



# bickels



# COIN AND MEDAL NEWS

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## MINT'S HUGE TASK FINISHED

The South African Mint is ahead of the gigantic task it was set this year — the manufacturing of the country's new coinage. The final tally shows the Mint's production was eight times more than in 1963.

A total of 1,100 tons of nickel were used and these made 237 million coins. About 40 million coins is a normal year's production.

The colossal work record was achieved by the imposition of two daily shifts; the installation of six new presses and efficient planning by senior officials.

The figure this year is made up of 57 million 20 cent coins (released last month); 60 million 2 cent coins; 55 million 10 cent coins and 65 million 5 cent coins.

The Mint is so far ahead of its schedule that before it closes down for its annual three week holiday on December 10, the presses will have started on the new coins for next year.

The masters for the 1966 proof sets have been made and the Mint plans to begin production of these sets immediately after the holiday on January 3.

"Frankly, the silver R1 made for the 1965 proof sets was not quite up to standard," a senior official said.

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The picture shows one of the brilliant long sets (every coin from the gold R2 to the one cent) which the South African Mint has sent out this year. Already the Mint has posted 15,000 of the total 26,000 produced for the 1965 series. Collectors will notice the Mint has changed the design of the boxes for this year. (See a reader's comment on the new series on Page 3.)

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

### We're off on Holiday

Christmas is nearly here and we're off on holiday. Bickels shop will close its doors on the evening of December 24 and reopen on the morning of January 3, 1966.

Likewise, the editorial staff will also be on leave. Like most numismatic journals, we will not publish a mid-summer issue. We will be hard at work again at the end of January for February's issue. All subscribers' renewal dates will automatically be advanced by one month.

We wish all our readers a very Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year — and good collecting.

**BICKELS'****COIN AND MEDAL NEWS**

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**SIX MONTHS AND MORE**

The first six months in the life of a magazine or newspaper are the most difficult, particularly when the journal is treading unexplored territory. Our first six months are over and we can look back with a certain amount of satisfaction as our task has not been easy.

Coin collecting is still in its infancy in South Africa and although we have seen tremendous excitement at local sales, it does not mean that numismatism is an established hobby in South Africa. Far from it.

The study of numismatism has been conducted by learned people ever since South Africa had coins. These people bought proofsets; pattern sets; uncirculated and other rare coins every year. But theirs was only an absorbing hobby.

South Africans have long known the value of some rare stamps, but the potential of investment in coins has gone virtually unnoticed until about 18 months ago. The South African Mint even battled to get rid of a few hundred sets every year.

Local interest was sparked off last year by American buying on the local market. Numismatists noticed - some with great alarm - the upward trend in prices of our proofsets. But still most South

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 3)

**Details of our Pattern Sets**

A Pattern set of the 1965 coinage was recently auctioned for R700 at a Johannesburg sale. No one is quite sure from where it came, but its appearance caused great interest. In the September issue of the South African Numismatic Journal, which has just been published, Dr. F.K. Mitchell, the editor, discusses the Pattern sets. We publish a condensed version of Dr. Mitchell's article:

At the request of the Parliamentary Select Committee on Coinage, the then Director of South African Mint, Mr. G.J. Malan, obtained in March or April 1964, permission to strike a series of pattern coins to help the Select Committee in its deliberations and to make it easier for members of the Committee, and for members of delegations due to give evidence before it to understand the new coinage proposals.

A set of these patterns was shown, confidentially, at a meeting of the South African Numismatic Society by Mr. Malan early in May 1964. At that meeting Mr. Malan made it quite clear that the designs on these patterns were tentative only. Final designs were to be decided upon by the Minister of Finance and his Cabinet colleagues.

I am privileged to place on record a detailed description of these historic patterns which played such an important part in the transition to the new coinage at present being gradually introduced into circulation.

The set consists of six pieces: 50 cents, 10 cents, and 5 cents in nickel, and 2 cents and 1 cent in "penny" bronze. (The inclusion of a silver one Rand piece was not contemplated at the time the patterns were struck. The one Rand silver was included in the "South African Mint and Coinage Act" of 1964 only as a result of representations by the South African Numismatic Society in its memorandum, and in the evidence given on the 20th May, 1964).

**OBVERSE PLATE**

The obverse design is identical on all six denominations, except for the language of the inscription. The design shows a profile bust facing to the right of Jan van Riebeeck, commander of the first Dutch party which settled at the Cape in 1652. When compared with the design finally chosen for our coinage this pattern bust, also by Tom Sasseen, is larger and nearer to the left edge of the piece. The hair is less wavy and the coiffure less square on the shoulders. The nose is not quite so straight and the moustache is more pronounced. The letters of the inscription on the right "SUID-AFRIKA 1965" or "SOUTH AFRICA 1965" are considerably larger than on the equivalent denomination of our approved coinage. The whole obverse, especially of the 50 cent and 20 cent pieces, has a somewhat concave

or saucerised appearance. There is a much less pronounced rim at the edge.

The inscription is in Afrikaans "SUID-AFRIKA 1965", on the 50 cents, 10 cents and 2 cent pieces, and in English "SOUTH AFRICA 1965" on the alternate denominations, 20 cents, 5 cents and 1 cent. The date is "1965" notwithstanding the fact that these patterns were struck early in 1964.

**AXIS**

It should particularly be noted that in the approved coinage obverse and reverse designs are in the same axis, in all these patterns the reverse is at an axis of 180° to the obverse. If one of these patterns and its equivalent in our approved coinage, are placed obverse uppermost alongside one another and then turned over in an identical manner, it will be seen that the pattern design is "upside-down" to the coinage design.

**REVERSE PLATE**

50 cents: This design is identical to that approved for the coinage, except that the coinage design has a more pronounced rim. The surface is slightly concave. The edge is slightly wider, the diameter the same (28.0 m.m.) and the weight 10.54 grams.

20 cents: This design is identical, but the coin has a more pronounced rim. The diameter is distinctly smaller - 23.2 m.m., compared with 24.2 m.m. Weight 5.48 grams.

10 cents: The design is entirely different from the Aloe design of the approved coin by Jan van Zyl. It shows in profile a beautiful running Springbok, nose up, horns back, running to the left. Below the buck's forelegs is the value, "10". The diameter is distinctly less than the approved coin - 20.0 m.m. as compared with 20.7 m.m. Weight: 3.50 grams.

5 cents: Except that the rim is slightly less pronounced than on the coin, this design is identical to the approved coin. The diameter is also identical - 17.42 m.m. Weight: 2.51 grams.

2 cents: This design is identical, though considerably smaller. The diameter is much less - 18.9 m.m. compared with 22.45. Weight 3.00 grams.

1 cent: This design is also identical to that of the approved coin though on a reduced scale. The diameter is much less - 16.2 m.m. compared with 19.05. Weight: 1.00 grams.

## NO HOARDING APPEAL TO U.S. COLLECTORS

The issue of the new American sandwich coins (copper-nickel alloy with a core of copper) is less than two months away and already State officials are appealing to collectors not to hoard them.

Although ½ billion quarters will be distributed in the new year, Mr. R.A. Wallace, assistant secretary of the Treasury, has asked collectors to hold off for the first three months.

He has assured collectors that there will be enough for all but he is wary that numismatists might create a shortage similar to the one of silver coins which forced the U.S. Congress to outlaw silver coins and instruct the Mint to produce the new variety to discourage collectors.

More than 3½ billion dollars, dimes and quarters will be made for issue next year. This is double the amount of silver coins made during the last two years.

Mr. Wallace forecast there would be no economic advantage from hoarding because the U.S. Government will control the price of silver.

### S.A. 31st. IN WORLD'S MINTS

South Africa ranks 31st in a list of coin producing countries of the Western world, according to a report recently issued by the United States Mint.

Topping the list is the U.S.A. with 3,840,078,091 coins, nearly double her nearest rival, India, with 1,647,660,000, struck in the same period.

South Africa is listed as minting 36,810,500 coins. Just above her is the Republic of China (Taiwan) with 38,000,000 coins and below her is Hong Kong with 36,100,000 coins minted during the same period.

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 1)

"I think this was caused by the great pressure of work on us. We did not have the time and the striking of these coins was to rushed.

"This will not happen next year. I hope the sets will be completed by April - giving us four months to obtain a first-class finish. We will start sending them out in April."

The official said he hoped the striking of the three remaining denominations, would be completed by mid-1966.

Africans were unaware of the coin collecting potential.

We, as coin dealers, were bombarded daily with hundreds of letters and telephone calls ALL ASKING - SOME EVEN DEMANDING INFORMATION. The time had arrived for South Africa's first coin magazine.

Two problems faced us: The need to tell people about coins and what was going on in the coin world and advise them to buy wisely. Our policy has never been to promote useless spending and hoarding, but rather to encourage careful investment which will realize a handsome return for the owner in years to come.

The steadying in the market will mean the average salaried man will be able to afford worthwhile sets.

The stabilization will result in the attraction of more people to coin collecting and the more people who become interested, the better it is for the market ultimately.

Although we are still finding our feet, the response from collectors has been such to ensure our continuation. Whether a monthly numismatic publication can survive in South Africa depends on you, the collector. And we have faith in you!

### READERS' LETTERS

*I have collected every set made in the past 25 years and I am convinced the current issue, which marks the change in our coinage, is the most attractive produced by the Mint. Not only are the coins of an extremely high standard, but the three different boxes for the sets do great credit to the Mint and to South Africa.*

*The lay Press has written about the fantastic demand for this year's sets by South African and overseas collectors. I realize the Mint was worked beyond its normal capacity this year, but I wonder if the Minister of Finance and his senior officials should not recognise that the sale of proof sets is both a very money-making proposition and a tremendous boost to the Republic overseas.*

*I would like to see the Minister officially recognise this and make more staff and funds available in future for the production of the sets on a much larger scale. I, and I am sure many other collectors would welcome such a step.*

From I.W. CAPE

# RHODESIAN COIN PRICES

This is the second in the series of Rhodesian coin prices compiled by the well-known Canadian numismatist, Mr. Jerome H. Remick. The lists originally appeared in World Coin and last month we published the price reviews for the halfpenny and penny. This month the threepence and sixpence are featured and in February (there will not be a January issue of this magazine) the shilling and florin prices will be listed. The recent international concern about Rhodesia has created great interest in the country's coinage. All the prices have been converted from dollars to Rands and Cents.

## THREEPENNE

DATE	MINTAGE	UNC.	E.F.	V.F.	F.	V.G.
1932	888,000	3.50	1.92	.87	.52	.35
1934	828,000	4.20	2.10	.94	.52	.35
1935	840,000	4.20	1.92	.94	.52	.35
1938	1,051,800	3.32	1.75	.87	.52	.35
1937	1,228,400	4.20	1.92	1.22	.70	.45
1939	160,000	4.55	2.10	1.40	1.05	.70
1940	1,200,000	2.80	1.22	.70	.45	.28
1941	600,000	2.80	1.22	.70	.45	.28
1942	2,000,000	2.80	1.05	.70	.45	.28
1944	1,600,000	2.48	1.05	.70	.42	.24
1945	800,000	2.45	1.05	.70	.42	.24
1946	2,400,000	2.45	1.05	.70	.42	.24
1947	8,000,000	2.97	1.40	.87	.52	.35
1948	2,000,000	2.27	.87	.45	.24	.17
1949	4,000,000	1.92	.87	.45	.24	.14
1951	5,600,000	1.57	.70	.35	.21	.10
1952	4,800,000	1.57	.70	.35	.21	.10
1955	1,200,000	.94	.35	.21	.14	.07
1956	3,200,000	.87	.35	.21	.14	.07
1957	6,000,000	.70	.35	.21	.14	.07
1962	4,000,000	.31	.14	.07	—	—
1963	2,000,000	.24	.14	.07	—	—

## SIXPENNE

DATE	MINTAGE	UNC.	E.F.	V.F.	F.	V.G.
1932	544,000	4.20	2.27	1.05	.59	.42
1934	214,000	5.25	2.62	1.57	1.05	.70
1935	380,000	4.55	2.27	1.15	.63	.45
1938	675,000	4.02	2.27	1.05	.59	.42
1937	823,000	5.25	2.80	1.75	.94	.63
1939	200,000	5.25	2.62	1.57	1.05	.70
1940	600,000	4.02	1.92	.97	.52	.35
1941	3,000,000	3.85	1.92	.97	.52	.35
1942	1,200,000	3.50	1.40	.97	.52	.35
1944	800,000	2.97	1.29	.80	.49	.31
1945	400,000	2.97	1.29	.80	.49	.31
1946	1,600,000	2.80	1.22	.77	.45	.28
1947	5,000,000	3.67	1.92	1.15	.56	.38
1948	1,000,000	2.27	1.05	.59	.35	.21
1949	2,000,000	2.27	1.05	.59	.35	.21
1950	2,000,000	1.92	.94	.52	.28	.17
1951	2,800,000	1.75	.94	.52	.28	.17
1952	1,200,000	1.75	.94	.52	.28	.17
1955	400,000	1.15	.52	.28	.17	.10
1956	800,000	1.05	.49	.28	.17	.10
1957	4,000,000	1.05	.45	.28	.17	.10
1962	2,800,000	.42	.17	.10	—	—
1963	800,000	.31	.17	.07	—	—

## S.A. COLLECTORS MUST "THINK BIG" — AND QUICK

By S.E. Edwards.

South African numismatists tend to be much more parochial in their collecting habits than their philatelic brothers. They concentrate almost entirely on South African coins to the exclusion of other countries. South African stamp collectors, on the other hand, take a keen interest in South African stamps but also give the rest of the world a chance and collect the stamps of other countries.

The numismatists' habit of collecting only the coins of the country in which he lives is not confined to South Africa. Americans collect U.S. coins; Canadians collect Canadian coins and Australians collect their own coins. They tend to neglect coins of other countries. This results in the price of the domestic coins of any country going sky high, while coins of "foreign" countries, for which there is little demand, are relatively cheap. For example, at a recent auction sale in Melbourne, Australia, a South African 1959 set (including the 1959 crown) sold for exactly half what it would have realised in Johannesburg at that date. But a 1930 Australian penny, in very ordinary condition, fetched the equivalent of R200.00 at the same sale. How much would it have realised in Johannesburg?

So the perceptive coin collector can sometimes make a killing. By taking an interest in the coins of other countries he can often pick up "foreign" coins very cheaply. He can then either hold onto them as an investment or sell in the country of origin, sometimes at a handsome profit.

Just think what bargains you (yes you!) have missed by neglecting coins of Rhodesia. Only a few months ago you could have had all the halfcrowns, etc. you wanted for the asking. Now, where are you going to find S. Rhodesian and Federation silver? It has been withdrawn and melted down! The North Americans realised what was afoot and have jumped in before you. (See Mr. Remick's figures in this issue).

## PRICE TRENDS: SOUTH AFRICAN PENNIES

Between 1770 and the end of the century the practice of counterfeiting became so prevalent in England that scarcely any genuine British copper coins remained in circulation. The 1770-1775 issue was melted in huge quantities and made into lightweight counterfeit coins; the only other pieces in circulation were the merchants' tokens issued by private firms for their own convenience.

It was during this period that Matthew Boulton offered a solution to the problem by proposing that (1) each coin should contain its intrinsic value of metal, (2) a retaining collar should be used to maintain a constant diameter and (3) a broad raised rim should be used to save the coin from undue wear. He further proposed that a steam powered coinage press be used to produce a more uniformly finished coin with a greater rate of output.

On June 9, 1797, the Government signed a contract with Boulton providing for the coinage of 20 tons of twopence and 480 tons of pennies. The coins were made current July 26, 1797, and the one penny piece was to weigh one ounce avoirdupois and correspond as nearly as possible to its nominal value. They were to be legal tender up to one shilling. A total of £310,885 worth of pennies was coined between 1797 and 1807 by Boulton at the Soho mint. Conrad H. Kuchler was the designer. The unique piece dated 1808 was formerly in the Boulton estate.

DATE	QUANTITY MINTED	UNC.	E.F.	V.F.	F.	V.G.	G.
1892	27,882	3.50	2.00	1.50	.80	.35	.15
1893	54,781	45.00	37.50	30.00	17.50	8.00	3.00
1894	10,789	4.75	3.00	2.00	1.25	.80	.25
1898	282,830	2.50	1.70	1.00	.60	.30	.15
1900	BLANK WITH RIM	12.00	10.00	8.00	4.00	1.00	.50
1923	91,027	4.50	3.25	2.75	1.75	.50	.25
1924	134,487	4.00	3.00	2.50	1.50	.40	.20
1925	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1926	393,095	2.25	1.75	1.00	.75	.25	.10
1927	285,168	2.50	1.75	1.00	.75	.25	.10
1928	385,889	2.25	1.75	1.00	.75	.25	.10
1929	1,082,574	1.00	.75	.35	.20	.10	.05
1930	754,280	1.75	1.00	.50	.30	.20	.10
1931	248,430	2.50	1.75	1.00	.75	.25	.10
1932	259,519	2.50	1.75	1.00	.75	.25	.10
1933	224,918	2.50	1.75	1.00	.75	.25	.10
1934	2,090,077	1.00	.75	.50	.25	.10	.05
1935	2,295,191	1.00	.75	.50	.25	.10	.05
1936	1,818,843	1.00	.75	.50	.25	.10	.05
1937	3,281,046	.75	.45	.20	.10	.05	.02
1938	1,839,501	1.00	.75	.50	.25	.10	.05
1939	1,505,782	1.00	.75	.50	.25	.10	.05
1940	3,591,840	.85	.40	.20	.10	.05	.02
1941	7,870,735	.60	.30	.15	.10	.02	—
1942	14,427,779	.50	.20	.10	.05	.02	—
1943	4,010,040	.75	.35	.20	.10	.05	.02
1944	6,424,699	.70	.35	.20	.10	.05	.02
1945	4,809,723	.75	.35	.20	.10	.05	.02
1946	2,605,153	.85	.40	.25	.10	.05	.02
1947	135,279	4.00	3.00	2.00	1.00	.50	.25
1948	2,398,006	1.25	.75	.35	.20	.10	.05
1949	3,633,691	1.00	.70	.30	.15	.10	.05
1950	4,890,026	.75	.35	.20	.10	.05	.02
1951	3,786,703	.75	.35	.20	.10	.05	.02
1952	10,854,085	.50	.20	.10	.05	.02	—
1953	7,510,375	.80	.30	.15	.05	.02	—
1954	6,864,962	.60	.30	.15	.05	.02	—
1955	6,507,761	.60	.30	.15	.05	.02	—
1956	4,289,583	.60	.30	.15	.05	.02	—
1957	3,972,519	.60	.30	.15	.05	.02	—
1958	5,311,361	.60	.30	.15	.05	.02	—
1959	5,065,642	.60	.30	.15	.05	.02	—
1960	5,106,269	.60	.30	.15	.05	.02	—
1961	52,273,859	.30	.15	.05	—	—	—
1962	21,932,700	.35	.20	.05	.02	—	—
1963	9,085,141	.60	.35	.15	.05	—	—
1964	—	.40	.25	.10	.02	—	—

WAAR KOM ONS GELDSTUKKE SE NAME VANDAAN?

# Die Stuiwer

deur FRIKKIE PRINS

Ons gesels hierdie maand oor stuiwer, d.w.s. die halfpennie. Soos die oortjie het stuiwer saam met ons Hollandse voorouers se taal na Suid-Afrika gekom; nie as stuiwer nie, maar as stuiver. Daardie v het hier by ons 'n w geword. Dit kan ons sien in woorde soos duivel (duiwel), suivel (suiwel), ijver (ywer), drijver (drywer) en so meer.

Die stuiwer is oorspronklik van silwer gemaak; later van nikkel en nog later van brons. Sy oorspronklike waarde was agt „duiten”. Later, met desimalisasie in Holland, word dit vyf sent.

Daar is nie eenstemmigheid oor die herkoms van die woord stuiwer nie. Dit kan in verband gebring word met boomstomp, waar die bedoeling dan eintlik is 'n afgesnyde of afgeknotte deel van die stomp – dus 'n brok, 'n stuk of iets dergeliks, dit wil dan sê 'n stuk of 'n deel van 'n groter muntstuk.

Op die eerste stuiwer was daar onder andere vuurysters afgebeeld waarvan vonke weggespat het, of dan wel weggestuif het. Dit bring ons dan by die Hollandse stuiven, en 'n ding wat stuif is 'n stuiver. Hierdie vuurystermotief het weer sy eie geskiedenis. Dit is ontleen aan die vuurslagmotief van die Huis van Boergondië.

Die stuiwer is die eerste keer in die 15de eeu in Holland gebruik van waar die naam verder versprei het.

Stuiver is in die daaropvolgende eeue in baie muntverordeninge gebruik. In 'n wet van 28 September 1816 is dit egter vervang deur „stuk van een twintigsten gulden, of van vijf cents”, maar hieraan het die mense hulle min gesteur. Hulle het nog maar van stuiver gepraat. In 'n wet van 21 Desember 1906, waarby die vyfsentstuk van nikkel ingevoer is, word stuiver as die offisiële naam herstel.

Stuiver word vandag nog deur ouer mense in sekere dele van Holland gebruik.

Ons kry die woord stuiwer ook in die Bybel, vgl. Matt. 10:29 en Luk. 12:6. In Matt. 10:29 staan daar: „Word twee mossies nie vir 'n stuiwer verkoop nie”? Die Hollandse en Engelse weergawes van hierdie teks lui onderskeidelik so: „Worden niet twee muschjes om een penningsken verkocht”, en “Are not sparrows two a penny?”

# RHODESIAN COINS PO

# WE ADVI

TO INVEST IN RHODESIAN COINAGE. TH... been popular among South African numismatists, bu... ance both here and on the foreign market.

The dissolution of the Central African Fed... being taken in Rhodesia's coinage used before the... during the years of the Federation.

But recent political develop-... ments in Rhodesia have pushed this... small state with its four million... Blacks and 220,000 Whites right... onto the front pages of every news-... paper in the world – even those in... the Soviet Union.

Rhodesia's assumption of polit-... ical independence last month will... ensure that the country will come to... the notice of almost every collector... in the Western world. This will un-... doubtedly result in rush on Rhodesian... coinage. We, who border the country,... should make sure we take advantage... of our proximity and beat foreigners... to this almost untouched market by... storing away as many coins as... possible.

The greatest snag to wise in-... vestment in Rhodesian coinage is... the lack of knowledge about the... subject. No recognised numismatist... has produced a reference work on... the country's coinage and the only... complete list of mintages and values... appeared in a recent issue of World... Coin.

In 1932 the Royal Mint struck... the first coins for Rhodesia. Pre-... vious to this, the colony used... British coins. Rhodesian coins were... minted until Federation in 1955 and... after the dissolution by the South... African Mint.

The first crown was minted in... 1953 when two varieties were struck. Although both have identical ob-... verses and reverses the lettering,... “Out of Vision came Reality 1853 –... 1953”, on the edge of the crown is

the right way up... and upside down

The coins fro... be distinguished... designs: 2/6, Shie... Sable antelope; 1/-... bird; 6d, Two n... crossed; 1d and 1/2d... rose. (The reigning... is on the obverse of

Mintages in the... as little as 160,00... 2 million. These... small compared to... South Africa and... to U.S. and Britis

This fact, co... almost total abse... will mean very fe... coins are now in... on the coins, as we... soon absorb all... Rhodesian coins.

Here is a li... dates for each deno

HALFP

- 1936
- 1939
- 1934
- 1938
- 1952

PENI

- 1938
- 1935
- 1934
- 1942

THREE

- 1939
- 1937
- 1935



# PULAR AFTER CRISIS SE YOU....

The coinage from our northern neighbour has always recently these coins have assumed greater importance

was partly responsible for the interest now amalgamation of the three territories and that used

on half the issue in the rest. From 1932-1954 can be by the following field of arms; 2/-, Zimbabwe stone native war axes l. Crowned double monarch's head of all coins.)

years range from to a maximum of figures are even those struck for are infinitesimal mintings,

coupled with the nce of collectors, w of the scarcer circulation A run e anticipate, may the worthwhile

st of the scarce mination:

ENNY  
240,000  
480,000  
240,000  
240,000  
480,000

NY  
240,000  
492,000  
300,000  
480,000

PENCE  
160,000  
1,228,400  
840,000

1932		688,000
	SIXPENCE	
1934		214,000
1939		200,000
1937		823,000
1935		380,000
1941		300,000
1955		400,000
	SHILLING	
1955		200,000
1934		333,000
1939		420,000
1940		750,000
	FLORIN	
1939		120,000
1934		154,000
1941		400,000
1932		498,000
	HALF CROWN	
1956		160,000
1939		224,000
1938		400,000
1934		419,000

\*\*\*

Only one crown, that in 1953, was struck.

Proof sets:

1932 (2/6 - 3d.)	- 496
1937 (2/6 - 1d.)	- 40 (Very rare)
1953 (5/- only)	- 1,500 (Only three copies of case with two crowns known)
1964 (2/6 - 6d.)	- 2,048 (These sets are already hard to find and command high prices)

## Americans Fooled by Coin Hoax

The imaginary Asiatic kingdom of Itse and its even more imaginary \$24.95 Proof sets have rocketed to front-page treatment in a major American daily newspaper.

The Wilmington, Del., Evening Journal, in its August 27 edition, remarked, "Some coin collectors take their hobby so seriously they can't tell a Proof set from a spoof, yet!" Staff writer Tom Greer headed his front-page feature story "Some Coin Collectors Shouldn't."

The Itse Proof sets have been causing literary pundits in such leading news media as the New York Times to exert their best rhetoric in lampooning the coin collectors who will order anything, from anywhere, labelled as a Proof set.



Orders and cheques for Itse Proof sets started flowing to New York City's Chase Manhattan Bank and Irving Trust Co. after a spoof, authored by Ruth Hukill of the Wilmington Coin Club appeared in the August issue of World Coins magazine. The article gave the name of an imaginary financial institution, the "Chase Pierpont Irving Bank" in New York City. Mrs. Hukill's article, partially reprinted in the Wilmington Evening Journal, New York Times, Coin World, etc., recounted how Itse's ruler, Prince Brigand III, had graciously offered Proof sets to the numismatists of the world in such metals as cupro-cardboard, .600 fine iron and .800 fine tin.

Itse was identified as lying between Inner Mongolia and Outer Mongolia, and so small even Inner Mongolia

(Continued on Page 8, Col. 1)

and Outer Mongolia didn't know it was there unless the wind was right. It was also identified as the place the Asiatic flu comes from every year, and its coins were called sickcoins and wellcoins (depending on whether one had the flu or not.)

Each order was to come packed in a case inlaid with one genuine hair off an Abominable Snowman, accompanied by a snifter of Itse brandy and shipped in empty Itse yak butter cartons.

Shortly after the spoof appeared, the New York banks started receiving orders and cheques addressed to the "Itse account" at the "Chase Pierpont Irving Bank." Other letters were returned to their senders marked "insufficient address."

Several letters of complaint were addressed to World Coins after collectors had received back their cheques, most wanting the "correct address."

One interesting letter was from a gentleman who preferred to receive investment advice before sending for the sets. He asked magazine staffers to comment on whether the Itse sets would be a safe investment.

Capping the climax of the Itse story is a brief sequel written by reader Fred Cohen, Braircliff Manor, N.Y., to Mrs. Hukill's imaginative article. Cohen writes: "Following is an excerpt from a letter I recently received from R.U. Serius, royal mintmaster of the Nomadaville Mint of H.R.H. Prince Brigand III.

"Serius noted, 'Our original minting of only 1,750,000 sets has been oversubscribed. We are sorry we are unable to ship the Proof Sets you requested at this time. Prince Brigand III however has granted permission for us to issue a small additional minting of 1,250,000 sets to accommodate those collectors unable to obtain coins from the original limited striking.

" 'A maximum of 500 sets per order will be allowed. To distinguish new mintings from old, we are eliminating the inclusion of the Abominable Snowman hair. The price remains the same.' "

(Reprinted from the September issue of the U.S. Newspaper, Coin World."

## NOG RAAD VIR BEGINNERS

deur Amateur Versamelaar.

Dit is belangrik dat u stokperdjie 'n plesier moet bly en nie 'n frustrerende uitwerking moet hê nie. Ek wil dus 'n wenk aan die hand gee aan die versamelaars wat sukkel om volledige stelle van elke Suid-Afrikaanse munt wat sedert 1923 geslaan is, bymekaar te kry. Dis 'n moeilike taak soos ek al uitgevind het, veral as u gesteld is op kwaliteit.

'n Alternatief is om 'n goeie muntstuk van elke verskillende "tipe" te versamel. Laat ons as voorbeeld neem die kroon wat sedert 1947 tot 1964 geslaan is. Tussen die 18 wat geslaan is, is daar verskillende tipes, naamlik die 1947 met 'n muntkant wat lees - Georgius VI Rex Imperator. In 1948 verander dit na Georgius Sextus Rex en in 1952 verander die kruiskant na die Dromedaris. In 1953 verander die muntkant na Elizabeth II

Regina. In 1960 verander die kruis en muntkant na die Unie-waapen en die Uniegebou en in 1961 verander die muntkant na Jan van Riebeeck se kop. Daar is dus 6 "tipes" wat u moet versamel - dit maak nou nie saak watter jaartal op 'n bepaalde tipe verskyn nie.

Dis maar 'n voorbeeld wat ek geneem het en die belangrikheid sal nou kom om vas te stel hoeveel verskillende tipes daar in elke muntsoort voorkom sedert 1923, en dit dan te versamel. Hoekom werk u dit nie uit ten opsigte van die ander muntstukke nie en stuur u bevindings aan die redakteur, sodat ander lesers ook daaruit kan leer. As u gedagtes wil wissel oor die "tipe" versameling van munte kan u gerus skryf.

## SWOP ADS.

Benodig: 1950, 53, 54, 55, 56, 59, 62 en 64 kroon in goeie toestand, asook 1960 tienie en 1961, 62, 63 en 64 se 2½c.

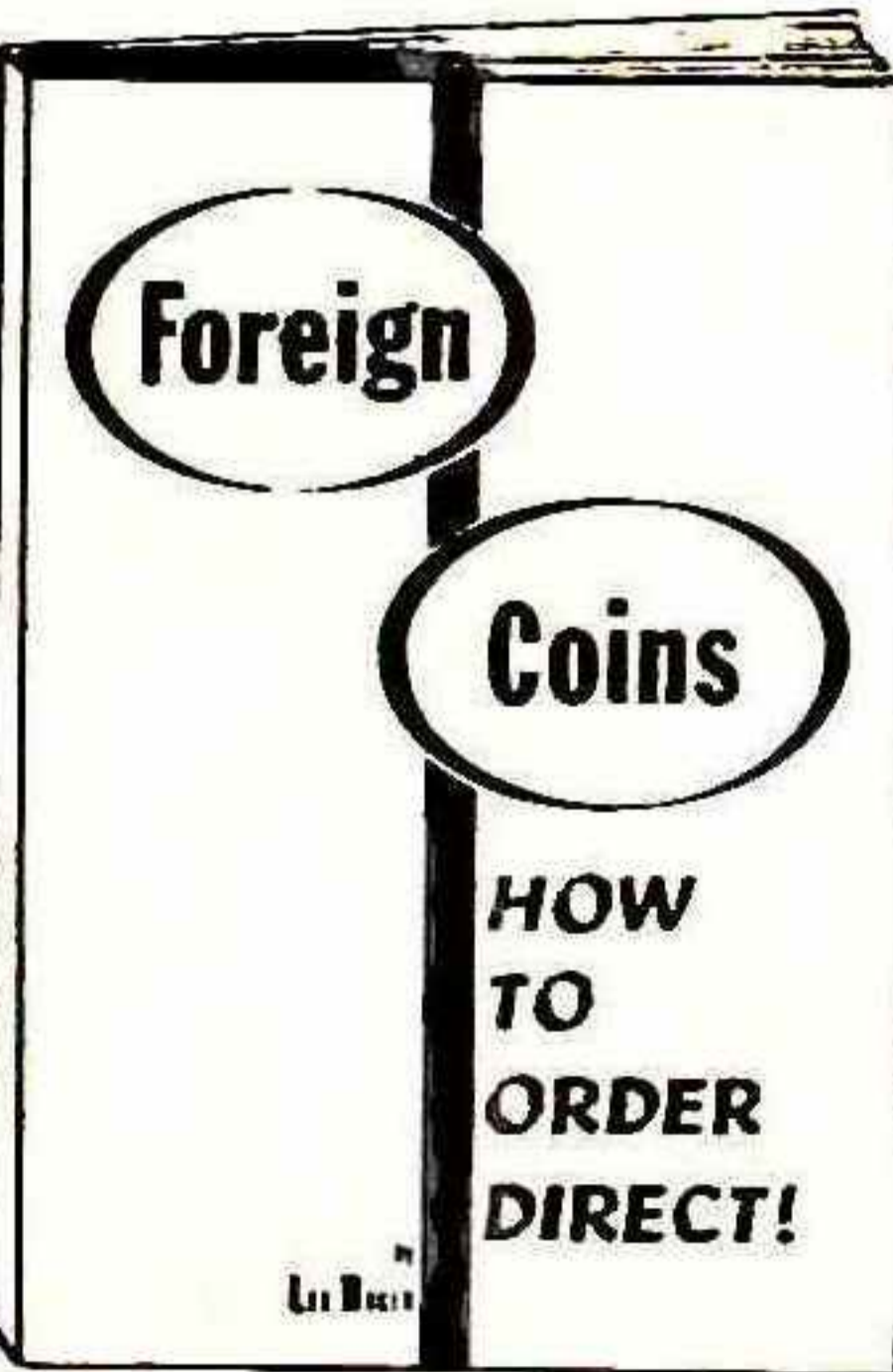
R.M. Burema,  
WOLMARANSSTAD.

• • •

I have large numbers of South African copper and silver coins to exchange. Please send lists of coins wanted and swops offered to Nigel McLean, 511, Africa House, Rissik Street, Jhb.

• • •

A Canadian would like to trade his coins for South Africa coins. Write Harvey Piercy, Box 1787, Courtenay, B.C., CANADA.



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# PRICE LIST

## BICKELS' COINS AND MEDALS

GROUND FLOOR SHOP AT 151 JEPPE ST.. (off RISSIK ST..)

LIST 111  
DECEMBER 1965  
Valid to end December 1965 only  
(Cancels all previous lists)

Arthur Bickel  
Richard Bickel

P.O. Box 10690.  
Johannesburg.  
South Africa.  
Phone: 531-8210

- NOTES: 1. PAYMENT: Please send either cheque, money order or postal order.  
2. All items offered are subject to being unsold or in stock at time order is received.  
Where applicable, please order by number.  
3. NEXT LIST: February, 1965.

### SOUTH AFRICAN PROOF SETS in original case of issue

#### SHORT SETS (WITHOUT GOLD)

890	1951 per set	R	56.00
891	1952 per set		45.00
892	1954 per set		62.00
893	1955 per set		56.00
894	1961 per set		35.00
895	1962 per set		48.00
896	1963 per set		45.00
897	1964 per set		25.00
898	1965 per set		45.00
898a	Complete run of S.A. Short Sets 1947 to 1965		1500.00

#### LONG SETS (WITH GOLD)

899	1952 per set	R	75.00
900	1954 per set		145.00
901	1955 per set		155.00
902	1963 per set		85.00
903	1965 per set		105.00
904	Complete run of S.A. Long Sets 1952 to 1965		2200.00

### SOUTH AFRICAN PROOF-LIKE SS CROWNS SS = Specially select i.e. prooflike finish

905	1953 each	R	18.50
906	1954 each		42.50
907	1960 each		17.50

908	1961 each		19.00
909	1962 each		26.00
910	1963 each		14.50
911	1964 each		8.00

### SOUTH AFRICAN UNCIRCULATED CROWNS Genuinely uncirculated crowns

912	1947 each	R	6.75
913	1948 each		7.75
914	1949 each		9.00
915	1958 each		8.50
916	1960 each		3.75
917	1962 each		10.50
918	1963 each		3.25
919	1964 each		3.00

### SPECIAL:

920	Bickel's South African Crown Album - upholstered De Luxe Red Leatherette and Gold Cover with transparent polythene pockets showing date and quantity minted for each Crown		3.95
-----	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--	------

### SOUTH AFRICAN UNC SETS - SELECT MINT ISSUE

The set consists of a prooflike Crown SS=  
(Special Select) and all the currency issues  
of minor coins in uncirculated condition -  
50c, 20c, 10c, 5c, 2½c (Silver), 1c, ½c (Bronze).

### PRE-DECIMAL 1/4d to 5/-

921	1947 per set	R	60.00
-----	--------------	---	-------

922	1948 per set		88.00	950	HOLLAND Wilhelmina 2½G 1939	EF		5.25
923	1949 per set (no shilling)		60.00	951	SWITZERLAND 5 FR. 1923	VF		4.75
924	1958 per set		35.00	952	AUSTRIA F. Jozsef 5 Korona			
925	1959 per set		150.00		1900	VF		4.95
926	1960 per set		30.00	953	LIBERIA 1 Dol. 1962	UNC		3.00
DECIMAL SERIES - ½c to 50c				954	AUSTRIA F. Jozsef 5 Korona			
					1908	VF		7.50
927	1961 per set	R	22.00	955	GERMANY Otto von Bayern			
928	1962 per set		33.00		5 Mark 1900	VF		8.50
929	1963 per set		18.00	956	HOLLAND Juliana 2½G			
930	1964 per set		15.00		1961	EF		2.50
WORLD PROOF AND PROOFLIKE SETS				957	BRITISH Trade Dollar 1909	VF		3.25
GREAT BRITAIN AND COMMONWEALTH				958	BRITISH Trade Dollar 1901	VF		4.00
931	1953 Coronation Proofset FDC	R	57.50	959	DENMARK Frederick IX			
932	1964 Zambia Proofset FDC		17.50		5 Kroner 1964	UNC		3.00
933	1964 Malawi Proofset FDC		19.00	960	AUSTRIA F. Grillparzer			
934	1964 Bermuda Prooflike Crown FDC		11.50		25 schilling 1964	PROOF		4.00
935	Battle of Britain Gold Set			961	GERMANY Westfalen 10,000 M			
	(25th Anniversary) 3 Beautiful 22ct.				1923	UNC		7.50
	gold medals in case - 1 large medal			<u>Z.A.R.</u>				
	1½ times size of 5/- piece. 1 x 2/6			962	Kruger Penny 1892	EF	R	2.00
	size 1 x ½ sovereign size. A rare collectors			963	Kruger Penny 1892	UNC		3.00
	set. Already sold out in England.	R	500.00	964	Kruger Penny 1898	VF		.95
936	Congo Gold Set in official case of issue.			965	Kruger Penny 1898	EF		1.25
	Only 3,000 sets struck. 5 x 22ct gold			966	Kruger Tickey 1893	VF		1.50
	coins. Set must be seen to be			967	Kruger Tickey 1893	EF		2.00
	appreciated.	R	500.00	968	Kruger Tickey 1897	VF		1.30
937	Isle of Man Gold Set in official case.			969	Kruger Tickey 1897	EF		1.75
	3 Gold Coins from £5 down.	R	300.00	970	Kruger Sixpence 1892	EF		2.25
MISCELLANEOUS				971	Kruger Shilling 1894	EF		5.25
938	RHODESIA 1964 per set	R	87.50	972	Kruger Shilling 1896	VF		3.50
939	TURKEY 1965 Gold set of 5 22ct.			973	Kruger Shilling 1894	EF		5.25
	gold coins. 500, 250, 100, 50 &			974	Kruger Shilling 1897	EF		3.50
	20 Piastre de Luxe	R	125.00	975	Kruger Shilling 1897	VF		2.25
940	NEW ZEALAND 1953 Proofset in			976	Kruger ½ Crown 1893	VF		16.00
	official case.	R	110.00	977	Kruger ½ Crown 1896	VF		3.75
941	RHODESIA 1955 per set		125.00	978	Kruger ½ Crown 1896	EF		5.50
942	SOUTH AFRICA 1947 Proof Crown			979	Burgers Gold Pond 1875 VF as			
	in official case		4.00		to condition but has been plugged			290.00
FOREIGN CROWNS & MEDALLIONS				980	Kruger Pond 1898	VF+		35.00
943	GREAT BRITAIN Edward VII 1902 5/-	F	R 28.00	<u>SOUTH AFRICA</u>				
944	BELGIUM Leopold II 5 FR 1868	VF	6.30	981	S.A. Farthing 1924	UNC	R	3.50
945	EGYPT 20 Piastres 1916	VF+	5.00	982	S.A. Farthing 1928	UNC		3.25
946	HOLLAND Juliana 2½G 1964	UNC	3.00	983	S.A. Farthing 1935	UNC		1.75
947	RUSSIA - 1 Rouble 1834	VF	6.75	984	S.A. Farthing 1938	EF+		1.25
948	CANADA Silver Dollar 1965	UNC	2.75	985	S.A. Farthing 1954	UNC		.50
949	BRITAIN Victoria Old Head 5/-			986	S.A. Farthing 1959	UNC		1.00
	1896. VF with rim dent		11.00	987	S.A. Half Penny 1931	VF		2.50
				988	S.A. Half Penny 1931	VF		2.40
				989	S.A. Half Penny 1934	EF		1.50
				990	S.A. Half Penny 1935	VF		1.25
				991	S.A. Half Penny 1935	EF		1.50
				992	S.A. Half Penny 1938	VF		1.10
				993	S.A. Half Penny 1941	VF		.60

994	S.A. Half Penny 1942	VF	.60				
995	S.A. Half Penny 1952	VF	.30				
996	S.A. Half Penny 1952	UNC	.75				
997	S.A. Half Penny 1954	VF	2.00				
998	S.A. Half Penny 1954	UNC	5.00				
999	S.A. Half Penny 1958	UNC	.30				
1000	S.A. Half Penny 1959	EF	.20				
1001	S.A. Penny 1948	UNC	1.00				
1002	S.A. Penny 1949	UNC	.75				
1003	S.A. One cent 1961	UNC	.20				
1004	S.A. One cent 1964	PROOF	.80				
1005	S.A. Tickey 1959	UNC	.50				
1006	S.A. Tickey 1960	UNC	6.25				
1007	S.A. Tickey 1961	UNC	1.50				
1008	S.A. Tickey 1962	UNC	7.00				
1009	S.A. Tickey 1963	UNC	4.25				
1010	S.A. Tickey 1964	UNC	5.50				
1011	S.A. Penny 1936	VF	.65				
1012	S.A. Penny 1936	EF	.75				
1013	S.A. Penny 1935	VF	.50				
1014	S.A. Penny 1935	VF	.50				
1015	S.A. Penny 1941	VF	.35				
1016	S.A. Penny 1942	VF	.15				
1017	S.A. Penny 1945	EF	.45				
1018	S.A. Penny 1950	EF	.35				
1019	S.A. Penny 1951	EF	.35				
1020	S.A. Penny 1952	VF	.25				
1021	S.A. Penny 1958	EF	.30				
1022	S.A. Tickey 1926	VF	1.75				
1023	S.A. Tickey 1945	VF	.25				
1024	S.A. Tickey 1951	VF	.20				
1025	S.A. Tickey 1952	VF	.10				
1026	S.A. Tickey 1953	VF	.20				
1027	S.A. Tickey 1954	VF	.20				
1028	S.A. Tickey 1955	VF	.20				
1029	S.A. Tickey 1956	VF	.20				
1030	S.A. Tickey 1957	VF	.20				
1031	S.A. Tickey 1958	VF	.20				
1032	S.A. Tickey 1959	VF	.20				
1033	S.A. Five Cents 1961	EF	.50				
1034	S.A. Five Cents 1964	Proof	.75				
1035	S.A. Shilling 1932	VF	1.00				
1036	S.A. Shilling 1932	EF	1.50				
1037	S.A. 10 Cents 1961	EF	.75				
1038	S.A. 2 Shillings 1923	VF	6.00				
1039	S.A. 2 Shillings 1944	UNC	16.50				
1040	S.A. 2 Shillings 1945	EF	2.25				
1041	S.A. 2 Shillings 1948	UNC	22.00				
1042	S.A. 20 Cents 1964	Proof	1.00				
1043	S.A. Half Crown 1923	VG	1.25				
1044	S.A. Half Crown 1929	F	1.75				
1045	S.A. Half Crown 1936	EF	6.00				
1046	S.A. Half Crown 1946	F	5.00				
1047	S.A. Half Crown 1946	EF	15.50				
1048	S.A. Half Crown 1952	EF	2.25				
1049	S.A. Half Crown 1955	VF	2.25				
1050	S.A. Half Crown 1957	VF	2.75				
1051	S.A. Half Crown 1958	F	1.00				
1052	S.A. Half Crown 1959						
	VF with rim dent						3.50
1053	S.A. 5/- Crown 1947	EF					3.00
1054	S.A. 5/- Crown 1950	EF					6.50
1055	S.A. 5/- Crown 1954	VF					28.00
1056	S.A. 5/- Crown 1954	EF					30.00
1057	S.A. 5/- Crown 1955	VF					5.00
1058	S.A. 50c Crown 1961	EF					7.50
<u>S.A. MINOR COIN SETS</u>							
1059	1xComplete set of S.A. pennies 1923 to 1964	VF		R			27.00
1060	1xSet S.A. 1/2 Pennies 1952, 53, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59 (7 coins)	EF					1.85
1061	1xSet S.A. 1/2 Pennies 1935, 37, 40-46, 48-53, 55-59 (20 coins)	VF					8.50
1062	1xSet S.A. 1/2 Pennies As above, including 1939 (21 coins)	VF					9.25
1063	1xSet S.A. 1/2 Pennies 1940-46, 48-53, 55-59 (18 coins)	VF					5.75
1064	1xSet S.A. 1/2 Pennies 1929, 35, 37, 38-53, 55-59 (24 coins)	VF					11.50
<u>GERMAN EAST AFRICA</u>							
1065	1 Heller 1904A	VF		R			1.00
1066	1 Heller 1906J	VF					1.20
1067	1 Heller 1907J	VF					.45
1068	1 Heller 1908J	VF					.40
1069	1 Heller 1910J	VF					.95
1070	5 Heller 1910T Cop.	F					4.00
1071	5 Heller 1931A Nic.	VF					1.40
1072	5 Heller 1913J Nic.	VF					1.25
1073	10 Heller 1909J	VF					2.00
1074	10 Heller 1909J	VF					2.00
1075	20 Heller 1916T Cop.	VF					4.95
1076	1 Rupee 1892	F					2.00
1077	1 Rupee 1913A	VF					6.00
1078	1/4 Rupee 1910J	VF+					4.00
1079	1/2 Rupee 1910J	VF					5.50
1080	1 Rupee 1913J	VF+					6.00
<u>RHODESIA</u>							
1081	1/2 Penny 1958	EF		R			.15
1082	1/2 Penny 1958	UNC					.25
1083	1 Penny 1947 Cop.	EF					.50
1084	1 Penny 1956 Cop.	VF					.15
1085	1 Penny 1962 Cop.	UNC					.15
1086	1 Penny 1963 Cop.	UNC					.15
1086	1 Penny 1963 Cop.	UNC					.15
1087	1 Penny 1937 Nic.	VF					.40

1088	1 Penny 1939 Nic.	VF	.30
1089	1 Penny 1940 Nic.	VF	.30
1090	1 Penny 1941 Nic.	VF	.30
1091	3 Pence 1940	EF	1.50
1092	3 Pence 1952	VF	.75
1093	3 Pence 1956	F	1.50
1094	6 Pence 1951	VF	.50
1095	6 Pence 1957	VF	.25
1096	1 Shilling 1950	VF+	1.00

MINOR COINS OF THE WORLD

1097	SWITZERLAND 5 Fr. 1954B	EF+	R	3.75
1098	SWITZERLAND 5 Fr. 1932B	VF		3.00
1099	SWITZERLAND 2 Fr. 1944B	EF		1.75
1100	SWITZERLAND 2 Fr. 1957B	INC		2.25
1101	GERMANY 3 M. 1913	EF		2.50
1102	INDIA 1 Rupee 1900	EF+		3.00
1103	INDIA 1 Rupee 1903	VF		2.25
1104	INDIA 1 Rupee 1908 with rim dents	VF		1.75
1105	INDIA 1 Rupee 1918	EF+		2.00
1106	INDIA 1 Rupee 1919	EF		1.50
1107	INDIA 1 Rupee 1941	VF		1.25
1108	INDIA 1 Rupee 1947	EF		1.50
1109	INDIA 1/2 Rupee 1835	EF		6.00
1110	INDIA 1/2 Rupee 1942	VF		.75
1111	INDIA 1/2 Rupee 1943	VF		.75
1112	INDIA 1/2 Rupee 1947	VF		.75
1113	INDIA 1/2 Rupee 1947	EF		.75
1114	INDIA 1/4 Rupee 1943	EF		.50
1115	INDIA 1/4 Rupee 1944	VF		.25
1116	DENMARK 5 Kroner 1961	VF		2.75
1117	DENMARK 1 Kroner 1962	VF		.40
1118	DENMARK 1 Kroner 1963	VF		.25
1119	MOMBASA 1 Rupee 1888	VF		5.85
1120	MOMBASA 1 Rupee 1888	EF		7.50
1121	BR. WEST AFRICA 1 Penny Edw. VIII 1936	VF		1.50
1122	AUSTRALIA Royal Visit 2/- 1954 Very scarce	UNC		3.50
1123	AUSTRALIA 6 Pence 1951	VF		.35
1124	AUSTRALIA Gold £1 Sydney mint 1870	VF		21.00
1125	GT. BRITAIN George III 6 Pence 1816	EF		5.25
1126	GT. BRITAIN Victoria 6 Pence 1887 (Younghead)	VF		1.75
1127	BR. EAST AFRICA Edw. VIII 10 cents 1936	EF		2.25
1128	GT. BRITAIN Victoria Tickey 1900	VF		.85
1129	BELGIAN CONGO 2 Fr. 1943	EF		3.50
1130	BELGIAN CONGO 5 Fr. 1947	EF		2.75

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1131	Cape Triangular 4 Pence Full size - weight 10 gram 1861	R	30.00
1132	Exact replicas of Germany's oldest stamps. Ass., dates between 1840-70. Correct size. Weight 8 gram.		25.00
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1134	Gt. Britain Victoria 2 Penny Stamp. Weight 7 gram.		24.00

**CHRISTMAS SPECIALS**

- 1135 SOUTH AFRICAN TYPE SET OF CROWNS  
Here you have one of each TYPE of all the South African Crowns from 1947 to 1964. Six TYPE changes exist. They are all included in this handsome leatherette and gold embossed six crown holder. Crowns minted between 1947 and 1964. Six crowns a set. Postpaid ..... R8.00
- 1136 1924 UNC Farthing. This coin in uncirculated condition can safely be bought today at R4. Whilst stocks last, we offer a Mint condition uncirculated 1924 Farthing for only ..... R3.50

**CATALOGUES AND BOOKS**

- 1137 S.A. Numismatic Journal 3 has just arrived. Chock-a-block full of depth numismatic material for the serious reader. A research gem on S.A. coinage. .... R1.50

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R5.75
- 1139 SPECIAL - Bickels South African Crown Album ..... R3.95

**IF THE COIN YOU WANT IS NOT ON THIS LIST,  
TELEPHONE BICKELS AT 834-8210 AND SEE IF  
THEY HAVE IT.**

(Published by Bickels, of 151, Jeppe Street, Johannesburg, and printed by Teknilith, of Escom Centre, 122a, Harrison Street, Braamfontein.)

