



# THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIST

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## P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E

"LEST WE FORGET"

A strange way to start my message but most appropriate at this time. No I am not writing this for the November 11th issue but for the publication that I hope will be in your hands before our Convention at Woodstock.

"LEST WE FORGET"

The 1989 Mexican Fiesta Draw will be taking place shortly and there are some books of tickets that have not been turned in as yet. Will you get these tickets, stubs, and money back to me as soon as possible. The O.N.A., your Club and yourself can all benefit through the sale or purchase of these tickets.

"LEST WE FORGET"

This years Convention, being held at the Quality Inn at the intersection of Hwy 401 and Hwy 59, Woodstock will provide you an opportunity of attending a first class event away from the hustle and bustle of the big city. Try to attend and enjoy a day full of good conining.

"LEST WE FORGET"

Do not be disappointed by not ordering your O.N.A. Medallions now. If last year can be used as an example, several people were unable to obtain the Medallions they wanted and had to go to secondary market. (P.S. Does anyone have a 1988 O.N.A. Gold Plated Medallion for sale? Contact the President.)

"LEST WE FORGET"

To all Clubs this Message will reach. We hope you have appointed your Club Delegates for this year's Convention. The Club Delegate's Breakfast is where the most important part of the operation of the O.N.A. is discussed and a forum is provided for input by the Delegates. A Registration Package was sent to all Clubs and again we urge you to attend to this matter immediately if you have not already done so.

"LEST WE FORGET"

Now what was it that I forgot? Oh yes, I hope that we will meet at Convention and have a good chat. Don't you forget the dates!!

SATURDAY APRIL 22, AND SUNDAY APRIL 23  
QUALITY INN, WOODSTOCK.

Your President





To begin with, I would like to bring you an update on some of the programs that are being offered at this year's Convention in Woodstock on April 22-23.

Through the efforts of Ken Peers, our bus tour on Saturday morning will now stop at the historical Oxford County Court House and Jail, and a guided tour will be conducted. Tours are only allowed on week-days, but Ken has pulled a few strings for us. I'm hoping for a full bus load for this tour, so sign up as soon as you arrive either on Friday night or early Saturday morning.

Brian Cornwell, who is President of the International Coin Certification Service (I.C.C.S.), and well known writer for Canadian Coin News, will be conducting an Educational Forum at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday afternoon. I'm sure his topic will be of interest to us all, so plan to attend this event.

June Laxon of London will conduct a Ladies Fashion Show in the main lobby of the Quality Inn on Sunday at 1:30 p.m. This show could be a pleasant break for the ladies, and possibly the men too! Ladies - here's a chance to see what is being offered in fashion wear for 1989.

I hope you are planning to attend one or all of the above-mentioned events. There is no charge for any event. They are being planned for your enjoyment.

Have you PreRegistered for the Convention as yet?

Has your Club sent in their form for the Delegates Breakfast or the Wooden Money Breakfast?

What about the Banquet? I'm sure we will all want to hear what Guest Speaker Bruce Brace is telling us. Also, Mike Hollingshead is the Master of Ceremonies, and that could be worth half the price of your Banquet ticket. Have you ordered your Convention medals? Only 27 silver are being struck, and orders are on a first come basis. Leave your ordering until tomorrow and it could be too late.

All of these points I have discussed with you are very important issues that could affect future Conventions. I'm hoping you will consider all of them very carefully, and above all, plan to attend the Convention. These Conventions cost a considerable amount of money to hold, and all ways are explored on how to cut cost without sacrificing the success of the show. Convention locations want money up front when booking is being done. Medals have to be paid for before they are delivered, and many other costs have to be paid before our Convention date. Security is the biggest cost factor, and without it we could be a target for undesirables.

Many of our members and bourse dealers are reluctant to part with money for service and material offered in advance, and this puts a strain on the treasurer to pay the accounts when they come due. We explored the possibility of securing a sponsor but to no avail for 1989. Future Conventions could continue this exploration and get a head start now. Also, those who want a medal, delegates breakfast, preregistration, banquet, could help our cash flow by ordering and paying for those services now.

These Conventions are planned with you in mind, help us to continue to plan for Conventions in the Future.

T. Masters

COVER

Collecting Canadian Commemorative dollars is on the increase among today's hobbyists.

1935 saw the first Canadian Commemorative dollar, and six were issued up to 1967.

The 1935 issue was to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the reign of King George V.

In 1939 Their Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth visited Canada and Canada's second Commemorative was issued.

In 1949 Newfoundland entered into Confederation of Canada, and to mark the occasion a third Commemorative was issued.

In 1858 British Columbia became a British Crown Colony, and to commemorate this Anniversary, in 1958 a fourth Commemorative dollar was minted.

Six years later, to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Quebec-Charlottetown conferences of the Fathers of Confederation, a fifth dollar was issued.

From those conferences in 1864, Upper and Lower Canada and two of the Maritime Provinces joined into Confederation and became the Dominion of Canada, and to commemorate this event, a sixth Commemorative dollar was issued in 1967.

In 1968, the silver was removed from our coinage and the popularity of the dollar suffered. Commemorative collecting was becoming popular, and the Canadian Mint realized that to keep the hobby alive, and to help balance their books, they should continue to issue Special Commemorative Silver Dollars. These dollars were not available through the banks, but only by ordering from the Mint. They commanded far more than their face value, and they became a boon to the hobby.

For those who cannot afford to own a complete collection of Canadian Silver dollars, the Commemorative series became affordable. These dollars today cover a wide spectrum of events that make up our history, and most dollars are easily obtainable from coin shops and dealers.

Let's just briefly review the 1958 Commemorative dollar. I said earlier that was the 100th Anniversary of British Columbia becoming a British Crown Colony, but it also was the 100th Anniversary of the gold rush. So this dollar serves two



COVER (CONT'd)

purposes. Stephen Trenka was the designer of the coin, but how many know where to find his initials? If you look closely at the base of the Totem Pole you will find the initials S.T. Now, how many know of the meaning of the Totem Pole? There have been many legends and myths told about these Poles, some truth, others never proven.

It is appropriate that the Totem Pole was chosen as the main feature of the dollar. These Poles used to be a very common sight in the Indian villages, dotting the coast of British Columbia. They are known throughout the world, and are considered by many to be unsurpassed by any other form of aboriginal art.

Many of the figures on the Poles represent fish, birds, or animals, and there were numerous reasons why the Indians carved and erected them. Some were erected as a monument to a chief after his death, and others to commemorate Indian historical events. Often they depicted myths or tribal traditions, and were looked upon with reverence.

It was not until the beginning of the 19th Century that the early explorers described in detail the various forms of Indian Art and the Totem Poles. After the beginning of the 20th Century, the custom of carving and etching Totem Poles began to peter out.

When these dollars were released it was rumored that they would become very unpopular with the Indian population because the main feature on the Pole was the Raven. It has been said that the Raven was a symbol of death and for this reason the Indians would have nothing to do with the coin.

Those who have studied Indian legends have said that the Raven has never been singled out as being a horrifying and obnoxious creature. Did people get carried away with the writings of Edgar Allen Poe?

When the new dollar was released in 1958 they sold like wildfire. Banks couldn't keep up with demands, and prices soared. Seven dollars in 1958 was a lot of money for a new dollar, but when the Mint issued the mintage of over three million coins, prices dropped considerably. This three million was a record amount of dollars ever produced up to that time, the previous high being in 1953 when one million, seven hundred thousand were issued.



COVER (CONT'D)

Very few Totem Poles remain standing in their natural habitat today, but we have the 1958 Totem Pole dollar (as it is affectionately called), to remind us of some of our past history.

T. Masters

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LOTS TO SEE AND DO ON FOOT IN QUEBEC CITY

by Jerry Remick



Quebec City offers the visitor a vast array of museums, old churches, a fort, historical sights, statues, old houses and buildings, picturesque streets lined with boutiques, restaurants and outdoor cafes, and a lovely historic city to explore. All of these sights are within walking distance of the 1989 C.N.A. Convention site at the Convention Center in the Quebec Hilton Hotel.

Some of the more outstanding attractions will be briefly described below so that those planning to attend the Convention (July 26-30, 1989) can allow adequate time to see what interests them without missing out on Convention events. At least two full days can be spent exploring Quebec City on foot and seeing the sights. I would advise allowing time for a mid-morning break and also a mid- or late-afternoon break for refreshments at an outdoor cafe to catch the flavor of the city and its inhabitants.

All the sights mentioned below are described in the 144 page booklet entitled "TOURIST GUIDE --QUEBEC CITY REGION" and are located on the "TOURIST MAP --QUEBEC CITY REGION", both of which will be sent at your request. free of charge, by writing Office du Tourisme, 60 rue D'Auteuil, Quebec, Quebec, G1R 4C4. Data on hotels and motels are given in the booklet. Versions in French of the booklet and map are available. A 66 page booklet ("LES RESTAURANTS") listing and describing the many fine restaurants in the Quebec City area is available on request. A new 40 page bilingual entitled "LIVING STONES OF OLD QUEBEC" describes religious sites and monuments with an index map showing the location of each.

Several books and booklets, in both French and in English on the historical sights of Quebec City are available at Librairie Garneau on rue Buade Street (near City Hall).

Visit the Tourist Bureau, at 60 rue D'Auteuil, as they have a big selection of free brochures on sights to see, restaurants and tours. They can also get you a room at the price you wish to pay. There is another Tourist Bureau in the Place D'Armes, just below the Chateau Frontenac Hotel.

LOTS TO SEE IN QUEBEC CITY (CONT'D)

It is best to start off with a three hour bus tour of Quebec City as it will orient you and give you the general locations of most of the sights discussed below. A city bus tour is on the C.N.A. program for Wednesday morning, July 26th. Guided walking tours of parts of Quebec City are scheduled for Thursday morning, July 27th, and Saturday afternoon, July 29th. Not all places mentioned below will be covered in these two walking tours.

A 45 minute tour of part of Quebec City and the Plains of Abraham in a horse drawn carriage large enough for 4 people starts next to the Tourist Bureau on D'Auteuil Street, just two blocks from the Convention Center. French and English speaking drivers are available. It costs \$45, so it is best to share the costs with another person.

Quebec City is best seen on foot at a leisurely pace. It is very compact as most of the walking is in the old walled city. The favorite evening or Sunday afternoon stroll for Quebecers is along Rue St. Jean, starting at D'Youville Square and then turning to your right along Cote de la Fabrique past City Hall, onto Rue Buade and then via Rue du Tresor with its many paintings hanging on the walls of the buildings, up to the 433 meter long boardwalk (Dufferin Terrace) next to the Chateau Frontenac. A magnificent view of the St Lawrence River and its south shore awaits you here.

One can continue along the boardwalk and climb the stairs to the Plains of Abraham. However, a more interesting choice is to take the Funicular (a small outdoor elevator) down the cliffs to see Place Royale, the Old Port Area and the large variety of gift shops along Rue Petit Champlain.

In 1608, Samuel de Champlain erected the first buildings in Place Royale. Today, a number of reconstructed 17th and 18th century homes can be visited, some of them with historical displays. There are also free guided tours in English and in French of this area.

From Place Royale it is only a two block walk to the ferry boat for Levis. This short ride across the St. Lawrence River affords an excellent view of Quebec City and the cliffs below. Stay on the ferry for the return to Quebec City.

Its only a two block walk to the Plains of Abraham from the Convention Center. Stroll through the colorful Jean d'Ark flower garden and in the same area visit the two Martello Towers built to defend Quebec City in 1808-1811, and see the pictorial exhibits inside. Return via Rue Grande Allee and view the one block of some of Quebec's top restaurants, outdoor cafes, bars and discos. This one block long strip is jammed with "the beautiful people" each evening.

An excellent view of Quebec City is available from the 31st floor of the Government Building G, just two blocks from the Convention Center. For lunch, try the Astral, a revolving restaurant on the top of the Loews Concorde Hotel, for a superb view of the area.

The changing of the guard at the Citadel, daily at 10:00 a.m. followed by a tour of the Citadel grounds and the war museum is colorful and a must.

The small historical display on the limestone walls of the old Esplanade Powder Magazine, just downhill from the Citadel is worth a few minutes visit. From there, climb up the stairs onto the top of the City's walls and go downhill two blocks to Artillery Park

LOTS TO SEE IN QUEBEC CITY (CONT'D)

with its three museums, including a British Army Officer's quarters. The Park once housed French and then British soldiers, and during World War II munitions were manufactured there.

Stroll through the lovely old lobby of The Chateau Frontenac, a hotel dating back nearly a century.

Take a free guided tour of Quebec's Parliament Buildings, given in both English and in French.

Visit the J. A. Moisan grocery store on Rue St. Jean for some late 19th and early 20th century atmosphere.

The following old churches, all within a short walking distance of each other, are open to the public during the day: Notre Dame des Victoires in Place Royale, The Anglican Cathedral of the Holy Trinity built in 1804, Notre Dame Basilica, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church and the chapel of the Ursuline Sisters, a real gem.

There are a number of museums, some of them free, and most with displays of historical interest. The Musee de la Civilisation opened in 1988.

A giant map of Quebec City with small wooden models for each home and building can be viewed in City Hall.

The Musee du Vieux Port, a federal government museum, displays materials shipped out of Quebec Ports during the past few centuries.

The Musee de Quebec on the Plains of Abraham has a varied selection of paintings and religious objects.

The four floors of the Musee du Seminaire de Quebec has displays of European and Quebec paintings and engravings, religious objects, oriental art, and a numismatic collection. A guided tour is scheduled for C.N.A. visitors on Friday afternoon, July 28th. This museum is not to be missed.

The Battle of the Plains of Abraham at which the French lost Quebec City to the British in 1759, is reinacted in miniature in the sound and light show in the Musee du Vieux Fort. There are alternating half hour performances in English and in French.

The Musee des Augustines has a small display of old medical instruments used in the Hospital de Dieu during the past few centuries, antique furniture used in the 350 year old Augustine Convent and religious artworks including hand embroidered priests vestments.

Hand embroidered priests vestments and other works of art by the Ursuline Nuns, paintings and prints, and also furniture from the 350 year old Ursuline Convent are on display on the two floors of the Musee des Ursulines. Not to be missed and be sure to see their chapel after.

The Musee du Royal 22 Regiment at the Citadel features a large display of military items used during various recent wars, medals and photographs.

The Voutes du Palais (The Palaca Vaults), with foundations dating back to 1716, has an interesting display of Quebec City's history on its limestone walls.

The exhibits in the Fornel House in Place Royale date back to the time of Champlain.

120 life size wax figures of important figures in Quebec's history are on display at the Historical Wax Museum.

There is also a zoo and an aquarium to visit.

A number of streets, all close by, are good for souvenir shopping. Small wooden statues, paintings and etchings of Quebec City and other scenes, as well as ceramics, jewelery, pottery, leather goods, and clothing all made by Quebec artisans offer a

LOTS TO SEE IN QUEBEC CITY (CONT'D)

wide selection of souvenirs. They are best displayed in the many small stores on Rue Petit Champlain. A number of artisans have small outdoor stalls next to the Anglican Cathedral.

Paintings and etchings of Quebec City are displayed on the walls of the buildings lining Rue du Tresors.

Rue Baude and Cote de la Fabrique are good places to shop for imported china, glassware and expensive clothing.

The Maison des Vins (The Wine House) in Place Royale has fancy bottles not available at other government liquor outlets in Quebec City.

Have your portrait done, either a serious one or a comic one, by one of a number of artists outdoors on Rue St. Anne, just below the Chateau Frontenac.

All of Quebec City's restaurants have inexpensive complete meals at noontime. For a treat, have lunch at one of Quebec's gourmet restaurants. A priced menu is posted in the window of each restaurant.

The following illustrated soft covered books on Quebec City are available at Librairie Garneau on Rue Buade: "AN HISTORICAL GUIDE TO QUEBEC" by Yves Tessier, "LET'S TAKE A HISTORICAL WALK IN OLD QUEBEC" by Gilles Lorrain; and "LIEUX ET MONUMENTS HISTORIQUES DE QUEBEC ET ENVIRONS" by Rodolphe Fournier. French versions of the first two books are available.

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O.N.A. 27th ANNUAL BOOKLET

With this issue the O.N.A. has included a copy of the 27th Annual Convention Souvenir Booklet. Cost of producing this booklet is in excess of \$2.00. We hope that you will take note of all the articles included, and to note all those who took out an ad. Those who take out these ads are asking for your patronage, so if the need arises we hope you will consider those who helped to make our booklet something special.

My thanks to all those who took out an ad, to the printer who produced the booklet, and to Tom Kostaluk for all his work in selling advertisements, and colating and editing the publication. We hope Tom's efforts are enjoyable, educational, and profitable to all.

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DATES TO REMEMBER:

April 28 & 29, 1990 - O.N.A. 28th Annual Convention  
 Holiday Inn, Kitchener, Ontario  
 Host Club - Waterloo Coin Society  
 P.O. Box 41, Waterloo, Ontario  
 N2J 3Z6

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- Every Second Sunday (The Ottawa Coin and Stamp Dealers Association presents a show on the second Sunday of each month at the Nepean Sportsplex, on Woodsroofe Ave. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Admission free. For info: write Allan Davis. Box 307, Carp, Ontario, KOA 1L0
- April 9 Kent County Coin Show, 10:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m. Best Western Wheels Inn, 615 Richmond St., Chatham. Info: Lou Wage naer. 109 King St. W., Chatham, N7M 1E2.
- April 15 & October 14 (Hamilton Coin Club Coin Show, Royal Canadian Legion, (Branch 58, 1180 Barton St. E., 9:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m. Free (Admission. Info: Hamilton Coin Club, P.O. Box 9271, (Stoney Creek, L8G 3X9.
- April 22-23 O.N.A. 27th Annual Convention & Show - Quality Inn, Woodstock, Junction of Hwys 59 & 401. Host Clubs - Ingersoll. Tillsonburg, and Woodstock. Limited number of Bourse Tables still available. Bruce Brace pf Ancaster tje Banquet Speaker on Saturday evening, April 22. Tours-Educational Forum- Wooden Money Breakfast, and Auction Saturday, April 22, 8:30 a.m. Admission \$1.00. Info: Chairman T. Masters, 823 Van St., London. Ont. N5Z 1M8, (519) 438-2402.
- April 30 The Windsor Coin Club Spring Show, K of C Hall, 1140 Goyeau St., Windsor. Free Admission. Hours 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Info: Gary Stamcoff (519)253 5494.
- April 30 & December 3 (Metro Toronto Coin Exhibition (M.T.C.E.) Bond Place Hotel, 65 Dundas St. E., Toronto. Hours 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Admission \$2.00 30 Bourse Dealers. Free Grading and Numismatic advice. Info: Ingrid K. Smith, (416)920 6461 or 1 (416) 586 0098.
- May 5-7 Expo Niagara - Skylon Tower, Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada's largest Coin, Stamp, and Card Show - 150 Dealers expected. Info: Expo Niagara, 165 King St.. Welland, Ontario, L2B 3J4.
- May 13 Victoria Simcoe Coin Club - 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Rebecca Hall, Cannington. Banquet 6:30 p.m. Info: Elmer Workman, R.R. #2, Cannington, LOE 1E0.
- May 27 Oshawa & District Coin Club Coin-a-Rama. Oshawa Centre, King St., W., Oshawa. Ont. 9:00 a.m.- 5: 30 p.m.
- June 11 Brantford 29th Anniversary Coin Show at Woodman Community Centre, 491 Grey St., Brantford. Hours 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. Free Admission. Info: Brantford Numismatic Society, P.O. Box 351, Brantford, Ont. W3T 5N3.
- July 27-30 C.N.A. Annual Convention & Coin Show - Convention Center, Quebec City. Hours: Thursday 2 p.m.- 9 p.m.; Friday & Saturday 10:30 a.m.- 5 p.m.; and Sunday 9:30 a.m.- 4 p.m. Preliminary program - day and half day trips of Quebec City and surrounding countryside on July 25th & 26th. Info: Destination Quebec '89, Box 177, Stn

C.N.A. Annual Convention (Cont'd)  
Saint Sauveur, Quebec, G1K 6V7.

November 17-19 T.I.C.F., Lakeshore Inn, Toronto. Info: T.I.C.F.,  
P.O. Box 973, Stn B. Willowdale, M2K 2T6. 1-(416) 229 COIN

October 15 Tillsonburg Annual Coin & Hobby Show, Tillsonburg  
Community (Fair Grounds). Info: W. Baxter, 46 Queens  
Street, Tillsonburg, Ont., N4G 3G9/

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## MONEY MYTHS

Money is everywhere - in old sayings, songs, fables and folktales. It's part of certain customs, and it figures in superstitions. Here's a collection.

Midas, a king of ancient legend longed to be rich. He made a wish that everything he touched would turn to gold. The god, Silenus, granted his wish, and everything Midas touched - even food and drink - turned to solid gold. Midas prayed to the gods to take his wish away so that he could eat and drink. They ordered him to bathe in a certain river, and from that day on Midas was rid of his wish, but the river was full of gold.

The legendary Greek hero Jason killed a dragon to steal the Golden Fleece, a sheepskin of pure gold. But is the Golden Fleece a myth? It may have been real. When the Greeks searched for gold in rivers, they dragged sheepskin through the water. Gold nuggets in the river would be caught in the long hair of the animal skin. It's possible a sheepskin covered in gold nuggets was the origin of the myth of the Golden Fleece.

This old English rhyme predicts how you will spend money if you look at how your shoes wear down:

Wear at the toe, spend as you go.  
Wear at the side, be a rich bride.  
Wear at the heel, spend a good deal.  
Wear on the ball, live to spend all.

## MAKING MONEY

Have you heard the expression "Money doesn't grow on trees"? There aren't any shady trees whose leaves are made of crisp \$1 bills. But money does grow on trees in a way. It grows on bushes too.

Trees give us wood pulp, which is used to make paper. And cotton and flax bushes produce flowers and seeds from which we make cotton and linen cloth. This cloth is also made into paper. Paper is what money is printed on.

The Bank of Canada issues about 800 million new notes a year. At the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing, 12 million notes roll off the presses in one day. Half of these are \$1 bills.

Old money goes up in smoke. Anyone can take old, worn bills to a bank to exchange them for new ones. The bank ships the old bills

MAKING MONEY (CONT'D)

back to the printing plant. There they are inspected to make sure that they're not reusable and that they're not fakes that slipped past the bank. Then they're bundled up, shredded and thrown into the fire!

The highest bank note in circulation is the U.S. \$10,000 bill; the lowest, the Indonesian sen, is worth about 1,000th of a penny!

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DID YOU KNOW?

.....That the biggest bank in the world is the World Bank. It is run by the United Nations and handles about \$85 trillion for various governments.

.....That older Britons still refer to a coin known as a "guinea" which was worth a bit more than a pound. It was made from gold that came from the African country of Guinea.

.....That when Alexander the Great put his own name and picture on a coin in 336 B.C. that he started a fad for rulers portraits on money that has lasted to this day.

.....That our \$1 bill passes about 500 times before it wears out. This usually takes about 18 months.

.....That the first "national" bank, a bank created and run by a government, was the Bank of Amsterdam that was founded in 1609.

.....That prior to 1908 all Canadian coins were struck in England, at the Royal Mint in London and Heaton's Mint in Birmingham. All coins struck at the Heaton's Mint bear a small mint mark H. There is one exception to the rule,- the 1871 Prince Edward Island cent struck at Heaton's Mint didn't have the H mint mark. The last Heaton issue for Canadian coins was in 1907 and was the large cent.

.....That a bank is a place to keep your money safely. You might save your pennies in a bank shaped like a pig, elephant, dog, bird, or many other variations of coin holders. No matter what it looks like, its ancestor was a pygg. About a thousand years ago, in old England, a pygg was a kind of clay pot people used to save their coins. Several hundred years later a clever potter decided to make the pot look how its name sounded. Thus was born the piggy bank we know today.

.....That the Chinese thought the after world was like this one, and the spirit would need money there. They printed bank notes to be burnt when the body was cremated.

.....That in 1520, when the Aztec Emperor Montezuma heard the Spanish were coming, he packed gold, silver, and jewels, in a caravan and shipped them north to be buried. Montezuma was killed by the conquerors and his treasure has never been found. Many believe its buried somewhere in New Mexico, Arizona, or Utah.

.....That there are over 50 billion bank notes printed around the world every year.

.....That plastic coins are used in the Keeling-Cocos Islands in the Pacific. The money there was once made of ivory, and plastic can easily be made to look like ivory.

.....That much early banking consisted of burying one's money or stuffing it into a mattress. Even today many French people hide their gold coins in their mattress. Play it safe readers - the safest place for your money is in the bank.

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SOUTH AFRICA GOLD

The first permanent European settlement at the southern tip of Africa was made at the Cape of Good Hope in 1652. The purpose of the expedition, made up of 70 Dutch burghers led by Jan van Riebeeck, was to build a fort, chart the coastline and grow vegetables to supply provisions for ships of the Dutch East India Company on their way to and from the Orient.

South Africa's first gold coin, a rare pattern 1 pound of 1874 with the portrait of President Thomas Burgers of the South African Republic (founded 1852), was struck from the gold of locally mined nuggets. A regular coinage, struck at the Berlin mint and locally at Pretoria, followed under President Paul Kruger from 1892 until 1900. British victory in the South African or Boer War (1899-1902) resulted in annexation to Britain and the formation of the Union of South Africa in 1910.

The Pretoria Mint was re-opened as a branch of the Royal Mint and produced British sovereigns and half sovereign with an sa mint mark in the period 1923-32. Gold was not struck again until 1952, when  $\frac{1}{2}$  and 1 pound pieces were included in the annual specimen sets. This practice continued until 1961 when the country became an independent republic. These specimen coins bear the head of George VI or Elizabeth II with a springbok, a small high-leaping gazelle on the reverse.

The new Republic of South Africa went on the decimal currency system and, beginning in 1961, the Pretoria Mint struck 1 and 2 rand gold pieces as the high denominations in the new series. The 1 and 2 rand values were produced in gold through 1964, but since 1965 the 1 rand has been issued in silver only. The name of the denomination comes from Witwatersrand (Afrikaans for "ridge of white waters"), or the "Rand," as it is called locally, the area in South Africa where the world's richest gold fields are located.

All nine coins in the 1961-64 decimal series carry the portrait of Jan van Riebeeck, the leader of the 1652 expedition. Van Riebeeck remained to serve for 10 years as governor of the Cape Colony. The reverse continues the springbok design. The inscriptions on both sides are given in English and Afrikaans, the nation's two official languages.

All the nations of the world together produce approximately 2,000,000 pounds of new gold annually (with a value of more than \$1.1 billion U.S.). South Africa alone is the source of an astonishing 50 per cent of that total. Gold mining in South Africa, which began on a comparatively small scale in the 1870's, is now a huge and highly mechanized industry employing nearly 500,000 people. The country's known reserves should continue to satisfy the world's appetite for gold for many years to come. Intensive, scientific prospecting has disclosed the existence of layers of gold-bearing ore running in a giant arc, 320 miles long, from the original Transvaal mines down to the newly opened and extremely promising mines in the Orange Free State.

South Africa's continuing issues of Gold coins underscores the fact that the Republic has, in the 20th century, become the greatest gold-producing nation in history.

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# AL BLIMAN FOR CNA PRESIDENT

WHO IS BEST QUALIFIED TO PROVIDE THE AGGRESSIVE LEADERSHIP OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS?

THE ONE WHO CAN BOAST AN ENVIABLE RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS IS AL BLIMAN, THE CURRENT FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE CNA!

FORMER POSITIONS THAT MAKE HIM SO QUALIFIED INCLUDE:

- Chairman of CNA Coin Week Canada
- Chairman of the CNA's National Numismatic Education Month
- President of Richmond Hill Coin Club and Central Coin Club
- Chairman of Board of Governors of Donald B. Thomas Memorial Foundation
- Member of Royal Canadian Mint's Design Committee
- Executive Secretary of CAND
- President of CPMS
- Numismatic Exhibit Chairman of Arts, Crafts, Hobbies Show, Canadian National Exhibition
- Show Chairman of Torex
- Honourary Member of a number of numismatic organizations as a result of his involvement in educational seminars, judging and exhibiting

VOTE FOR THE PERSON WHO HAS A PROVEN TRACK RECORD OF ATTENDING LOCAL, REGIONAL AND NATIONAL NUMISMATIC CLUBS AND ASSOCIATIONS!

# VOTE FOR AL BLIMAN FOR CNA PRESIDENT

**Ontario Numismatic  
Association**  
**27th Annual**  
**Convention &  
Coin Show**  
**APRIL 22, 23, 1989**

**QUALITY INN**

580 BRUIN BLVD.

**JUNCTION 59 & 401 HWYS**  
EX. 232.

**WOODSTOCK ONTARIO**

HOSTS :

**OXFORD COUNTY**

**COIN  
CLUBS**

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