



THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIST

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

WATERLOO, ONTARIO

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VICTORIA CROSS

The Victoria Cross, the most highly coveted decoration which it is possible for any sailor, soldier or airman, officer or man to obtain, was instituted by Queen Victoria in 1856 at, it is said, the suggestion of the Prince Consort. The decoration consists of a bronze cross pattee, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches across with raised edges. On the obverse in the centre, is a lion statant gardant standing upon the Royal Crown, while below the crown are the words, 'FOR VALOUR', on a semi-circular scroll. The reverse has raised edges like the obverse, and the date of the act for which the decoration is bestowed is engraved in a circle in the centre. The Cross is suspended by means of a plain link from a V, which is part of the clasp, ornamented with laurel leaves, through which the ribbon passes, and on the back of this clasp is engraved the name, rank and ship or regiment of the recipient. The ribbon, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, was originally blue for the Navy, and crimson for the Army. The latter colour, really a sort of claret, was adopted during the First World War for the Navy, Army and Air Force.

The V. C. was established during the Crimean War for rewarding individual officers and men of the Navy and Army who performed some signal act of valour or devotion to their country in the presence of the enemy. Bars could be awarded for subsequent gallant acts.

Anyone who has received the V. C. and who is convicted of treason or any other infamous crime may have his name erased from the list of recipients. Eight forfeitures have occurred, the last in 1908.

In 1902 Edward VII ordered that V. C. s should be given to relatives of those who died while earning the award. Prior to this the recipient's name was listed but the decoration was not conferred.

In 1912 King George V extended the award to officers and other ranks of the Indian Army. Officers and men of the Merchant Navy who become subject to enemy action are eligible for the award. Women of the armed forces, nurses, nursing staff and civilians of either sex, if serving regularly or on a temporary basis, under the direction of the armed forces, are eligible. To date, no woman has received the V. C.

Cont'd next page.

A total of 1,343 V. C.s, of which 290 were posthumous, and three bars, have been awarded since 1856. Canadians have won a total of 79, with 27 of these awarded posthumously. No Canadian has won the award since 1945.

NOTE: This article appeared previously in the March issue of the Oakville Coin Club Bulletin.

NEW MEMBERS

Applications published in the October issue of the Ontario Numismatist have now been accepted. The following applications have been received. If no written objections are received their acceptance will be acknowledged in the December issue of the Ontario Numismatist.

- 564. Walter Holst, 4 Maple Court, Waterloo, Ont.
- 565. Hugh McCorkindale, 23 John Street East, Waterloo, Ont.
- 566. Art Baker, 102 Laura Road, Downsview, Ont.
- 567. William James Roaume, 472 Winston Road, Oakville, Ont.
- 568. Richard Schwegel, 385 Frederick St., Kitchener, Ont.
- 569. Bobby Leadbeater, 78 Drakefield Road, Markham, Ont.

COMING EVENTS

- November 26 Kingston Koin Klub Annual Banquet and Show, La Salle Hotel, Kingston, Ontario. Guest Speaker, films, auction, prizes and trophies for best displays. Three draws: 1st. 25 silver dollars; 2nd. a spade Sovereign; 3rd. $\frac{1}{2}$ Sovereign.
- May 27, 28,
29, 1967 ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION Fifth Annual Convention, Kitchener, Ontario. Host: Waterloo Coin Society. General Chairman: General Chairman: John Shaw, P. O. Box 41, Waterloo, Ontario. Bourse Chairman; Philip Mueller, 239 Lancaster St. W., Kitchener, Ontario.

!!!! MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME AGAIN !!!!

Please complete the enclosed Renewal Membership Application, and return it in the enclosed self-addressed envelope. Avoid the rush -- do it early.

OTHER SERVICE DIRECTORS

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Frank G. Uttley,
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The ONTARIO NUMISMATIST IS published monthly by the Ontario Numismatic Association. The publication may be obtained with memberships of one of the following categories: Regular members -- \$2 yearly; Juniors -- \$1 yearly (up to 18 years of age); Husband and Wife (One journal -- \$3 yearly; Club -- \$10 yearly. Special O. N. A. Sterling Silver Lapel Pins (screw back or pin back only \$2.50.

Remittances (plus bank exchange if paid by cheque) payable to the Ontario Numismatic Association, P. O. Box 33, Waterloo, Ontario.

Authorized as second class mail by the Post Office Department, Ottawa, and for payment of postage in cash.

CLUB NEWS

BRANTFORD COIN CLUB held their sixth annual banquet on October 16th, at the Hotel Kirby. Guest speaker was Mr. Fred Jewett of Willowdale, Ontario. Mr. Jewett is editor and librarian of the Canadian Paper Money Society.

BAY OF QUINTE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION held their fourth annual Coin-O-Rama, October 15th, at the Kiwanis Centre, Belleville, Ontario. The event featured competitive and non-competitive displays, bourse and 100-lot auction.

CENTRAL COIN CLUB recently held a semi-annual Central Coin Show at the Westbury Hotel, Toronto. Featured was a Chubb-Mosler and Taylor safe which contained fifty Canadian silver dollars. Anyone that could open the combination of the safe would have been allowed to keep the contents. No one was able to accomplish the feat and the silver dollars are being held over until the spring show. Exhibitor winners are as follows: Canadian - 1st. Del Curtis; 2nd. Mrs. L. Thompson; 3rd. Mrs. T. O'Brien. Foreign - 1st. Vice Doran 2nd. Fred Ruby; 3rd. Lea Ajoub. Paper Money - 1st. Tom O'Brien; 2nd. Mrs. L. Thompson. Medals and Tokens - 1st. Bert Wooning; 2nd. Aegean Coins Ltd.; 3rd. John Cloran. Miscellaneous - 1st. Wayne Thompson; 2nd. Ricky Morse. Fifteen inch high first prize trophies were given out in each of the five categories in addition to first, second and third prize ribbons. Every exhibitor received an "Exhibitor's" ribbon in appreciation of taking the time to make up a display for the SHOW.

HAMILTON COIN CLUB was attended by twenty-seven members and guests in September, the first meeting of the fall season. Mrs. Dorte Brace delivered a paper on "The Coinage of the Danish West Indies" which she illustrated with a number of selected coins from her own collection. She divided the coinage into five groups. Of particular interest are the counterstamped issues of the period 1848 - 1859 which were so treated to meet the demand for small change. The counterstamp consisted of an incuse monogram "FR/VII" and appeared on a wide variety of foreign coins. This coinage is of particular interest to U. S. A. collectors since the islands were purchased by the U. S. A. in 1917.

HURONIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION has sixty-five members and guests in attendance for their September meeting. This was the 6th anniversary meeting and one that the club will remember for many years to come. Birthday cake (made and donated by Mrs. Noreen Howcroft) and coffee were served during the judging of displays. Display winners were: Junior - 1. Greg Kline; 2. Steven Howcroft. Canadian Decimal - 1. Bob Scruton; 2. Walter Schultz; Miscellaneous - 1. Bob Swan; 2. Mrs. Noreen Howcroft. Foreign - 1. Howard Johnson; 2. Ron Faber. U. S. A. Decimal - 1. Bob Scruton. H. N. A. is losing one of its foremost members; Mr. Ken Prophet is moving to Camp Petawawa.

INGERSOLL COIN CLUB held their first meeting in September after the summer recess. Twenty-five members and guests enjoyed slides and commentary by Alan Macnab of a trip he and his wife took to Vancouver and Victoria, up the east coast of Vancouver Island, and then by ferry to Prince Rupert, through the Rockies from Jasper to Banff. Numismatic interest was a display of British Columbian and Albertan medals and tokens.

KITCHENER COIN CLUB held their 3rd Coin Show, October 2nd. at the Walper Hotel. There were competitive and non-competitive displays, prize draws hourly, bourse and a giant silver dollar draw. Display winners were: Canadian - 1. Mr. Soupel. Gold - Pierre Schoos, Woodstock. U. S. A. - Albert Fuller, Kitchener. Foreign - Alan Macnab, Ingersoll. Miscellaneous - Percy Elgie, Thamesford. Paper Money - Gordon Gray, Thamesford. Best of Show (Medals) - Franklin Smith, St. Pauls. People's Choice - Mr. Sawatzky, Vineland.

LONDON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY had sixty-one members and guests present at the September 6th meeting. "Canadian Centennial Numismatic Park" at Sudbury was featured at this meeting with Tom Masters, President, giving the commentary and showing coloured slides with displays being set up by Dennis McFadden and Paul Masters. Mr. Pyron Swayze reported on the

conventions of the A. N. A. and C. N. A. both held in August. Mr. Swayze was presented with the 25-year medal of the A. N. A. at Chicago.

OAKVILLE COIN CLUB Opened their fall session with a relatively small group in attendance but all participated enthusiastically. Mr. Ed Schroeder told the club of the A. N. A. and C. N. A. conventions held in August and displayed the trophy he won at the C. N. A. The club is deeply saddened by the passing of its founder and first president, Mr. Ed. Schroeder, while visiting his mother in his native Switzerland. Fondly known to everyone as "Ed", he will be missed. Nowhere was there to be found a more willing worker, advisor and friend.

SARNIA NUMISMATIC SOCIETY in September, held an open discussion on "Why I Belong to a Coin Club". Fifty percent of the members in attendance stated they attended meetings for the social aspects. Twenty-five percent wanted to learn more of the hobby while only one was there for financial gain. Through the efforts of Phil Pratt, the club has received permission to set up a permanent display in the City Hall. The display will feature numismatic material pertaining to Sarnia and district and will be the clubs project for the Centennial year.

ST. CATHARINES COIN CLUB held their 7th Annual banquet, October 15 at the Queensway Hotel.

ST. THOMAS NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION proudly announces that their club membership is higher by two members than it was a year ago. Other clubs have noted sharp declines, so this club deserves Congratulations! The club is featuring a display night in December for its members.

THISTLETOWN COIN CLUB is planning an interesting and educational evening for October 11. President Ron Scovell, long time naturalist and more recently a wildlife photographer will be speaking on the "Wildlife of Canada's Centennial Coinage" and will be illustrated by slides.

WATERLOO COIN SOCIETY featured coloured slides and a White Elephant Auction at the October meeting.

TORONTO COIN CLUB. "Numismatics and the Computer" was the subject of the talk given by Librarian, Mr. Paul Petch. This interesting topic touched off a lively discussion on the application of computers to our hobby of coin collecting.

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IT CAN BE DONE

This year, the Grand Award for the best display at the London Numismatic Society's Annual Banquet went to a junior member for the first time. Master Paul Masters was presented with the award for his fine exhibit about the Canadian Centennial Numismatic Park. The display contained numismatic material in the form of the Centennial Park medallions, plus other items relating to the monuments in the park, workings of the model mine and to the formation and a number of coloured slides on a lighted stand for viewing. We of the O. N. A. would like to congratulate you, too Paul, on such a fine effort.

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!!!! MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME AGAIN !!!!

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CHRISTMAS GIVING SUGGESTIONS

Are you looking for something for someone special? Something that will be appreciated yet will not play havoc with your wallet? Why not try some of the following useful, practical, economical and appreciative gifts that will be used and enjoyed the whole year through?

1. A membership in the O. N. A. for someone in the family or a numismatic-minded friend. Even juniors enjoy and profit from our hobby. A renewal for the one who is already a member. Prices appear on the inside page of every Ontario Numismatist.
2. For the O. N. A. member a lapel pin of the Association's crest; available for either men or women. Price is only \$2.50. Why not combine a membership or renewal and a pin. These are sterling silver and available to members only.
3. How about O. N. A. medals? There are still a few 1964 silver medals of the convention in Ottawa available. Some bronze and silver medals from the 1965 convention in London. Or the 1966 medals from the Windsor convention. Prices as follows:

Bronze - \$3.50;
(in plastic - \$4.75)

Sterling silver - \$6.00
(in plastic - \$7.50)

Bronze and silver together in plastic - \$11.00

Any one, or group of the above may be had by sending a money order to:
Ontario Numismatic Association, P. O. Box 33, Waterloo, Ontario.

ACT FAST!!! ACT NOW!!! ACT FAST!!! ACT NOW!!!

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IN MEMORIUM

It is with deepest regret that we announce the demise of a friend and co-worker Mr. Edward Herman Schroeder of Oakville. Born in Switzerland over sixty years ago, Mr. Schroeder has lived in Oakville for the past forty years and become a recognized figure in the numismatic field. His unsurpassed collection of Swiss coinage, and shooting medals has won recognition in local, provincial and dominion competition. Mr. Schroeder was a member of the American, Canadian and Ontario Numismatic Associations as well as numerous local clubs and societies. In 1961, Mr. Schroeder started the Oakville Coin Club and was its first president and in 1963 was made Honorary President. In the spring of 1966 he joined the staff of the O. N. A. as director. As recently as August 26, Mr. Schroeder took top honours for his medals at the C. N. A. convention in Winnipeg.

Mr. Schroeder returned to Switzerland to visit his ailing mother and died there, October 26. He leaves to mourn, his wife Janet, six sons and one daughter, plus a multitude of friends. Memorial services were held in St. John's United Church, Oakville, October 29, 1966.

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Winner of the competition for designs for the 1967 Canadian Centennial coins was Alex Colville, 45, of Sackville, N. B. who was awarded \$9,000 for his set of designs. Four other entries in the competition were awarded honorable mention and prizes of \$3,000 each. They are Rolan Guilbault of Jonquiere, Que., Eric Aldwinckle of Toronto, Arthur Price of Cyrville, and the late Elizabeth Wyn Wood of Willowdale, Ont.

THE TORONTO GENERAL HOSPITAL - AND
THE UPPER CANADA PRESERVED MEDAL

by Mr. H. A. Craig

- ‡ CCLIX R. W. McLachlan -- A Descriptive Catalogue.....
- ‡ 57 and 58 P. N. Breton -- Guide Populaire Illustré.....
- ‡ 866 and 866a J. Leroux -- Le Medaillier du Canada.....

On 18th June, 1912, President Madison of the United States declared war and on 11th of the following month, General Hull invaded Canada from Detroit. Three months later, General Van Rensselaer crossed the Niagara River to the Canadian side at Queenston. Here the Canadian leader, General Brock was killed.

The invasion caused distress to residents along the frontier, especially when military operations required the burning of public buildings, (as at the old and new capitals, Newark and York), and many private residences. Besides -

"...the Militia had neither arms nor cloathing. The first attention of their gallant leader, after arming them at the expence of the enemy...was to provide cloathing suitable to the severity of the then approaching season."

Whereupon the Loyal and Patriotic Society of Upper Canada was formed not only to supply clothing to the troops and to relieve wartime distress but also to commemorate conspicuous bravery by the bestowal of medals. Anxious that none of their medals should fall into "unworthy hands", the Society invited recommendations from the Adjutant General, but the list of recipients he proposed included so many names as to be hopelessly unrealistic in the light of the funds available.

During the war, the Society acquired 62 gold and 550 silver medals from the WYON firm at a cost of £944/8/10 Halifax currency, (£850. stg.) They had spent £12.685 on relief of the wounded and in partial recompense for war losses and the balance remaining £212 Hfx was donated to an institution formed to aid "strangers in distress". That was in 1817. Two years later an additional £4.000 stg. was received from London. The latter amount was granted to what later became Toronto General Hospital.

General Hospital

To fiery patriots on the frontier, this gift to the Hospital seemed like wanton waste. More, the Directors of the Society had flinched from deciding what to do with the medals. The fiery patriots knew what should be done, namely - issue all that were on hand and order more. Year by year, the press grew more strident in accusation and innuendo. Finally, the Legislature chimed in, in stately prose, during the early months of 1840.

Exasperated beyond endurance, the Society promptly melted the medals down and added the proceeds to the Hospital grant. Somehow, one gold and two silver medals could not be accounted for. When, in 1869, Benson J. Lossing illustrated and described one of the two varieties, it was assumed that he had access to an original. But restrikes began to come on the market. In 1911 W. S. Coutts acquired the dies from the medallists and had one hundred, in silver, struck off and serially numbered. Sprink and Son described the transaction and offered the restrikes on behalf of the owner, at a descending scale of prices. The restrikes are not uncommon, but, for some reason, Breton 57 (Leroux 866) turns up much more frequently than its twin. And-alas! ---in spite of the anxiety of the original Society the medals fall into "unworthy hands". One specimen is even in the unworthy hands of the compiler of this little summary.

NOTE: Toronto Coin Club Bulletin, September 1966.