"). Known as the "Godless" florin, it was replaced in 1851 by a florin with "D.G."

Although all these coins portray the Queen as a young woman, they were not replaced until 1887 (her golden jubilee) when she was close to 70. In that year the "Jubilee Head" coin appeared, a portrait that is gloomy but impressive - a fine character study. Some coins of this issue have Pictrucci's famous St. George and the Dragon on the reverse.

It was during Victoria's reign, as we have seen, that England and the British Empire reached their highest stage of power and prosperity. It is significant that during this period there was no talk of shortages in metal or coinage. Even gold was in more than ample supply.

COUNTERFEIT MONEY

The imitation of money for gain has probably been practised by unscrupulous persons ever since money came into use. The study of counterfeiting, as seen from the point of view of suppression and prevention, is complicated, and its aspects vary according to whether it concerns paper or metal currency. Counterfeiting is complicated because it can be accomplished only in successive stages: first the counterfeit item has to be produced by printing or casting; then it must be passed in a clever and underhand way as genuine currency. All this means that it will be sometime before the counterfeiter can realize any profit. It is an offense that requires a certain amount of technical and artistic ability and one for which the legal punishment is severe.

Base coin may be cast, struck or produced by a plating process. The casting of coin requires the use of molds made of gypsum plaster, pulverized earth, cement, iron or wood. The striking of coin is effected by means of engraved dies. By far the most popular method in counterfeiting coins is casting.

The following are examples of counterfeited coins uncovered recently by Virgil Hancock ANA 43616 of The American Numismatic Authentication Trust (ANAT).

French Indo-China Piastres

This cast counterfeit came into the U.S. about June 1965 and covers a wide assortment of dates. The first point to inspect is the bottom of each groove in the edge reeding. If its a cast coin, the bottom of the groove remains gray and non-reflecting as you tilt the edge to and fro. The genuine groove is more dense because it was forced under tremendous pressure, thus the silver is compressed and smooth and will mirror the light. Closely inspect the coin which will probably look newly minted, but which shows wear on the high spots. The counterfeiter couldn't find an uncirculated coin for his pattern.

United States Silver Dollar

The 1928 silver dollar is worth about 12 times as much as a 1928-S type silver dollar and has been counterfeited by simply grinding away the "S" mintmark. These are easily detected by tilting the coin to and fro and catching the reflection of an oblique beam of light on the field where the "S" had been ground off and where the grinding left a slight hollowed area.

United States Nickel

The 1950-"D" Jefferson nickel has been easily counterfeited by adding the tiny "D" which has been die-struck from extremely thin metal, then soldered in place, after having ground a tiny hollow into the field of a Philadelphia 1950 coin. The application of soldering flux sometimes produces a very very faint yellowish discolouring which can be detected with 30-power microscopic. Sometimes the "D" is visably out of alignment.

Japan silver 1 yen 12th year of the Meiji Dynasty and the Trade Dollar

A well-made cast counterfeit which took x-ray diffraction examination to reveal the accumulations or "build-ups" of cast metal especially between the stems and the ribbon's bow.

The Japan Trade Dollar was also cast expertly by two Formosans who sold thousands of them to Japanese coin dealers who then sold them to tourists at the Japan Olympics. To hide the cast texture, they coated the coins with waterproof India ink, and the tourists "just knew" these were old, old coins. After 60 seconds soaking in an ultrasonic cleaning solution, the cast became apparent. Take particular note of the chrysanthemum petals where tiny accumulations of "built-up" silver can be detected.

MEXICO 1793 PILLAR DOLLAR

Beware of blackened coins with junk on them along with the story that this coin was buried. A few drops of "joy" kitchen detergent, toothbrush and hot water will probably disclose it to be a cast counterfeit which originated in Asia, and the blackish material was some kind of pitch, probably heated to a liquid and then painted on the coin.

Here are some symptoms of a cast coin which Virgil Hancock of ANAT says we should all take note of and to critically examine the coins that come under our preview or possession.

1. Suspect a "bargain" price.
2. Suspect any round "pimples" sticking up on the field.
3. Suspect any "build-up" or accumulation of metal in the angle of field and letters of the legend.
4. Suspect any coin which reveals any engraving or tooling around letters.
5. Suspect any field which has a rough texture of a plaster wall or of fine sandpaper.
6. Suspect any coin which has a rough, sandpaper surface between the denticles (teeth) or beads around the edge of the coin.
7. Suspect any coin which has been extremely polished.
8. Suspect any coin which has its field blackened heavily all around the letters and relief design and beading or denticles at edge.
9. Suspect any reeded edge which is gray, satiny in the bottom of the grooves.
10. Suspect any reeded edge which is extremely sharp and uncirculated, especially if its on a circulated coin.
11. Suspect any over-weight coin, just as quickly as you'd suspect any underweight specimen.
12. Suspect any scarce coin which is offered with the story, "I know this is genuine because its been in a collection for 20 years."

Of course there are other ways in detecting counterfeit coins. Most counterfeit coins are made of metal alloy which does not ring as clearly as genuine coins when dropped on a hard surface. Also it is a fact that most counterfeit coins feel greasy, so it is wise to feel all coins, and if one feels slippery or greasy it should be further examined.

The above facts give you some idea about what ANAT has found out. This organization is an authentic service which will be launched when it builds a trust fund in the amount of \$50,000.00. All Coin Clubs and indeed every coin collector can and probably will reap benefits in the way of "knowing" if the coins they have are counterfeit or genuine. Do we or have we contributed to this worthwhile organization? If not - why not?

A.W.D.

THE COLLECTOR'S PRAYER (Coins pub. Sept. '63)

O Money Tree please bear for me
A harvest good and fair -
Not bright new coins just made to spend
But coins both old and rare!
If this request you'll grant to me
'Tis all that I shall ask,
And underneath your branches I
Shall pick your fruit and bask.

A-Mint!

There is no Mint report this month.

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE CHATEAU
LAURIER NOVEMBER 23,1970



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NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEETING

Forty two members and three guests were present at the 35th meeting of the City of Ottawa Coin Club held on November 23rd in the Salon Richelieu of the Chateau Laurier.

The Treasurer's report by Dick Nash showed total receipts of \$405.79; Disbursements \$551.93; Bank balance \$1,203.94. The bank balance is held in two accounts with the Bank of Nova Scotia; operating account \$703.94, City of Ottawa Coin Club Exhibition Fund, \$500.00. The statement was audited by F.A.Dixon.

Because of excess disbursements over receipts, suggestions were made that dealers might advertise in the monthly bulletin for a fixed fee. The President stated he could discuss this at the next meeting of the Coin Dealers Association. After further discussion as to ways and means of having the accounts balance, a suggestion by Bob Clements was made that since extra funds weren't really necessary at this time, the matter be held in abeyance.

Major Carroll presented Joe Shkwarek with the trophy which was donated by the Professional Numismatists Guild in Canada, for the Best of Show at the C.N.A. Convention in Halifax.

Art Graham presented a complete set of Royal Canadian Mint Reports to the C.N.A. library on behalf of a group of interested collectors.

Mr. Allan who had just returned from Turkey, presented the President with a 1970 mint set from that country; he also donated a set which was auctioned for \$5.00.

Dr. Pace had books for display purposes entitled: Medals presented to the Indians of America, published in 1915; Coins and Tokens related to Canada; Canada Blacksmith Tokens Catalogue; Popular Illustrated Guide to Canadian Coins and Medals.

Joe Shkwarek had for display the Northwest Rebellion Medals. The next meeting to be held December 14th.

Bruce Clements won the draw, his share being \$4.00 and Tom Sullivan won the door prize. Hec Dagenais collected 55 cents in fines.

Very interesting slides were shown by Jack Roberts as follows:

1. First prize winning exhibit in the British Commonwealth Coinage Class at the C.N.A. Convention in Halifax, August 1970. This exhibit consisted of Maundy Money type sets from 1837 to date, and consisted of 18 slides.
 2. First prize winning exhibit in the miscellaneous class at the C.N.A. Convention in Toronto, August 1969; the exhibit consisted of 33 mortuary medals by Dassier of English rulers from William 1 to George 11 and including Oliver Cromwell. There were a total of 13 slides in this display. These slides were made for the C.N.A. Library and a copy will be purchased for the City of Ottawa Coin Club for their library.
 3. Newfoundland paper money on which Major Carroll gave a commentary. These had been donated to the C.N.A. Library by Norman Williams, First Vice-President of the C.N.A.
- Photographs by Charles Terry were taken of Ruth McQuade's nickel brass threepence display; Al Driega's Olympic and World Games Commemoratives; Paul Sullivan's display of Coins Struck in Canada for other countries; and Birds of the World display belonging to June Keall.

Denomination	MINT REPORT		NUMBER OF PIECES	
	October, 1969	To October 31, 1969	October, 1970	To October 31, 1970
\$1.00	14,000	3,992,437	66,000	3,315,147
.50¢	10,000	5,911,249	94,200	1,896,222
.25¢	2,700,000	85,897,249	3,788,200	29,376,202
.10¢	2,120,000	70,611,249	3,670,000	26,370,002
5¢	1,578,000	16,645,549	2,316,200	8,514,202
1¢	<u>36,264,000</u>	<u>252,572,249</u>	<u>42,930,000</u>	<u>250,957,202</u>
	42,686,000	435,629,982	52,864,600	320,428,977
Uncirculated Coin sets	20,207	302,836	35,046	336,864
Uncirculated Dollars	10,334	362,143	22,485	278,944

If anyone would like to volunteer to do a small job for our coming Coin Show next April, please contact Jeff Holmes. He has jobs to fit all types, so lets all get together to make this the best ever show.

On what bank note is Canada's first Premier shown?

EDITORIAL

Last month I indicated that the date of the official founding of the Ottawa Coin Club would be resolved. Ruth McQuade who wrote the article "Soon to be 21" in the September bulletin, carried out, in the finest tradition of journalism, a further research which confirms that the year was indeed 1948. A letter which corroborates this fact and written by Sheldon Carroll is produced in the bulletin for the information of the members.

When the suggestion was made for members to have their exhibits photographed for posterity, there was a great flurry among the members to get their displays into shape. I had a call from Ruth McQuade on matters relating to bulletin content and in passing she asked how she might get her display cleaned. She found in the February 1957 issue of the C.N.A. Journal an article written by G.R.L. Potter titled "The Cleaning of Coins", which she passed on to me. I was particularly interested in the reference to the use of potassium cyanide as a cleaning agent, and could not help but marvel at the progress made on the various cleaning agents now available and used in coin cleaning. I bought a product called "Nic-A-Spray" which I use for removing tarnish from coins and without hesitation loaned it to Ruth. A week later it was returned to me with the following note:

Dear Al:

Thanks for loaning me your "dab-it-off"
But it seems to be a waste of time
To try to make those 3 d's shine.
I dabbed away with all my might
But they put up a real good fight
To keep their mottled look.

Then out my sixpences I did take
And it was like a small explosion
To see them loose their old corrosion
So what conclusion can I make?

Ruth

Somewhat puzzled by the results she achieved with my dab-it-off, I re-read the instructions on the bottle and in small print it said, "for proof and uncirculated coins". In testing it with other coins of different base metals, I have come to the conclusion that its success on silver coins is immediate and questionable on all other coins. So having failed to invoke my muse, I make the following attempt to reply to her question:

Dear Ruth:

I read your lines with great consternation
And regret your 3 d's did not turn into proof
As a result of my unintentional goof
To dab it on silver the "Nic-A-Spray"
Will eat rust off where're it lay
But on Nickel Brass or Copper bits
Will certainly make you go into fits
For its purpose is for silver coins you see.

Labouring as you did the other night
Spacing your 3 d's on a sea of blue
All were looking just like new
Proudly admitting they lost their fight.

Al

YOUR BULLETIN STAFF WISHES EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU
A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

Al Driega
Ruth McQuade

YEAR END REVIEW

What did we do in 1970? What have we accomplished? Did we get to where we were going and did we achieve the aims of the Club? It is customary at this time of the year to reflect back and review events as they occurred, and to help you answer these questions for yourselves, here are some club highlights.

JANUARY

It was agreed that all past presidents of the old Capital City Coin Club and Ottawa Coin Club, be presented with a suitably engraved Centennial Convention Medal. Plans were put forth to hold another Annual Club Spring Coin Exhibit to be followed by a banquet.

FEBRUARY

One of the better attended meetings of the year to which 44 members turned out. Mrs. Dorothy Slater displayed a very interesting hollowed out 1665 German coin which had a small oil painting inside. It is believed that the picture was in code and some descriptive material with this coin indicated that it may have been used by a spy. A number of new trophies and plaques were donated by persons who are genuinely interested in helping promote interest in numismatics. These trophies will be put up for annual competition by club members at their shows, and are as follows:

<u>Donor/Trophy</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>	<u>Category</u>
J. Douglas Ferguson Trophy	Honorary President of C.N.A.	Tokens
Sheldon Carroll Plaque	Curator of Bank of Canada Past President of C.N.A.	World Coins
Norman W. Williams Trophy	First Vice President	Paper Money
Jack Roberts Trophy	Past President of COCC	Junior Exhibits
Andy Winn Trophy	Dealer	General "
Tom Grossman Trophy	Second Vice President of COCC	Canadian Decimals
Peter Degraaf Trophy	Auctioneer	Topical Exhibit

MARCH

Mrs. Parker the wife of the late Norval Parker, Master of the Mint, set up a fund which would ensure that the winner of the Best of Show Award, the "Norval Parker Memorial Trophy", would receive a miniature presentation.

A mystery surrounds this meeting as to whether it had been decided to continue membership in the A.N.A. Hopefully this will be resolved at the last meeting for 1970.

APRIL

All arrangements for the Club's annual Coin Show progressed well during this month. All bourse tables were sold and Peter Degraaf distributed 2000 of the 2,500 auction catalogues which were prepared in conjunction with the show. About 50 people indicated they would be attending the banquet. Against this good news, the club was informed that the Editor of the monthly bulletin, Jack Roberts, would be resigning his post and a volunteer was called for. The Exhibit was finally held and it was considered a great success. The banquet was attended by 64 members and guests, at which approximately 15 awards were presented to the winners. A specially engraved scroll plaque was presented to Sheldon Carroll, Curator of the Bank of Canada, for his outstanding contribution to local and national numismatics.

MAY

A very quiet month, but one notable event did occur and that was a presentation of a medal to Jack Phillips for having signed up the most new members over the past 6 months. The medal was donated by the president Paul Sullivan.

JUNE

Two volunteers presented themselves to undertake the responsibility of producing the monthly news bulletin for the club, Al Driega and Ruth McQuade, Editor and Assistant Editor respectively. A notice of motion was made to eliminate from the Club's constitution, the restrictive 50 mile radius for club membership. This was passed in July's meeting. Our annual Coin Show reportedly made a net profit of \$62.00, while the banquet ran a slight deficit of \$17.00. A round of applause was given the banquet coordinator Diane Holmes.

JULY

Two club members entered 4 exhibits at the Annual C.N.A. convention in Halifax, which won a total of 5 awards. Two firsts and a third by Jack Roberts and a First and "Best of Show" by Joe Shkwarek.

AUGUST

A special fund was set up in the amount of \$500.00, the interest from which will be used to purchase prizes for winners at the annual Club's Coin Exhibitions.

SEPTEMBER

A new slate of officers was elected for the next term. The president treasurer and secretary volunteered to serve another term. Dr. Pace and Tom Sullivan were appointed first and second directors of the club, respectively. Plans were put forth for holding another Club Coin Show in April 1971. Jeff Holmes will act as Exhibit chairman, while Diane Holmes volunteered to organize another banquet.

OCTOBER

It was suggested that exhibits by Club members at our Club or other shows, be photographed and that the slides be available to the library and one set be donated to the C.N.A. library.

NOVEMBER

A number of excellent slides were shown of the two exhibits that were photographed. One set of slides, which was recently received by the C.N.A. librarian, was viewed at this meeting. It depicted a good variety of Newfoundland Paper Currency, owned by Norman W. Williams, New Westminster, B.C. These slides were of professional calibre. Sheldon Carroll narrated the interesting features of this currency to the members. The PNG trophy, which was not formally presented to Joe Shkwarek at the C.N.A. convention in Halifax, was done at this meeting. Messrs Gould, Ferguson and Carroll were the judges at the convention for this trophy, so Sheldon Carroll appropriately did the honours by presenting the trophy to Joe. Three further exhibits by Club members were photographed and the slides will be reviewed at a later date. Mr. Allan, who returned recently from a trip to Turkey, presented a mint set of the first coins to be put into plastic pouches in that country to our president. He presented a second set to the club which was auctioned off for the sum of \$5.00. Dr. Pace displayed several interesting books on medals and tokens, one of which contained a scarce pamphlet. The December meeting was advanced to 14 December.

ENGLISH DECIMAL COINAGE 1682 TO DATE

J.E.Roberts

In 1682 Sir William Petty proposed that farthings be made five for a penny in order that decimal arithmetic would facilitate the keeping of accounts. Sir Christopher Wren proposed that an ounce of silver be divided into 100 parts. Under Queen Anne it was again considered, but United States took the decimal basis to do away with the chaotic mess created by use of Mexican dollars and English pence. France during the French Revolution converted to decimal coinage easily by dividing the sou into five parts and 20 sous being equal to a Franc.

In 1824 Lord Wrottesley's parliamentary motion to create decimal coinage was diverted by the government's decision to assimilate Irish currency to British. However, two Royal Commissions in 1841 and 1843 both reported in favour of issuing some decimal coinage. Sir John Bowring's motion on April 27, 1847 won very surprising support but the Government compromised by promising to issue a coin at one tenth of a pound, and further considerations to be given to smaller decimal coins.

Finally in 1849 a tenth of a pound coin was issued and given the name Florin after a Dutch silver coin in existence at that time, rather than from its gold Italian progenitor of the Middle Ages. The Master of the Mint at that time was an Irishman named Shiel and a Roman Catholic and he acknowledged that he had erred in omitting contractions of Dei Gratia and Fidei Defensor. Only 395,000 of these so-called "Godless Coins" were issued with the customary abbreviations.

It is almost 300 years since Decimal coinage was first proposed for English distribution and over 100 years since the Government of the day promised to issue decimal coinage until today when within a year or so English coinage will be completely converted to the decimal system. A convincing example of red-tape delaying progress.

From John Craig's "The Mint"

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

In reply to your letter of November 10th concerning the founding date of the Ottawa Coin Club I can confirm that the correct date is 1948. The organization meeting was held in the living room of my home and the announcement of the formation of a club appeared in both Ottawa papers, the July 1948 issue of Seaby's Coin and Medal Bulletin and the July-August 1948 issue of the Coin Collector's Journal.

I first came to Ottawa in 1945 and early in 1946 I learned that a small group of coin collectors were meeting in the office of Mr. Pierre Brunet at the Public Archives of Canada. I attended these meetings regularly for the next two years. This was a very informal group, we had no name, we had no officers and we had no membership dues. It was not until the meeting in 1948 that we decided to formally organize and take the name of the Ottawa Coin Club.

Yours sincerely,

Sheldon S. Carroll, Major

Curator
Numismatic Collection

COMING EVENTS

Dec. 13, 1970 There will be a coin show at the Beacon Arms

Jan. 22, 23, 24 Montreal Coin Show, Mount Royal Hotel
Peter Degraaf auctioneer

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE CHATEAU LAURIER DECEMBER 14, 1970

