



# THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIST

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

WATERLOO, ONTARIO

1969 - 1971

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## COLLECTING CANADIAN COINS

For many years, after the rebirth of interest in 1954, the Canadian Decimal series gained in popularity and this was reflected in prices asked and obtained. This continued until the early 1960's, when speculators started manipulating prices and reached its climax in 1965 when many fly-by-night dealers and outright speculators went out of business leaving a bad taste in most tyro-collectors mouths. Since that date the interest in Canadian decimals has declined and this has been reflected in the prices which are usually governed by the law of supply and demand. The decision of the Government of Canada to debase our attractive coinage by striking them in pure nickel has accelerated the lack of interest in Canada's coinage.

Many numismatists who have this inexorable mania of collecting have switched to tokens, medals, paper money and oddities. By review prices realized in auction sales during the past year, will convince you that the law of supply and demand has pushed up the prices in the above items. The C.N.A. auction held in Toronto from Aug. 28-30 lists 1805 lots made up of 1,005 of paper money, tokens, medals and other than coins. Of the 800 lots remaining only 537 are Canadian and the balance other coinage. What a change from 1967 or any year before that.

One collector who switched from Canadian coins to tokens informed me that he derives twice the pleasure from tokens because the history behind each and every token is far more interesting to him. One collector of war medals can now tell you the names of most winners of the V.C. and the story behind every inscribed medal he has in his collection. Regardless of your present urge to collect, rest assured that there are many other facets of numismatics that may revive your interest if it tends to become jaded. They say variety is the spice of life but, very often our financial limitations prevent us from becoming too varied in our field of Numismatics. I do hope you can find the variety that will hold your interest in the hobby.

Arms or Ensigns Armorial of Canada is one phase of the hobby that is very interesting. In 1921 these



DISCOVERY IS SATISFACTIONBy Ricky Morse

According to a recent survey the interest in varieties in Canadian coinage is rapidly increasing in every section of the country including the Yukon. The dollar coin, has, of course, taken the lead, but collectors have also expressed interest in the cent through to the dollar coins of both 1968 and 1969. Dealers are offering to buy or sell "with island" and "without island" dollar coins in their ads in numismatic publications and many of these dealers really know little, or nothing, about the coin except that it either has, or has not, the all-important bit of the "island". Few of these dealers belong to any association that makes a study of varieties, and are mainly interested in one thing only...how to make a "fast buck". (One dealer's actual words).

It would pay the average collector to first make a "study" of all Canadian dollar coins...both silver and nickel. There are a great many new varieties to be found. Why pay the extra money when a few minutes with a good power-glass may show you a few varieties beyond your wildest dreams? Members of the Canadian Numismatic Variety Collectors Association have found far more varieties in the dollar coins than those listed in the regular catalogues. The 1947 dollar in the three main varieties may be seen with the naked eye, these are the 1947 (blunt 7), 1947 (pointed 7) and the 1947 maple leaf. Then there are the 1952 silver dollars "with water lines" and "without water lines"...also clearly seen with the naked eye.

In 1953 we had the "wire edge" and "flat border" silver dollars, and in 1950 and 1955 the "Arnprior" type to look for and purchase. As the story goes, in 1957 the silver dollar had only "one water line"(if you were lucky enough to find it). Then, in 1965, the silver dollar "really went to town" with, not one, but five different varieties, and the dealers really "lined" their pockets. It was this year of 1965 that almost ruined the wonderful hobby of numismatics and coin collecting, In 1967 we heard of the "diving goose" and the "double-headed" goose, not to mention several other varieties of like-nature.

It really makes one wonder what "variety" will appear next. Personally, I study and collect varieties for the fun of it, and truly feel thrilled when I "discover" one that is hard to find, or has not been reported. Hans Zoell, the Canadian "error and variety" expert says that "to ignore the fact of existence, is to defy reality", and he is correct. Yet through the years, especially since 1965, a great number of varieties have been "found" in our Canadian coinage that have not been acknowledged by certain so-called numismatists.

The joy and knowledge that comes with the study of errors and varieties cannot be purchased from any dealer, and the satisfaction of finding your own varieties on your own coins is truly another form of happiness in the modern numismatic world of to-day.

(Thanks, Ricky, get well soon)

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THE DEMISE OF THE HA'PENNY

The funeral of Britain's half penny ocured on July 31st, 1969, joining the farthing and half-farthing in the metallic graveyard reserved for inflation victims. With prices rising so fast the half penny by itself, won't buy anything except a postage stamp, and even that is beginning to be something of the past. As it ceases to be legal tender about one billion discs will gradually disappear. Killing the half-penny makes it easier for Britain to introduce decimal coinage in 1971.

Letter From Arthur Honour, Director Area 2

P.O. Box 325, Station B,  
Hamilton, Ontario  
July 31, 1969

Mr. Don Flick, President O.N.A.,  
1523 Constance Drive,  
OAKVILLE, Ontario

Dear Don:

It is with most sincere regret that I must offer my resignation as an Area Director of the Ontario Numismatic Association, effective August 31, 1969.

Because of several recent and unexpected developments not related to numismatics I have, after some serious consideration, decided that in order to make the most of certain opportunities I must move to British Columbia at the end of August.

I shall certainly miss my friends in the O.N.A., but I expect to remain active in Numismatics and trust that I will not lose touch entirely.

I will not be leaving until after the C.N.A. convention in Toronto in August, so I hope to have the opportunity to say "au revoir" to you and others personally at that time.

Sincerely,

Signed: W. Arthur Honour.

(From Ye Ed-All the best, Arthur, best of luck to a nice guy, will miss you personally as well as numismatically.)

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COIN COLLECTORS DEMAND VOICE AT CANADIAN MINT

BY AARON ROBERT

Many Canadian coin collectors have been expressing their disappointment at the absence of numismatic representation on the new board of directors of the Royal Canadian Mint.

Under recent legislation the Mint was set up as a crown corporation reporting directly to the minister of supply and services. A six man board of directors was created, with three members to come from the government and three from the public. No provision was made for a numismatic voice to be heard on the board. The three non-government board members, to be named shortly, will be specialists in metallurgy, small foundry plant operations and business finance.

The government representatives are Ernest F. Brown, acting mint master, A.H. Hockin, deputy minister of finance and Robert Keith assistant deputy minister(finance) supply and services. Chairman of the board is Gordon Hunter.

The general feeling among coin collectors is that a numismatic representative on the board would present collector views on the composition, quality and distribution of coins, especially those in the specimen sets struck for collectors. Since nickel replaced silver in Canadian coins last year, there have been many complaints from collectors regarding deterioration in the quality of specimen sets. Several prominent Canadian numismatists have privately expressed an interest in being a consultant to the mint board if they could not be a participating member. Overtures have been made to appropriate federal officials but to date no replies have been received.

(Thanks to Ervar Digest)

NEWS AROUND THE COIN CLUBS

CHAMPLAIN COIN CLUB-

The Orillia Club recently had a visit from the retail sales tax inspector when he inspected their books. He stated that everyone must pay the sales tax on coins bought at an auction or sign a paper and put down their permit number. The editor of the Orillia club is happy to announce that their son James has returned from the Sick Children's Hospital and is doing fine after a kidney transplant. "Gord-Glad to hear the good news about James - The Lamberts"

HAMILTON COIN CLUB--

The last meeting was spent arranging for the fall show to be held at the Wentworth Arms, November 8. Bad news came when the President, Arthur Honour, announced that at the end of August he will be heading west to British Columbia to seek his fortune. All good wishes go with Arthur who will be sadly missed.

HURONIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION-

The great news out of Barrie is that they are going to host the 1970 O.N.A. Convention May 2 and 3, 1970. As it is also their 10th Anniversary this should be a great occasion and, while all the members realize the work involved they are ready to make it a success. All the best, Barrie.

KINGSTON COIN CLUB-

The last meeting was given over to plans for the Fall Show to be held October 18th. It will be a good way to get into work again. Hope to see you all there, Ye Ed. Yes, We hope to be on hand. Five trophies will be given for:-Best of Show, Best Canadian Miscellaneous Coins, Best Canadian Coins, Best Foreign Miscellaneous, Best Foreign Coins. There will also be a draw every hour.

LONDON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY-

The program at the last meeting was the O.N.A. Audio-Visual slides "What's My Coin" and various panels tried to guess coins from clues given by Lloyd Smith. The September meeting will feature a talk by Percy Elgie on the "Magdalen Island Penny" and he will display a nice specimen of this coin. Plans are all finalized for the Banquet and Auction on Saturday, Sept, 13th at the Carousel Motor Hotel. Come one, come all and enjoy yourselves.

ST. CATHARINES COIN CLUB-

The Club enjoyed a picnic during August when everyone seemed to have a good time. This was held in Burgoyne Woods and the pool was well patronized. This just about ends the summer fun and we hope all are ready for work next meeting in September.

TILLSONBURG NUMISMATIC SOCIETY-

The last meeting featured slides on the Canadian 5¢ Silver pieces. This was one of the new slides received recently by the O.N.A. from B.C. and was well worth seeing. Plans were discussed about the Show on October 19th and the bourse tables are just about gone.

WELLAND COIN CLUB--

Welland has a new meeting place to start activities for the Fall season at the YM-YWCA, 201 East Main Street. There is to be a good auction and it is hoped that the new season will be started out with a bang.

PROPOSED COIN SHOWS

To help clubs decide upon a coin show date that will not conflict with another club in its area we are listing below proposed dates that we now have on hand.

- Sept. 13 - London Numismatic Society 18th Annual Coin Exhibition, Banquet and auction at the Carousel Motor Hotel, 591 Wellington Road, London. Further enquiries to William N. Clarke, 167 Delaware St., London. Come prepared for a good time.
- Sept. 28 - Bluewater Annual International Coin Show. For latecomers the General Chairman is Norm Scott and the Bourse Chairman is Rudy Brill.
- Oct. 5 - Kitchener Coin Club Annual Auction and Coin Show. Chairman is Pat Collins, R.R.#2, Petersburg, Ontario.
- Oct. 18 - Kingston Coin Club Annual Show and Banquet at the Hockey Hall of Fame commencing at 1.00 p.m. Prizes will be given for Best of Show, Best Canadian Miscellaneous, Best Canadian Coins Best Foreign Miscellaneous and Best Foreign Coins. Bourse reservations from Fred Steele, 1480 Montreal St., Kingston.
- Oct 19 - Brantford Numismatic Society 9th Annual Banquet, Exhibition and Bourse. There will be 4 classes:-Canadian Coins, Foreign Coins (World), Miscellaneous and for the first time non-members will be able to exhibit. Also a Best of Show Trophy. Speaker-Dr. John S. Wilkinson and also judge the exhibits. More details next month.
- Oct. 19 - Tillsonburg Numismatic Society Seventh Annual Fall Show at the Orange Hall, Brock St, East Tillsonburg. Information re Bourse, Exhibits, Etc. contact Chas. B. Laister, R. R. # 3, Tillsonburg, Ontario.
- Oct. 25 - Windsor Coin Club Annual Show at the Norton-Palmer Hotel.  
& 26 Bourse dealers contact Carl Querbach, P.O. Box 173, Sandwich Post Office, Windsor 10, Ont. Show on Sunday from 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.
- Nov. 8 - Hamilton Coin Club Fall Show at the Wentworth Arms Hotel on Saturday. General Chairman-Lew Henderson; Bourse- Jake Speijer; Displays- Ross Wilby; Auction - Hans Rapedius. For information write- Hamilton Coin Club Fall Show Committee, P.O. Box 325, Station "B"., Hamilton, Ont,
- May 2 & 3- The Huronia Numismatic Association will host the 1970 C.N.A. Convention at Barrie. Notice well in advance so all clubs can arrange their shows accordingly. See article on next page re this occasion.

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FLASH -

The Canadian Numismatic Variety Collectors Association has now opened a printing office in Toronto and is busy printing advanced information and flyers about their Convention being held in the Westbury Hotel, Yonge St., April 11-12, 1970. Host Club is Central Coin Club. Additional information either from CNVCA, P.O. Box 91, Station "H", Toronto, Ont. OR Central Coin Club, The Secretary, 306 Jarvis St., Toronto, Ont. Either Club will be glad to supply details as to Bourse, Exhibits, Banquet, etc. if contacted.

Nov. 1 - One more coin Show to list- Oshawa Coin Club Ninth Annual Coin-A-Rama to be held in the Genosha Hotel, Oshawa from 11.00 a.m. to 11.00 p.m. Bourse tables available from Bourse Chairman - Bruce Watt, P.O. Box 212, Oshawa, Ontario

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May 2 and 3, 1970

The Huronia Numismatic Association will host the 1970 Convention of the O.N.A. at Barrie, Ontario. This will be a twin event; the 10th anniversary of the Huronia Numismatic Association, and the 8th Annual O.N.A. Convention. Dealers and interested persons are urged to get in touch with the Huronia Numismatic Association for further details regarding bourse tables and set-up.

Situated in the heart of Simcoe County, surrounded by picturesque lakes and parks, Barrie is the hospitality city of South Central Ontario. Visitors to the 1970 Convention will find Barrie easily accessible by taking either Highway 11 or Highway 400 straight north from Toronto. Road mileage from the heart of Toronto to Barrie is 67 miles. The Convention will be held at the Barrie Curling Club situated on the Essa Road, the first cloverleaf that enters the city going north from Toronto. Situated here and in close proximity to the Barrie Curling Club are two well planned motels, the Holiday Inn almost across the highway from the Curling Club and the Continental Inn, the next cloverleaf north on Highway 90. Several more motels and hotels together with many dining places will make your visit to Barrie enjoyable and memorable. Remember the date, May 2 and 3, 1970, the place-Barrie. Come one, come all.

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NEW ENGLAND MONEY BASIS OF VALUE AT CANSO

The following is a copy of a letter, which shows that New England Money was the basis of money or exchange used in Nova Scotia in the 1700's:-

"By virtue of an Order received from the Honourable Governor Armstrong and in obedience to his commands we the Subscribers have been on board the Schooner Mary Madlin within mentioned and according to the best of our knowledge and understanding finds her as she is found at this time, (after a strict and careful survey) to be worth ninety pounds New England money and no more. And it is further our opinion that the Master of the said Schooner shall receive for the vessells run from hence to the Isle of Sables, at her arrival here the sum of six pounds New England money in case she finishes the voyage with in the space of six days but if she cannot return here in less than ten days then the said Master is to receive ten pounds New England money but not to exceed that sum though she should not return in fifteen days."

Given under our hands at Canso the 24th Novemr 1725.

Phi Bamarisq    William Blyn    William Ellerey    George Green

Halifax Currency - The use of the New England money, rates of exhhange, particularly that of Massachusettes, by colonists in Nova Scotia eventually began to be called Halifax Currency.

The use of Halifax Currency, exchange rates, were finally passed by ordinances and legislative acts in 1777 and 1795.

(Thanks to Halifax Coin Club)

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You are a child of the universe, no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here. And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should.

NICKNAMES

An excerpt from "The Teach Yourself Guide to Numismatics"  
By C. C. Chamberlain.

Money being something so near and dear to the human heart, and entering so intimately into the daily affairs of life, it is only natural that the vocabulary of numismatics should include a number of unorthodox designations, nicknames, or slang terms, some slighting and some semi-humorous. This was the case with the Ancients, more especially so with the Greek coins with their bizarre devices. Thus we read of the "tortoises" or "turtles" of Aegina, the "colts" of Corinth, and the "archers" of Persia. We read in Plutach that the Spartan general Agesilaus complained he was driven out of Asia by ten thousand of the Great King's "archers", meaning, of course, that he was compelled to retreat by the chicanery of bribery and corruption. The drachmai of Athens, from the bird of Athena stamped on the reverse, were known as "owls", hence to take an "owl" to Athens was the proverbial equivalent in Ancient Greece of our phrase "to carry coals to Newcastle". Aristophanes jests with the name in his comedy "The Birds".

In modern times "quid", "bob", and "tanner" are used in everyday conversation almost as frequently as "pound", "shilling", and "sixpence". The derivations of such words are much disputed, and give endless amusement to those that delight in linguistic research. "Bob" was apparently a "bobstick", "bob" meaning "small" and "stick" suggests a German origin "stuck", a piece of money. "Tanner" is probably named from John Tanner, who was chief engraver to the Mint 1741-75. The sixpence was formerly known as a "simon" (perhaps from Acts ix, 43); John Tanner in 1738 counterfeited Simon's pattern coinage of Cromwell; hence the "simon" became popularly known as a "Tanner". There is little doubt that "joey" the Britannia great or silver fourpenny piece, was named from Joseph Hume, the Member of Parliament who urged its introduction in 1836, for use in paying short cab-fares. The name "joey" was given in derision to this coin by the London "cabbies"; they took exception to the coin, as small fares were paid by this in place of the sixpenny piece. A "jimmy o'goblin" was a gold sovereign, but the origin of this word and that of our modern "quid" is unknown. Amongst obsolete nicknames we find "hog", a word applied to coins of varying denominations, but the phrase "to go the whole hog" is still current, and is believed to be a gambling expression derived from this word. "Rhino" is a word occasionally met with in seventeenth-century literature, meaning money or cash, though the derivation is uncertain; thus Tom Brown, in "Letters from The Dead to the Living"; "windbound for want of the ready rhino". "Brass" is a current colloquialism for money; in Old English the Latin word "aes" was rendered "brass", hence in early literature "brass" became synonymous with "money". (Piers Plowman iii, 189, Matt. x.9.); the word in this sense persists in our slang of to-day.

The "bawbee", derivation uncertain; possibly so called from the Laird of Sillebawbee, a Master of the Mint; First struck in 1542, value six Scottish pennies, or one English halfpenny. It is used in modern Scottish dialect to signify the British halfpenny. The Bawbee was also known as a "babie"; hence the somewhat alarming statement made in a return of 1693 to the Presbytery of Lanark that the collections of the kirk included "two bad shillings, a thrie, and a babie".

For those who found some interest in the excerpt above, here is a list of a few more nicknames. Of course, there are many more, but here are a few; some being real coin denominations in one country or at one time, but used as slang in our country to-day.

How many of these do you know:- Dibs, shekels, spondulics, blint, brass, tin, rhino, jack, dough, lolly, sugar, salt, dosh, ackers, cof, mopus, boodle, soap, oil and grease. Also fiver, tenner, pony, monkey, grand, shiner, chip, bob, cartwheel, bit ( and multiples), buck, and expressions like snide and rap for counterfeit coins and slip, kite and flash note for forged notes. There are also expressions for money in general, such as pelf, lucre, filthy lucre, hard cash, spot cash, ready money, the best and for small amounts, pocket money or pin money. If you have made a packet or found the purse of Fortunatus, or, if you have feathered your nest or lined your pockets, or, are just in the process of opening the long purse, you may be able to add many words to this list.

(Thanks to London Numismatic Society Bulletin)

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Following is a letter received from O.N.A. member, Gerald Glasser, and is published herewith for the general interest of all club editors:-

116 Sanford Ave. N.,  
Hamilton, Ont.  
July 20, 1969

Dear Sir:

Just a few lines of what I hope will be helpful criticism. The enclosed notice I cut from the Ontario Numismatist-Quote- Sept. 28-Bluewater Annual International Coin Show. General Chairman- Norm Scott, Bourse Chairman-Rudy Brill, Display Chairman-Don McKelvie and Fred Harley-" Where is the Bluewater Show? What is the address of the General Chairman? Or of any one of the other chairmen for that matter. I do believe the O.N.A. should screen the bulletins and reprimand any publicity chairman who would send in a notice such as this.

Sincerely,  
Signed: Gerald Glasser O.N.A.#661

Editor's Note-

We agree partially with Mr. Glasser that there is not sufficient information as to addresses of the various chairmen. In this particular instance this was possibly an over-sight which is completely out of our hands. However, I do not feel that the O.N.A. is in any position to reprimand anyone for lack of information. Again I must draw attention to the note at the head of the proposed coin shows. We trust the various clubs will in future send Ye Ed all the necessary information regarding their shows.

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CASSANDRA SAYS

I propose, in the ensuing months or until your editor throws me out of the Bulletin, to bring the readers of the Bulletin, who are or should be, keen members of the numismatic hobby, items on controversial subjects.

I believe one of the first items for consideration should be the difference between those who are keen, interested, enthusiastic numismatists, or to use the modern idiom, coin collectors and those who in my humble opinion are not worthy of the name, because they have only entered the hobby for one reason and one reason only, which was, and again I quote, "to make a fast buck".

Now I am not decrying the fact that many of us have in the past, made ourselves a dollar or two in the exchange of coins. This is not what I mean at all. I am talking about the people who go to the bank each and every year and order \$400.00 or \$500.00 worth of the new coins

