



This Issue

This & That

The God Victorinus

The One that Got Away..

Show me a Coin....

Canadian Coin History

Hostage for a King

History Explained

Next Meeting

SILENT AUCTION

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Doors 7:00pm -- Meeting 7:30pm

Royal Alberta Museum

12845-102 Ave, Edmonton

Contact

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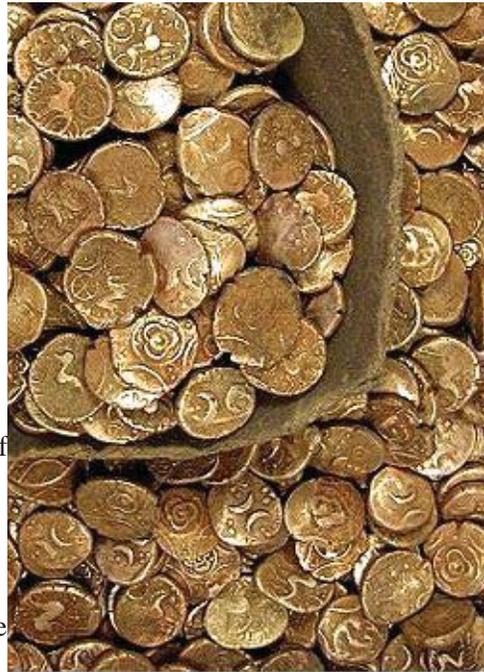
www.edmontoncoinclub.com

Large Iron Age Coin Hoard Discovered

In January it was announced that the largest modern day discovery of iron-age gold coins has recently been uncovered in the UK. The coins were discovered by a medal detectorist in East Anglia.

The 824 Gold staters that were discovered had the equivalent modern day buying power of around 2.2 million dollars. Most of the coins discovered were produced by predecessors of Queen Boudicca, the queen of the Icenian tribe who revolted against Rome in 60AD. The coins weigh just over 5 grams and were minted between 40BC and 15AD. Buried in a common pottery vessel between 15-20AD, researchers believe that they were buried inside a rectilinear religious compound.

This recent discovery is the largest hoard of gold coins discovered in the UK since 1849, when a farmer uncovered between 800-2000 gold staters in a field near Milton Keynes. This is the first large discovery of Icenian gold coins found, however the Icenian tribe had a tradition of burying gold and silver objects. At one of their major religious centers in northern Norfolk, the tribe buried around



60 pounds of gold and silver jewelry, also in a rectilinear compound.

"The hoard is absolutely unique," said Ian Leins, the British Museum's curator of Iron Age coins. "It is the largest hoard of British Iron Age gold coins to be studied in its entirety."

After the discovery of the hoard months ago, the Suffolk county council kept the story quiet to prevent treasure seekers. The secret excavations were funded in part by the British museum and carried on for months. Only when the archeologists were satisfied that there were no further artifacts to be found, the story was released to the public.

NOMINATIONS

February Election

2009 Executive

President: Jamie Horkulak
Vice President: David Peter
Treasurer: Pierre Driessen
Secretary: Marc Bink
Planchet Editor: Matt Sztym

2009 Directors:

* Chris Hale *Cathy Arbeau
* John Callahan *Joe Kennedy
* Marv Berger *Ray Neiman
*Greg Wichman *Bob Erickson
*Terry Cheesman *Bill Demontigny

Planchet Distribution: Howard Gilbey

* Members present, in good standing with the ENS will be eligible to be elected into these positions. After the AGM concludes, director titles will be assigned to each elected member. Nominations will re-open at the start of the February meeting. Members in non-contested will be acclaimed. This is a tentative list, and members names may be added or removed between now and the February AGM.

The Edmonton Numismatic Society

The Edmonton Numismatic Society (ENS) dates back to September 1953. At that time the members met and discussed the hobby under the name, the Edmonton Coin Club. During the 1960's, 70's, and 80's the Club sponsored 20 Annual Coin-A-Rama shows, issuing many collectable souvenirs. In 1979, The City of Edmonton's 75th Anniversary, the Club was host to its first CNA Convention. A number of mini shows and Anniversary shows were held during the 1980's and 90's. As a reflection of the varied collecting interest of the current membership, and a continuing commitment to promote the hobby, the Club changed its name to the Edmonton Numismatic Society (formerly the Edmonton Coin Club) just prior to hosting its second CNA Convention in 1998. Since 1996 the Club has sponsored two shows each year, one in the late winter/early spring and one in the fall. The ENS will host the first RCNA Convention in 2009.

Club Meetings

NEXT MEETING

February 2009

Wednesday February 11, 2009
Royal Alberta Museum 12845-102 Ave
Doors open at 7:00pm Meeting starts 7:30pm

- 1) **SILENT AUCTION** bring your items you wish to sell to this meeting.
- 2) **Secretary and Treasurer reports** to be presented and voted upon by ENS members.
- 3) **Constitutional Amendments** are to be presented and voted upon.
- 4) **Annual General election.**
- 5) **Call for volunteers for the March show.**
- 6) **Presentation** will be given by David Peter on the topic of Paper money.

For more information regarding these events, please send an email to editor_ens@yahoo.ca

ENS is a Member of:

Canadian Numismatic Association
American Numismatic Association
Canadian Paper Money Society

January 2009

The January meeting began with presentations from the president and nomination committee. Members who were present at the meeting were asked to nominate members for the 2009 executive positions. The nomination committee then compiled a list of names for the upcoming February AGM and elections. Jamie appointed Matt Sztym and Terry Cheesman to be the 2008 Audit committee. He also gave a brief report on the November money show as well as information on upcoming events. Markus Molenda then gave an informative talk about Canadian Lead tokens and their use in Canadian commerce. Following the meeting, many club members went to the traditional after-meeting Boston Pizza where talks continued.

Message from the President

Greetings everyone, February is our new fiscal year end, and with that comes our Annual General Meeting, where club business will be discussed. Along with the AGM, we've move our elections to coincide. It's been a pleasure to serve as your president for 2008 and I will run again for 2009. I'd like to thank the executive members for all their hard work this year for making a lot of new ideas happen. In this past year, many milestones have been achieved such as change to the Planchet format, including more dealer Ads, and email distribution to make the Planchet self sufficient. With the expansion of the Planchet making it Clearly Canada's best club newsletter, the call is urgent for new contributors, so please email editor Matt Sztym with your article.

A new membership database has been set up by Marc Bink, allowing for better tracking of who's up to date with memberships. And speaking of memberships, there has been an increase in that department as well, with new faces almost every meeting. Welcome to all the new members in 2008.

Our Edmonton's Money Show, though not setting attendance records is setting profit records, greatly in part to a hotel that will cooperate. With that, new cases will again be purchased, adding to the several cases purchases over the last year.

Several members of the ENS as a group have joined a new coin discussion forum: <http://www.coinnetwork.com/group/edmontonnumismatic-society>. Individuals can then join various specific discussion groups. We encourage members to join our group and take part in the discussions. It is with all these achievements we will be formally applying for the RCNA club of the year, and newsletter of the year awards. I know of no other club that has progressed this much, let alone in one year.

On January 27th, we held an RCNA committee meeting where the show schedule, tours, registration kit items, etc were firmed up in preparation

for approval by the RCNA. In March, we hope to start registration and advertising. The dealer tables are officially all sold out now, and we are looking forward to dealers that don't normally do the Money Show including some from the States and even one from England. Remember, now is the time to get your competitive displays ready. Also, the various sub-committees are still looking for volunteers, namely registration personnel. Now's your chance to play an active role in your club by attending the AGM Feb 11th and taking part in all the discussions and elections. See you there!

Jamie

DATES TO REMEMBER

Edmonton Numismatic Society AGM

Wednesday February 11, 2009 7:30pm

Royal Alberta Museum 12845-102 Ave

March Edmonton's Money Show

March 14-15, 2009 Mayfield Inn 16615-109ave

Appraisals! Door Prizes! Kids table! & More!

Edmonton RCNA Convention

August 12-16, 2009 Delta Edmonton South

4404 Gateway Boulevard

November Edmonton's Money Show

November 8-9, 2009 Mayfield Inn 16615-109ave

Appraisals! Door Prizes! Kids table! & More!

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

The following amendments, submitted to the ENS, are to be voted on at the upcoming AGM.

1. Elevating Editor to executive office.

Be it resolved that:

"The position of editor be changed from director to executive officer of the Executive Committee. This officer shall be responsible for: editing and publishing the official newsletter *The Planchet* and coordinating the selling of advertising and track payment and duration of said ads. All monies received for said ads shall be paid to the Treasurer."

2. Removal of chronic absent board members.

Be it resolved that:

The Executive Committee reserves the right to dismiss a Director who misses three (3) consecutive executive meetings due to unexplained absences. Dismissal shall be determined by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Mutilated Money

Part 2 of 6

This & That

BY MATT SZTYM

Welcome to the second part of my Mutilated Money series. In this issue, I will be discussing the many forms of destroyed money. Some of these include counterstamping coins, coin buttons, pins, and other forms of interesting money.

Counterstamping coins has been around for centuries. Some collectors argue that in ancient times, counterstamping coins was a way to show the public that a new emperor has taken power by stamping in a specific marking or symbol. In other cases counterstamping was used as monetary reform, revalidating earlier circulation coinage. Other common uses of the counterstamp were for stamping coins seized in conquests from other nations. Although most of the seized money was melted, occasionally we find the odd coin with a counterstamp. Similarly some nations who did not have their own currency system, would often retrieve coinage circulating from another nation and counterstamp it with that nation or colony's markings. These items make interesting collectables and can come in many varieties.

Skipping ahead to more modern history, counterstamps were a great tool as advertising for businesses. Coins were often taken out of circulation and stamped with the businesses name or with

product information. When looking for these types of coins, most are stamped on worn out currency. Some store owners would purposely choose worn coins to stamp, because the counter stamp was more visible to the customer. Also when a stamped coin was redeemable at the shop, these items were used repetitively so after time even a good quality coin would rub down. One good example of this is with Lloyds weekly newspaper. Lloyds is the longest running newspaper that dates back as early as 1734. During the late 1830's Lloyds began an advertising campaign using 1797 1d coins as their advertising medium, stamping them with "Lloyds weekly newspaper 3d post free" Hundreds of these coins exist with many variations, including spelling mistakes. This campaign must have been successful for the newspaper because they continued stamping coins for many years.

Other coins were stamped for personal use as gifts or keepsakes. During war and conflict periods, soldiers would stamp a coin to send to their loved one, or to mark various events of his life. There are hundreds of uses of counterstamped money. From the ancient times to modern day, people continue to destroy coins by the use of a counterstamp.



Canada Coin & Paper Money

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CPMS CNA

Making buttons out of coins was an uncommon practice in history. Only wealthy families could afford to wear coin buttons, but because of the risk of theft, it was uncommon to see anyone using them. Even so, because coins featured patriotic themes such as monarchs, birds, or coat of arms. Using coins as buttons was an interesting alternative to conventional dress. Wearing coin buttons could also be construed as an attempt to show one's wealth or status. Pressed metal buttons were also used for this reason, but were quite expensive to make.

Most of these buttons we find were polished and attached to clothing by a loop soldered on the back. Some buttons were engraved, and some had holes drilled in the center to be attached to clothing. Most of the buttons that we find are quite worn on the one side due to the constant polishing of the surface. Many of the buttons we find were made from copper or silver coins, as these were relatively easy to obtain.

Unfortunately it is quite hard to tell authentic buttons from early broken cuff-links. Two coins would have a loop soldered to the back with a ring holding them together, and if that link were to break, the single coins represent buttons. Very few true buttons exist today, and most of the 19th century examples we find are actually cufflinks. In the collector community there is not a big emphasis on whether a coin was a button or a cufflink, these items are more often than not, thrown into the



smelting pot. While searching on eBay, it is easy to stumble upon a few people selling antique coin cufflinks. Cufflinks were made in many different ways. Many early American examples were produced primarily on dimes or quarters. These coins were sometimes monogrammed on one side with

a family name or initials. Many of these coins have a smaller coin or silver disc welded to an extension on the back. Other varieties of cuff links include two coins with flexible links between them. Cuff links have always been a popular form of coin jewelry. They began to appear in the early 19th century. Most common in North America, US and Canadian coins are most commonly used. Although wearing cufflinks is not as popular today, there are still a few outfits manufacturing coin cufflinks for sale to the general public. Some can be as simple as having an extension soldered to the back of the coin, while others are elaborately enamelled.



though wearing cufflinks is not as popular today, there are still a few outfits manufacturing coin cufflinks for sale to the general public. Some can be as simple as having an extension soldered to the back of the coin, while others are elaborately enamelled.

Top Center: US 2c copper coin with 2 holes drilled in the center for use as a button. Extremely worn, no date is visible.

Top Right: 1877 US silver quarter made into a cufflink. A small silver disk has been soldered onto the back of the quarter with a small extension. One side has been monogrammed WEM.

Center: Set of Newfoundland cufflinks c. 1940's two coins are joined by a flexible link. These cufflinks may have been produced during WW2 as souvenirs or as gifts.

Left: Modern enamelled cufflinks made in 2008 with authentic 1933 King George V Canadian Nickels.



For centuries there has always been a fascination with money. Because money was such a valuable commodity, using money as jewelry was a status symbol. Some earlier examples of coin cufflinks do appear with 16th and 17th century coins, however most of these items were produced more recently than the coins suggest.

Coin pins and brooches are another interesting form of coin jewelry. For hundreds of years it was common to turn coins into brooches. Coin brooches were popular because it was an inexpensive form of jewelry that a person could make at home and give to a loved one. Many coun-



Please stop by next month for part 3 of my mutilated money series. I will be switching up the order of my articles and I will be featuring the wonderful world of gimmick and gaffed magic coins, as well as holed and enamelled coins. I will then continue with my originally scheduled Trench-art coins in April.

Sources

Lloyds List, www.lloydslist.com
 Shrewbury Museum 2004 Catalog.
 National Button Society (NBS) www.nationalbuttonociety.org.

Top: 1836 British Enamelled 4pence (groat) made into colorful brooch.

Center Left: 1888 Canadian 1c brooch. Front of the cent has been machined to leave only the text "ONE CENT" and the date visible. Coin has then been gold gilding on the surface.

Bottom: US Morgan dollar (no date) made into a monogrammed brooch. Engraved MCMC.



tries had beautiful designs on their coins of patriotic symbols that were also enjoyed by residents of the time. Other coins were turned into love token brooches and other forms of engraved coin jewelry. There are thousands of coin brooches and pins available around the world and they are still being produced today. It all comes down to the fact that people like to show off their money.



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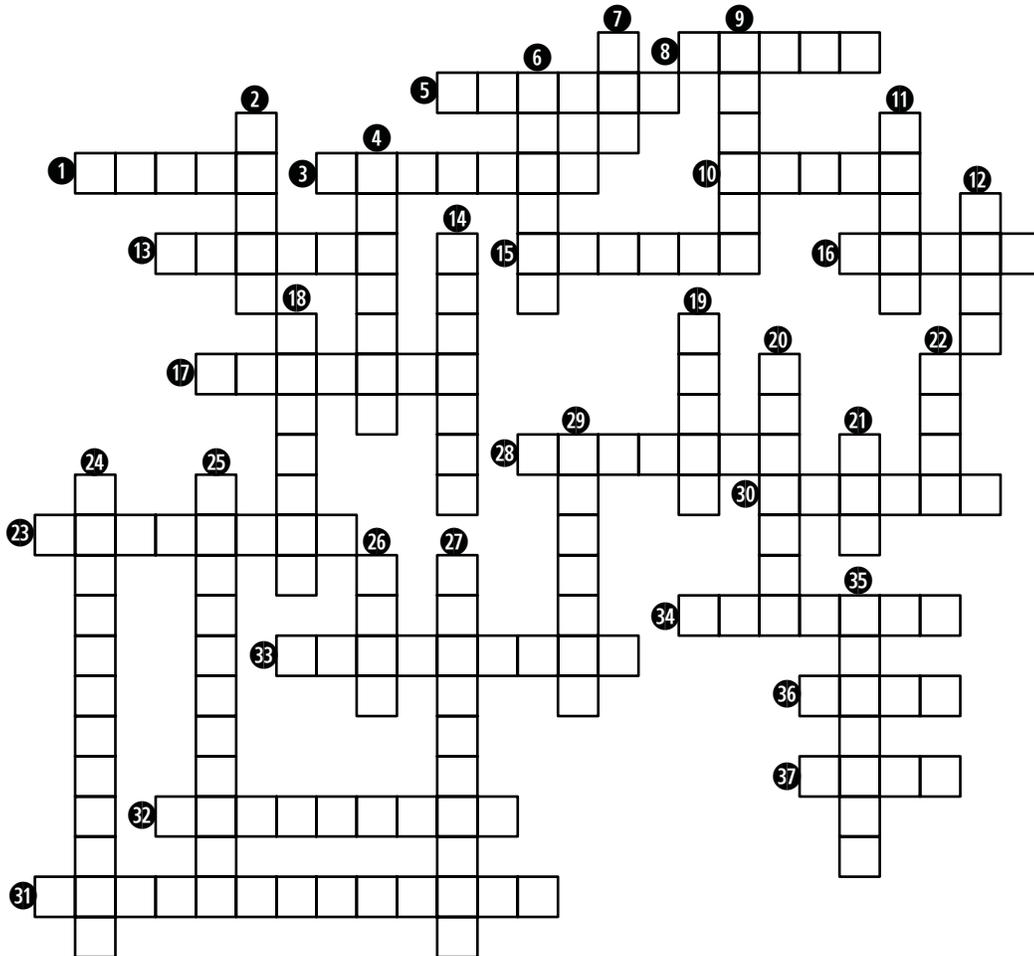
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Canadian Half-Ounce Gold coins

By Joseph Kennedy



#	Crossword Clue	Denom	Date	Weight (Troy oz)	#	Crossword Clue	Denom	Date	Weight (Troy oz)
1	Albino buffalo	\$200	1998	0.50	19	Tree juice	\$200	1995	0.50
2	Not war	\$100	1986	0.50	20	Trade from the water	\$200	2007	0.47
3	Bunch of flowers	\$100	1977	0.50	21	Animal skin trade	\$200	2005	0.47
4	International athletic movement	\$175	1992	0.50	22	Green Gables	\$200	1994	0.50
5	_____ and child	\$200	2000	0.50	23	3 dimensional image GML	\$20	1999/01	0.50
6	New Coat of Arms	\$20	1967	0.53	24	Confederation	\$100	1982	0.50
7	Old Coat of Arms	\$10	1912-14	0.48	25	Trade from the land	\$200	2008	0.47
8	Inuit boat	\$100	1980	0.50	26	Run it up a pole	\$200	1990	0.50
9	Heavy boat hook	\$100	1983	0.50	27	Silver and Gold GML	\$20	2004	0.50
10	Native mask	\$200	1997	0.50	28	Cartier's first name	\$100	1984	0.50
11	National emblem GML	\$20	1982-08	0.50	29	Olympics 22 kt / No Rim Beads	\$100	1976	0.50
12	National police	\$200	1993	0.50	30	Dwellings	\$200	2003	0.50
13	Ice game	\$200	1991	0.50	31	Old Coat of Arms remembered	\$5	2002	0.48
14	Big waterfall	\$200	1992	0.50	32	Winged insect	\$200	1999	0.50
15	Wood trade	\$200	2006	0.47	33	Smaller parts	\$200	2004	0.47
16	Bunch of geese	\$100	1978	0.50	34	Alberta's provincial mammal	\$100	1985	0.50
17	Childhood recreation	\$100	1979	0.50	35	National Anthem	\$100	1981	0.50
18	Train travel	\$200	1996	0.50	36	Habitant's employment	\$200	2001	0.50
					37	Type of Pine	\$200	2002	0.50

New Book from Edmonton Author
Never Marry an Englishman

How does an individual go about learning the art of counterfeiting? In 1899 in Nova Scotia, the "Counterfeit Circulation Company Limited" was formed in order to forge the Canadian 1897 Farmer and Fisher \$2.00 note. Lewis William Davis, a native of England who emigrated to Nova Scotia as a young boy, proceeded to learn about the chemicals, papers, inks and presses needed to print the bills which he would run off in Winthrop Beach, Massachusetts and send north to the maritime provinces for distribution. This true story is based on over 150 pages of daily agent notes kept by U.S. Secret Service agent Owen Owen which were discovered in the National Archives and Record Administration in College Park, Maryland by the popular television show *Ancestors in the Attic*.

The novel, *Never Marry an Englishman*, details the daily struggles of Lewis Davis to succeed in the enterprise and of agent Owen Owen's determination, with the help of Pinkerton's National

Detective Agency, to capture Davis.

The 226 page book can be purchased for \$19.95;
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The Bargain Bin

A little bit of everything.

Show Me a Coin used for Paying Tax.

By Graham Sproule

Although the utility of a coin has decreased in the modern age of electronic banking, the image of a coin remains a potent one. For this reason alone, there is no reason to believe that the age of the 'coin-less office' will ever come to pass any sooner the age of 'paperless office' that we are supposed to be living in now. Two news stories late last year involving the historical enmity of the tax collector and the merchant demonstrate this truism. In the first story, the Canada Revenue Agency wins a court order forcing eBay to hand over to revenue data and other contact information of PowerSellers to its agency. These sellers in question are Canadian merchants who sell at least three thousand dollars of goods per year. Incidentally, a good number of them are coin dealers. In the second story a citizen of Floyd County, Indiana named Frank Alford protests a property tax hike by paying the county's treasury with four hundred pounds of coins or \$21,333. Clearly, it seems that it is Alford rather than eBay who more effectively challenges the zealotry of the tax collector.

Considering the very fact that sellers on eBay deal in monetary transactions in the millions of dollars, it is striking at how much more quickly the four hundred pounds of coins impress the human mind. This is simply because four hundred pounds of shiny silver dollars are quantifiable to the eye as opposed to a written sum so large that most people cannot be to visualize it. Of course, man's desire to see and show his livelihood predates the advent of the first tokens. Because of the obvious impediments of trade in a barter system, these first tokens were struck to account for the goods one possessed. And these early tokens often took the exact shape of the goods they represented such as fish, loaves of bread, clothing, and even "abstract" possessions one might have. Before the ascent of divine kings



and emperors whose rule brought prosperity to all forms of livelihood, these tokens were commonly given in tribute at the temples of the gods and goddesses thought to have dominion over the goods in question.

Mankind's psyche endures, and research has shown that people spend more when they are using credit and debit cards than when they are using coins and cash. Again, the less tangible their prosperity, the more predisposed men are to lose that prosperity. This is why the practice of paying taxes in low-denomination coins has long been of form of protest against tax collection. It has been my contention that if Canadians could only see the amount of taxes they paid each year in garbage trucks filled with loonies that there would be a taxpayer revolt tomorrow. If they want to protest this latest state intrusion, perhaps the PowerSellers should take a cue from Frank Alford and insist on paying their taxes to Revenue Canada in coins. Better yet, perhaps they should take a cue from the ancient civilizations and pay their taxes in tokens of the different shapes of the commodities they sell on eBay. And if they do, I'm sure even Revenue Canada would rather receive some old coin than someone on credit.

References

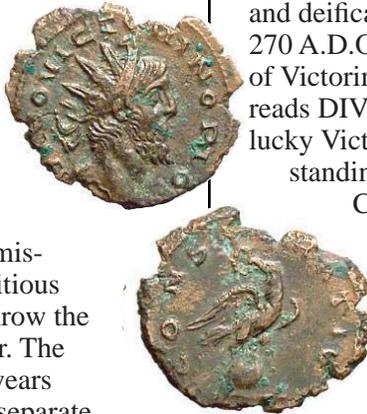
Revenue Canada Successfully Court-Orders eBay PowerSeller Data
<http://www.techvibes.com/blog/revenue-canada-successfully-court-orders-ebay-powerseller-data>
Taxman goes browsing on eBay
<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20070926.wrebay27/BNStory/National>
Protector Pays Property Tax with Dollar Coins
www.wlky.com/money/18311806/detail.html

Ancient/Medieval

The God Victorinus

By Terrance Cheesman

The reign of Gallienus 260 to 268 A.D. was marred by both economic collapse and civil war. The antoninianus which at the beginning of his reign was still a coin with a significant silver content was reduced to a miserable bronze coin with only a light silver wash. Further as if enemy invasions were not sufficient to cause great misery, this period was rich with ambitious generals each attempting to overthrow the government. This sounds familiar. The main result was that for about 13 years the empire was divided into three separate states, each with its own line of emperors. The western state usually referred to, as the Gallic Empire comprised of France, Britain and the Roman holdings in Germany, Belgium and Holland



Founded by Postumus in 259 A.D. this state had to emperors that followed in succession Victorinus in 268 A.D. and Tetricus in 270 A.D. It also had at least three men who tried to seize power and failed. Laelianus and Marius both in 268 A.D. as well as Domitianus some time later. This state fell when in 273 A.D. Tetricus surrendered to Aurelian the man who reunited the empire.

This coin is a rare commemoration of the death and deification of Victorinus after his death in 270 A.D. On the obverse one finds the portrait of Victorinus with a radiate crown. The legend reads DIVO VICTORINO PIO The divine and lucky Victorinus. The reverse features an eagle standing on a globe and the legend CONSECRATIO He has been set apart from the ordinary. The coin weighs about 3 grams and has the fairly typical ragged flan. The Gallic Empire maintained two mints through most of its history. This coin was minted in the "southern mint" which has been identified as either Lugdunum or Vienna a small city to the south of Lugdunum. How rare is this issue? In the massive Normandy hoard, the coins of Tetricus numbered over 20,000. Only 8 of these coins were found.

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One Cent	Trends	CC Price
1859 W9/8 ICCS MS63Bn.	\$2000.00	\$1400.00
1895 PCGS MS64RB	\$650.00	\$400.00
1898 PCGS MS65RB	\$2600.00	\$2200.00
1900 PCGS MS65RB	\$3000.00+	\$2000.00
1916 ICCS MS65RD	\$650.00	\$550.00

Five Cent	Trends	CC Price
1875H LD PCGS VF30	\$1200.00	\$1100.00
1885 5/5 VF30	\$535.00	\$450.00
1897 N8/W8 PCGS AU55	\$550.00	\$475.00
1899 PCGS MS64	\$1100.00	\$800.00
1925 ICCS EF45	\$550.00	\$450.00

Ten Cent	Trends	CC Price
1872H ICCS AU50	\$1350.00	\$1050.00
1875H PCGS AU53	\$5400.00	\$4000.00
1884 PCGS EF45	\$3875.00	\$3000.00
1889 PCGS VF25	\$3750.00	\$3300.00
1893RT ICCS VF20	\$4000.00	\$3850.00

Currency	Trends	CC Price
1870 Commercial Bank \$5.00 F&B PF	\$1900.00	\$1400.00
1870 Commercial Bank \$10.00 F&B PF	\$1900.00	\$1400.00
1872 Molsons Bank \$4.00 F&B PF	\$2500.00	\$1950.00
1878 DC-8e-iii-o \$1.00 F-15	\$1325.00	\$1100.00
1887 DC-11 \$2.00 F	\$2400.00	\$1900.00
1897 DC-14b Abt. VF	\$1750.00	\$1400.00



Twenty Five Cent	Trends	CC Price
1858 20 Cent PCGS AU50	\$600.00	\$500.00
1875H ICCS VF30	\$3750.00	\$3500.00
1885 PCGS AU50	\$2800.00	\$2100.00
1887 ICCS AU50 Cl.	\$3500.00	\$2800.00
1912 PCGS MS63	\$1750.00	\$1350.00

Fifty Cent	Trends	CC Price
1872H PCGS MS62	\$9000.00	\$7800.00
1872H A/V ICCS VF30	\$3650.00	\$3500.00
1890H PCGS EF45	\$12600.00	\$10520.00
1914 PCGS MS63	\$15000.00	\$12000.00
1947 MLCR ICCS EF40		\$5200.00

One Dollar	Trends	CC Price
1938 PCGS MS64	\$825.00	\$675.00
1945 ICCS MS63	\$900.00	\$750.00
1946 PCGS MS64	\$1600.00	\$1350.00
1948 MS60	\$1900.00	\$1750.00
1950 PCGS MS66	\$1500.00	\$1200.00

1912 DC-21c F	\$1200.00	\$1150.00
1935 BC-3 \$2.00 EF++	\$1250.00	\$1000.00
1935 BC-9b PCGS VF20	\$2200.00	\$1890.00
1935 BC-11 F+	\$4800.00	\$4600.00
1937 BC-27b \$100 Unc. +	\$1150.00	\$975.00
1954 BC-34a \$50.00 CUnc.	\$1650.00	\$1450.00

We have many Condition Rare coins in our inventory, please email your want list or call to inquire.

MEMBER: RCNA, CPMS, NSNS, ENS, CNS

George Manz Auction #6

The Regina Coin Club's Spring Show will be the venue for the sixth in a series of auctions by George Manz Coin Auctions. The auction includes part III of the Georg Manz Senior Collection (the father of the auctioneer) as well as Part V of the Roy Miller Collection.

The first lot at auction among the 218 lots is a denarius that depicts Caracalla on the obverse and Hercules on the reverse. Struck at the Rome Mint in 213, the EF condition coin is expected to realize \$150.

The second lot is a rare medieval English silver penny struck for Edward I. Spink notes that this particular coin "rarely" comes with the EDWR legend.

The highlight of the silver 5 cents is a beautiful 1890H with Error I's in the obverse legend. The unlisted coin, graded AU-50 by ICCS, has wonderful lustre with light golden toning around the edges.

Canadian nickels include a large number of Hans Zoell varieties as well as several MS-65 nickels.

The 25 cents section begins with an extremely rare 1872H A/V, which Charlton describes as having been made from refurbished dies. One of only nine coins of this variety certified by ICCS, the VG-8 coin is expected to see spirited bidding.

By far the most interesting section of Canadian decimal coins is the silver dollar section. The section begins with a rare 1935 raised J.O.P. countermarked by Nelson, BC jeweler Joseph Oliva Patenaude, a rare 1948, a 1966 small beads mule graded PL-63 by PCGS, and an extremely rare Double Struck 1967 with two images of Elizabeth and goose.

The auction also includes Royal Canadian Mint products, Newfoundland, counterstamped coins, errors, medals, trade dollars and tokens, and military medals (including one from the Grand Army of the Republic).

Paper money includes a large assortment of radar notes, inserts, and replacement notes, as well as a Canadian \$5 War Savings Certificate from World War II.

The numismatic books section includes the 1959 CNA Convention Program and Auction Catalogue as well as the first issue of Canada Coin News, now called Canadian Coin News.

The auction will take place at the Regina Coin Club's Spring Show on Saturday April 18 at the Western Christian College gymnasium in Regina. The catalogue can be viewed at www.georgemanz-coins.com. There is no buyer's fee in this auction.

ENS Online!



Coin Network

The Social Network for Coin Collectors

Last December the Edmonton Numismatic Society started up an online networking group on www.coinnetwork.com. This group was well received by some members of the ENS who use it. On this site members are able to upload and share photographs of numismatic items and hold discussions on them. Because this is an open group all people from the collector community are able to join our online group and hold discussions with ENS members. Each person brings their own interest to the group and by doing so, gives everyone an opportunity to share and discuss coins that they usually would not see. This online site is a big step forward for the ENS. Traditionally the only way to communicate with other members of the ENS was to attend meetings or coin shows. With the use of technology we have made it easier for out of town/province members to communicate with other members of the group. If you are interested in becoming involved with the coin network site, we invite you to go to www.coinnetwork.com and sign up for an account. Go to the groups page and click on the Edmonton Numismatic Society group. To join the group click on the join button at the top right hand corner of the page. Please join the ENS online!

Matt Sztym.

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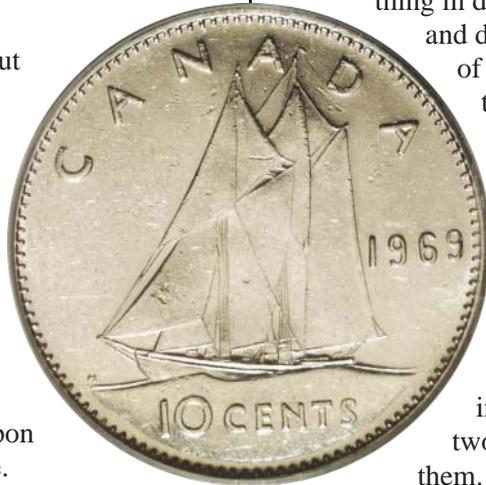
By Marc Bink

The one that got away...

We've all heard stories about "the one that got away", be it from fishermen or from hunters and such the like. Many of these tall tales are designed to be taken with a grain of salt. But what about coin collectors? I'm sure that there are many stories out there about that one coin that a person either had or lost, or one seen at a show and then upon returning to buy it, it was gone. Maybe it created a life long regret about the one that got away. This is one such story, and it's true, - I swear it!

As I mentioned in one of my previous columns, I started collecting coins when I was a kid back in the seventies. My first collection was the usual mix of worn-out silver and the odd coin which was bought with whatever hard-earned cash I was able to scrounge up. When I was 13, I got a paper route with the Edmonton Journal. It was for me the best way to score up coins, and make money to buy some more. I used to have to collect 90 cents a week from customers so I wound up going through a lot of dimes. Of course I'd go through the rolls I bought from the bank looking for that ever elusive silver, - the odd time I'd get lucky, but most often I'd find a lot of 1968 and 1969 dimes. Since this took place in 1977 they were still fairly common to see in change.

One day, I was going through one such roll, and I came across a large date 1969 dime. I already knew this to be a variety from an old copy of Charlton's that I got second hand from a buddy. It didn't list a value or a mintage, just a short blurb indicating that it was rare, and to watch out for faked



'68 cut into '69 dimes. The coin I had was in VF, and when I looked at it with a ten power loop, I couldn't see any evidence of it having been tampered with in any way. I spent hours staring at that

thing in different types of light checking and double checking for any evidence of grinding, ghosting, or anything that would tell me it was a fake.

Although I was a beginning collector at that time and not sure of myself, I'm still pretty convinced to this day that it was the real thing. So I set it aside and put it in my "collection" which at that time was stored loose in a small shoe box in my closet. No such thing as two-by-twos yet, I couldn't afford them. There were times where I almost needed to spend that dime, but I held off and kept it. To me it was just another nickel dime, so it couldn't be worth that much, or at least so I thought. When I bought a larger collection of junk a short while later, the dime was moved into the Whitman folders that came with it. Should be all good, right? Wrong...

The next summer, my younger brother was old enough to be able to find his own way to the store. And like most 8 year-old kids at that time, he wanted candies and hockey cards. He was too

young to be able to hold any kind of a job, but he was old enough to know where his older brother's coin collection was. So he just went and popped everything out of the Whitman folders and took it down to the 7/11. And so went my 1969 large-date dime. I came home to a kid that was busily stuffing Kit-Kats down his throat and washing it all down with a Doctor Pepper. Then I noticed a ton of empty wrappers, and a larger stack of hockey-cards and wrappers. It was then that I began to realize that he would have had to come into a sizable amount of money to buy all of this, and began to fear for my collection. Sure enough, it was gone. Once I realized what he had done, I raced



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down to the store and tried to retrieve my collection back. The clerk had already cleaned it up, and wouldn't let me buy any of it back. I begged and pleaded with her, tried to barter and even offered her a premium, but this only increased her desire to keep it. She had decided to keep it all, wouldn't let me have one bit of it back, and threatened to call the cops because I was making a scene. I had made no mention of that dime however, because I was still hoping that I could poke through her till and hopefully recover it. She relented enough to allow me to do that, but no such luck; - it was already gone. When I went back home and told my mother what had happened, she just shrugged off my loss and dealt severely with my brother for stealing. I didn't even get the face value of the collection back, even though my teary-eyed brother who by that time couldn't sit down anymore made great breathless promises to pay it all back.

At the time, I wasn't too worried; - I thought I'd be able to find another one. I was sure I had seen a few of them before, and therefore I wasn't too convinced that they were super-rare. Of course, I haven't seen one since. According to the latest Charlton's, (63rd Edition, 2009) there are only 16 certified examples known, all of them in circulated grade. I've heard that they were a "back-door" job, meaning that they were made illegally, so the mintage will never be known. No one can be sure as to how many of these coins actually "made it out the door"

into circulation. Some were possibly retained by the RCM for re-melting. But there is an interesting twist to this story, and that is I am told that the Royal Canadian Mint never possessed an atomizer until they opened up the Winnipeg mint, and so that meant all minted/struck brockage was sent here to Sherritt in Fort Saskatchewan for melting. These coins were shipped secretly under high security in 45 gallon drums and all accounted for (to the penny) as they went from the drum through the atomizer and were turned

back into nickel strip, which was sent back to the RCM for re-coining. So far I haven't been able to nail the number or the dates of these shipments down, (no one is talking "on the record" and all the documentation disappeared when the Rolling Mill was shut down,) but I have heard from ex-employees of the Sherritt Rolling Mill that these sorts of shipments were actually quite common throughout the seventies and into the late nineties. According to one source who asked to remain anonymous, they did the last one of these shipments in 2000, and it consisted of minted quarters and loonies, some of which despite the heightened security that always accompanied these shipments, managed to find their way into circulation. So what's to say this didn't happen with the 1969 Large Date dime? It's an interesting concept, and one day I hope to be able to conclusively prove or disprove this theory.

So that's my "one that got away" story. What I forgot to mention was in that same lot that I lost was a 1926 far-6 nickel in G-3 which actually caused me more grief at the time. I bought a "real" collection from an old teacher of mine a year later, so I was able to get another '26 nickel in better shape, so things weren't all bad. But the loss of that dime still bothers me to this day. I still haven't forgiven my brother for that one, (even though in the long run he did me a favor by forcing me to evolve my collecting habits,) and to top it off, he still hasn't paid me back!

Image Courtesy of Heritage Auction Gallery

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Canadian Coin History

For February

BY KEN POLSSON

February 1979 saw the official transformation of gold coins in Canada from \$100 collector coins to true world-class bullion coins. Canadian gold producers began talks with the Government in 1976, proposing a “Beaver” bullion coin in 1977. Finally, a bill passed through Parliament in 1978 to make the necessary changes to the Currency Act to authorize a \$50 gold coin, with final enabling proclamation on February 20, 1979. The new coin series would be called the “Maple Leaf”, and would gradually expand to other denominations (50-cents, \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20), as well as other metals: silver (1988), platinum (1988), and palladium (2005). Fineness of the gold increased from 0.999 to 0.99999, leading the world in quality. Perhaps the crowning achievement was the 100-kg, 50-cm diameter, \$1 million gold Maple Leaf in 2007. These massive show-coins are cast and machined to order. If you have one buried in your back yard, the 3215 ounces of gold are worth about \$3.2 million.



Other events in February:

February 12, 1870 - An official proclamation sets April 15 as the last day of grace for US silver coins to circulate in Canada.

February 19, 1908 - General striking of silver coins begins at the Ottawa branch mint.

February 1, 1950 - The Canadian Numismatic Association is officially launched, with over 200 members.

February 8, 1968 - The Currency, Mint and Exchange Fund Act removes silver from the specifications of coins for circulation, and prohibits melting of any Canadian coin.

February 2, 1973 - The Government approves special coins for the 1976 Montreal Olympics.

February 21, 1982 - A 1944 5c piece struck in tombac (VF-20) sells for US\$7,000.

February 14, 1985 - The Government establishes a committee to study a proposal to produce a new smaller dollar coin.

February 26, 1985 - The Currency Act autho-

rizes the minting of \$20 silver coins.

February 25, 1986 - The Mint issues the second series of 1988 Olympic coins, depicting hockey and biathlon.

February 6, 1992 - In Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, the second 25-cent issue in the Canada 125 Coin Program is unveiled.

February 18, 1993 - The Mint releases the 1993 \$100 gold coin at the Toronto Auto Show. The coin features early international automobiles.

February 1995 - A report by Environics Research Group on consumer response to a \$2 coin finds that the public would prefer the \$2 bill over a \$2 coin.

February 27, 1995 - The Government of Canada announces its intention to replace the \$2 bill with a \$2 coin in 1996.

February 19, 1996 - The Mint officially launches the new \$2 coin at a restaurant in Montreal.

February 1, 1999 - The Mint releases to circulation the second 1999 25-cent coin, featuring a “Etched in Stone” design, inspired by petroglyphs.

February 4, 2000 - In Windsor, Ontario, the Mint launches the February 25-cent nickel coin, entitled “Ingenuity”.

February 2005 - The Mint conducts its first melt of unsold inventory of numismatic products.

February 2007 - An Order-in-council authorizes the Royal Canadian Mint to issue a non-circulating legal tender coin with face value \$1,000,000.

February 15, 2007 - The Desjardins Group of Quebec issues a twelve-page report recommending the Government stop issuance of 1-cent coins, and remove them from circulation.

February 21, 2007 - The Mint releases the first of seventeen circulating 2010 Olympic coins. The 2007 25-cent piece depicts curling.

February 2008 - Krause Publications’ Coin of the Year: the 2006 \$50 Palladium Big Bear and Little Bear Constellation coin series.

You can find more Canadian coin history on my Web site timeline: Chronology of Canadian Coins, <http://www.islandnet.com/~kpolsson/cancoin>

HOSTAGE FOR A KING

This is the story of Pierre-Prosper Guéllon-Marc¹, living during a time of tremendous upheaval and danger, who took the path of humanity, honor and justice. Compelled by personal conviction he made a decision, to make a stand and take action which could prove to be very dangerous for him and his family.

Born 5 September 1752 in the city of Troyes in the Champagne region of France to a bourgeois family. He led a comfortable and rather unremarkable life. In fact, little beyond these basics is known of his early life. All changed with the eruption of the French Revolution in 1789.

The storming of the Bastille and the removal of King Louis XVI and his family from Versailles to Paris spread the Revolution throughout France. As with most revolutions, before and after, factionalism caused political, social and economic unrest. France was divided. The very nature of France, its social and political structure, was to be decided. The revolutionary factions were struggling between a constitutional monarch or a republic; while the counter-revolutionaries and monarchists wanted a complete restoration of the pre-1789 status quo. At first the moderate revolutionary factions, which favoured a constitutional monarchy, appeared to have the upper hand. The role of the king and the monarchy remained however a flash point.

Pro-monarchists activities, within France in regions such as the Vendée, and externally by the émigrés and monarchies of Europe, undermined the revolutionary moderates. The beginning of the end for their political agenda came between 20 - 25 June 1791, when Louis XVI and his family were intercepted at Varennes while trying to flee Paris for France's northeast frontier where monarchist troops were waiting to escort them to safety in Austrian territory. Louis XVI and his family were returned to Paris and placed under close guard in the Tuileries Palace.

After this momentous event, the radical revolutionary factions began to gain the upper hand, as the position of the moderates became weaker with each passing day. As the pressure from the monarchies of Europe began to mount and the threat of war increased, the situation for Louis XVI became more and more precarious.

The emboldened radicals began to openly accuse Louis XVI of treason against the French people and called for his trial. It is at this time that our rather unremarkable protagonist, Guéllon-Marc, makes his

entrance onto the stage of world history. In August 1791, he put his name to the list of Frenchmen offering themselves as sureties - hostages - for the release of Louis XVI. Guéllon-Marc, like the other signatories on the list, wanted the revolutionary government to allow Louis XVI to leave France with his family.

This action was dangerous and courageous, as it made Guéllon-Marc vulnerable to denunciation and attack by the revolutionaries. Throughout 1791 and 1792, as the political and social situation in France continued to deteriorate, public fear and hysteria began to spin out of control.

below: obverse of the medal struck to honor Pierre-Prosper Guéllon-Marc, shows his truncated bust facing left, in civilian dress. On his left lapel can be seen the Royalist Order of the Lys.



bronzed copper, chocolate brown patina, 41mm, struck by Masson.

This situation was exploited by the revolutionary radicals, who blamed Louis XVI for the desperate situation. They accused him of treason for plotting with France's enemies and waging war on her citizens. The year 1792 proved to be bad for Louis XVI: in August he and his family were imprisoned in the infamous Temple prison; on 21 September of that year the monarchy was abolished and finally in December 1792 he found himself on trial for his life.

Now Guéllon-Marc goes far beyond his initial act and takes an extraordinary and courageous step, which may well cost him his life. On 16 December 1792 he writes a letter to the president of the Convention, the French government dominated by revolutionary radicals, asking for the release of Louis XVI and his family; in return he offers his own head for that of the king. Aware of the danger, Guéllon-Marc states clearly that he alone takes this action; his wife, children, parents and friends being ignorant of his actions.

continued on next page

To remove any doubts about conflict of interest, he explains that he does not know nor has he dealt with the king personally, he has never been to the royal court, and he has not had any dealings with the king's ministers nor ever received any royal favour or payment.

His letter is an eloquent appeal to French humanity, honor and dignity. It warns of the dangers which will be unleashed if the king, whom he describes as one of the better kings, is murdered. His words: "do not familiarize a sensitive nation with ingratitude and blood"², are prophetic. These words forewarn of the wars, blood letting and great suffering which was to mark the next quarter century of French and European history. He states that all can be averted if the Convention acts honorably by allowing Louis XVI and his family to go into exile. In fact, Guélon-Marc states if this were to happen, the king would 'remember his native land fondly for this great deed'.



above: reverse of the medal with the legend: "P.P. GUÉLON MARC DE TROYES OTAGE DE LOUIS XVI SURNOMMÉ LE DÉCIUS FRANÇAIS" - 'P.P. Guélon Marc from Troyes hostage for Louis XVI nicknamed the French Decius'.

Guélon-Marc continues by offering if the Convention decrees death, to take the king's place and die in his stead.^{3,4} He was not taken up on his offer and his pleas fell on deaf ears. Louis XVI was executed on 21 January 1793; Queen Marie-Antoinette was executed 16 October 1793 and Louis XVI's son died in the Temple prison on 8 June 1795, due to neglect and abuse. Guélon-Marc continued his campaign for French honor. In September 1795 he succeeded in obtaining the release of Louis XVI's daughter.

Despite the fact that many men and women had become 'sons and daughters of Madame la Guillotine'⁵ for far less, Guélon-Marc survived the Revolution and in particular the Terror, be it much poorer financially. He remained loyal to the old regime and during the reign of Napoleon I, refused all positions offered him. In 1814, when Czar Alexander I visited Troyes, he lobbied for the restoration of the Bourbon dynasty, something which at

that time was not a certainty. Alexander I was so impressed that he honored him with the nickname the French Decius.⁶ In 1814, Guélon-Marc was awarded the Order of Saint-Louis for his dedication to the Bourbon cause. This almost proved to be his undoing, for when Napoleon's troops re-entered Troyes in 1815, he was tried and condemned to death by a war tribunal. Upon hearing of this, Napoleon I spared his life.

After the Second Bourbon Restoration in 1815, Guélon-Marc was feted in Paris by the royalists. Ultimately he was rewarded for his loyalty and devotion with a magisterial position as a commissioner of police in Troyes. He died 24 December 1822. Since then his name has largely been forgotten and become a mere footnote of history. During his lifetime however, his sense of French honor and the great personal risk he took in defending it commanded a great deal of respect.

by *Jean Pierre Driessen*

1 - "Nouvelle Biographie Général depuis Les Temps Les Plus Reculés, jusqu'à nos jours", volume 22, 1858; 2 - "Ne familiarisez pas une nation sensible avec l'ingratitude et le sang."; 3 - "acceptez une victime fière de se dévouer; que le sang d'un fidèle sujet soit seul versé. J'offre ma tête pour celle du meilleur des rois..."; 4 - he send a copy of his letter to Louis XVI, who replied: "Votre action, lui écrivait celui-ci, vous place au range des plus grands héros !"; 5 - concept used for victims of the guillotine; 6 - refers to the Roman consul Publius Decius Mus who selflessly sacrificed himself to save the Roman army from defeat in 340BC.

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History Explained

Did you ever wonder where some of our sayings come from? Their origins can be found in the mists of time. They derive from real life experiences, practices, customs and events. I invite you to read on and discover some of them. Have fun.

'Big Wig'

Hygiene was not high on the priority list of our ancestors. Some washed only twice a year - May and October. As hair posed a special problem due to lice and other pests, women kept theirs covered, while men shaved their heads and wore wigs. Rich men could afford quality wigs made of wool, these however could not be washed. So to 'clean' them, one would take a loaf of bread, cut it in half and hollow it out. The wig would be placed inside and then baked in the oven for 30 minutes. While killing the pests, the heat would also caused the wool of the wig to puff, making the wig big and fluffy. Hence the term 'Big Wig' to denote someone of wealth and importance.

'Not playing with a full deck'

Governments throughout the ages have tried to tax favorite pastimes. Playing cards were no different. In the 18th century a tax was levied on the purchase of a deck of cards, it applied specifically to the 'Ace of Spades'. Some people, ever inventive and not wanting to pay the tax, would only purchase 51 cards, leaving out the 'Ace of Spades'. Since most card games require 52 cards, these people were thought stupid and said to 'not be playing with a full deck'.

'Go Sip'

Politicians have always wanted to know what the common man considered important. In times past, the best places to get this information were the local pub, tavern or bar. Politicians would send their assistants to these places to 'go sip some ale' and listen to peoples conversations. Overtime the words 'go sip' merged into the term 'gossip', first referring to local opinion and eventually to any circulating rumor or tale.

'Minding your P' and Q's'

Before metric, the common measures for drinks were pints and quarts. A good serving maid would know which customer was drinking which, hence she was 'minding her P's and Q's'.

'Cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey' In the days of sail and gunpowder, ships were armed with cannon. To speed-up arming their cannon and fire on any enemy, a supply of cannon balls was to be kept near each cannon. A compact square based pyramid of a total of 30 balls was devised. One problem - cannon balls being round - how do you store them securely on the tipping deck of a ship. The solution was a metal plate with 16 indentations for the bottom row of balls called a 'Monkey'. It was made of brass, to prevent the iron cannon balls from rusting to the plate. Falling temperatures however, cause brass to contract more and faster than iron. In very cold weather this would causes the indentations of the 'monkey' in which the cannon balls rested to shrink, which in turn forced the iron cannon balls to dislodge and roll off the 'monkey' and onto the ship's deck. Thus the weather could literally be: 'cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey'.

'.....Bees Wax'

In the past the pox was a common disease. Those who survived it were often left with disfiguring scars and pits in the face (pox marks). To cover these, women would spread bees wax on their faces to fill-in the scars and marks, providing a smooth surface for the application of their makeup. When one woman stared at another, the response would often be 'mind your own bees wax'. Smiling was dangerous as the wax would crack, hence she had 'cracked a smile'. If a woman sat too close to a fire, the wax could melt and she would be 'losing her face'.

'Throwing out the baby with the bath water'

When a poor family in the past decided to bathe, it was a hierarchical affair. The same water would be used by all, starting with the head of the family and ending with the youngest. By the time the youngest, often the baby, was bathed, the water would be so dirty and black that it was quite possible to 'throw out the baby with the bath water', as you could no longer clearly see what was in the washtub.

'Costing an arm and a leg'

Time is money. This adage holds true for artists. In the past, a painter would ask the patron how he or she wished to be painted. The more complete the patron wished his body to be shown, the more expensive the painting would be. If you wanted all limbs (legs and arms) shown, the cost of the painting would be higher. It would literally cost you 'an arm and a leg'.

Watch for more witticisms from our ancestors in future issues. Kindest regards, Pierre Driessen.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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cheques payable to: The Edmonton Numismatic Society

for further details see the ENS website

www.edmontoncoinclub.com

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- subscription to the *Planchet* (published 10 times per year) to name but a few.

Current member !

If you are an ENS member, we encourage you to keep your membership and dues current. For us to stay in touch and for you to continue to receive your full ENS membership benefits, please provide us with your current information and notify us of any changes as soon as possible.



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The opinions herein are those of the individual authors and are not necessarily those of the Edmonton Numismatic Society.

Editors Note

Another year has come and gone, and we look back at all the things we have accomplished over the past year. I am proud to say that the ENS has done some remarkable things. The New Year gives us the opportunity to expand on what we have done and to start new projects. With 3 of the largest coin shows in Canada being held in our neck of the woods, 2009 will surely bring some excitement to the numismatic hobby. With the March money show coming up in just over a month, we would like to ask everyone who is willing to volunteer. What ever time you can give will be greatly appreciated by everyone, and with your help we can make the show even better than it has been in the past.

Last November we saw a few new displays set up at the front of the room. Because one of the goals of the ENS is to advocate Numismatics to the general public, I believe displays at our show is a great way to introduce people to numismatic fields they would otherwise overlook. My goal is to have more displays for our future shows.

To do so, I will be giving a **FREE SILVER MAPLE LEAF** to the display that exhibits the most interest, knowledge, and appearance at the March show. Second prize will be a Canadian silver dollar of my choosing. If you would like to make a display for the show, I will be handing out forms at the February meeting, or you can email me your display requirements through my ENS email account. See you in February.

Matt Sztym
Editor, *The Planchet*

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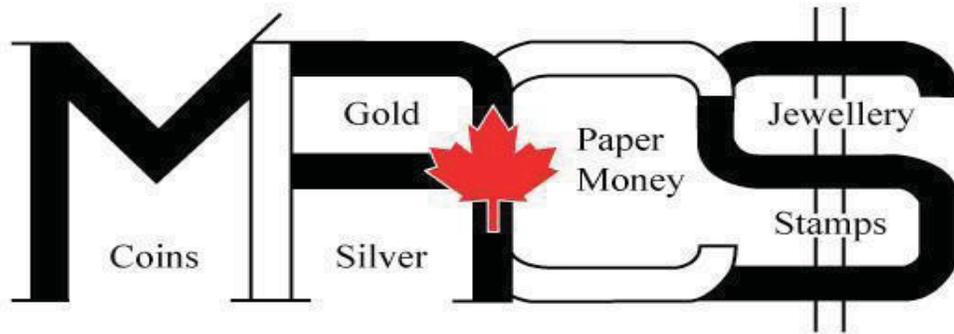
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