

THE SOUTH AFRICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

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N E W S L E T T E R.EDITORIALOUR DECIMAL COINAGE.

The announcement by the Union Cabinet that the South African Coinage is to be decimalized from the second Tuesday of February, 1961, is without doubt the most important news that we have received for a long time. We understand that a Decimal Coinage Bill will be introduced in Parliament shortly, as a non-party measure, and the necessary arrangements are already being made for conversion of the many thousands of Cash Registers, Petrol Pumps, Franking, Adding, Accounting and other Machines which will be involved in the change-over.

While it is not the function of this Society to discuss any political considerations which may be alleged to be involved in the adoption of a Decimal Coinage, it is perhaps right that we should record that the present move is the direct result of the introduction to Parliament in 1956 of a Private Member's Bill, by Mr. P. A. Moore - a Johannesburg Member of Parliament who is a member of the Opposition party. We should remind ourselves, too, that there have been numerous attempts during the past century and more to persuade the United Kingdom Government to switch to decimals - the first Florin put into circulation in 1849 was actually intended as the first step in this direction. Furthermore, a number of Commonwealth countries, from Canada in its earliest days to India quite recently, are already on a decimal coinage system, and it seems likely that Australia and New Zealand will not be long in following suit.

To all those interested in the subject, we commend the "Report of the Decimal Coinage Commission" published by the Union Government Printer in 1958 at a price of 20 shillings. This Report of the Commission's thorough investigation into all aspects of the subject is a mine of information, and deserves a place on all our bookshelves.

From a numismatic point of view, the main interest is that we are to change to a "10 shilling - cent" system. We understand that the new 10 shilling unit will probably be known as the "Rand", and that the existing silver coins, with the exception of the half-crown, will continue as follows :- 5/- = 50 cents; 2/- = 20 c.; 1/- = 10 c.; 6d. = 5 c.; 3d. = 2½ c. Only in the bronze coins will there be a major change, the penny increasing in value from 1/12 to 1/10 of a shilling, or 1 cent. According to press reports, the obverse and reverse designs of the coins will remain unaltered in 1961, except that the new value will be shown on the reverse as well as the old. We hope, of course, that a gold "Rand" will also be struck, even if only in the Specimen Sets.

This /...

This change-over will therefore entail the introduction of yet another series, and should stimulate still further the interest in South African coins which has developed so remarkably during the last five years. It is naturally to be expected that the existing coins, which at first will circulate alongside the new series, will gradually be withdrawn and disappear from circulation, and it therefore becomes even more urgent that collectable specimens of the Union coinage from 1923 to 1960 should be sought for before it is too late, and preserved for posterity. Let us remember our duty - and have a lot of fun doing it!

PATRON.

It is with particular pleasure that we report that The Hon. Dr. T.E. Dönges, who recently assumed the portfolio of Finance in the Union Cabinet, has been graciously pleased to honour us by extending his Patronage to the Society. Almost since the inception of the Society - or at least since the time it became firmly established - we have been honoured by the Patronage of the Head of the Union Treasury, and we are very pleased indeed that the tradition started by the late J.H. Hofmeyr, and since supported by the late N.C. Havenga, by the Hon. Eric Louw and by the Hon. Tom Naude, is being continued.

Dr. Dönges has indicated that he hopes to pay us a visit later in the Parliamentary session when the pressure of his many duties relaxes somewhat, and we are looking forward to putting out a display for him and showing him some of the wealth of our South African Numismatic heritage.

MEETINGS.

Regular monthly meetings have continued since our last report in October. Mr. Kelly-Patterson had us to his home and showed us his magnificent collection of German Thalers. Then we went to the South African Museum, where our Honorary Life Member, Miss Shaw, showed us some of the Museum's interesting collection, and put on the excellent educational film on "The South African Mint" for our edification. In January we enjoyed a visit to Lt. Col. Piek's museum-like home, where all sorts of treasures, numismatic and otherwise, kept us fascinated until a late hour, and where a welcome visitor - Country member Bertram Cairncross from George - delighted us with an impromptu account of his medal hunts in the George district - more suitably recorded elsewhere in this Journal.

Our next visit was to Mr. Day at Bergvliet, where our host treated us to an enthralling introduction to his excellent numismatic library - and sent us away determined to spend more on books!! In March, our Hon. Secretary, Bill Hibbard, entertained us to a view of his growing collection of "Greeks" and let us get lost amongst his flint-lock muskets and prints of the early Kaffir Wars.

Finally/ ...

Finally, Mr. Heinrich introduced us to his delightful baby daughter, and let us browse through his interesting German collection - and his unique collection of siege pieces.

These brief notes cannot, of course, do justice to the grand, social and numismatically interesting evenings we have had. They have all been delightful, and most stimulating to the "regulars". Our only regret is that more of our members cannot get to them.

We have not seen many of our Country members at recent meetings, but we have at least - one or other of us - had an interesting chat or two with the following who have touched down at Cape Town in recent months :- Our President and his Lady, Mr. and Mrs. Wilmot of East London; Mr. J.P. Roux from the Mint, Pretoria; Messrs. B.L. and R.L. Cairncross from George and Komatipoort respectively; Mr. Douglas Young of Somerset West; Mr. Don Forsyth of Johannesburg; Mr. van der Walt of East London; and Dr. Froehlich and Messrs. Driscoll and Henegan, all of Port Elizabeth. Will the rest of you please let us know when you're coming - in advance if possible. There's a sincere welcome waiting!

NEW MEMBERS.

We extend a sincere welcome to the following new members who have been elected subsequent to the publication of our last Newsletter in October 1958 :-

Mr. Bill Menne	Louis Trichardt
Mr. F.E. Labuschagne	East London
Mr. R.B. Lancaster	" "
Mr. A. Bickel	Johannesburg
Mr. M. van Vuuren	"
Mr. F. Pridmore	Taunton, Somerset, U.K.
Miss N. Abbott	Cape Town
Mr. R.C. Donovan	East London
Mr. S.B.H. Jansen	" "
Mr. M.J. Gouws	" "
Mr. D.C.G. Murray	Magaliesberg, Transvaal.

CONSTITUTION.

Our printed Constitution, in English and Afrikaans, is at last ready and is enclosed to members herewith. Our apologies that several "printers' devils" got loose on page 4 (Afrikaans side) after the proofs were read!!

A SOUTH AFRICAN PLATINUM MEDALLION - ONE OF SIX.

F. K. Mitchell.

Platinum patterns, medallions and even coins have appeared occasionally during the past century and a half, but all are rare and expensive, so that platinum has a peculiar numismatic appeal. Imagine our surprise, therefore, when an unrecorded platinum medallion, obviously South African in origin, turned up in a bunch of miscellaneous jewellery in a Cape Town auction room! Given "carte blanche" by the Africana Museum, I was able - thanks to the sporting restraint of member Lionel Rosenberg - to acquire it at a surprisingly modest figure for the Museum. So it's gone back to Johannesburg's Africana Museum - which I feel is the right place for it - and my "commission" is the privilege of recording details of it in these pages.

Twenty-one millimetres in diameter, this medallion is plainly designed but well struck and in extremely fine state. On the obverse, within a circle of dots is "TRANSVAAL 1926". Around "ONVERWACHT". On the reverse, again within a circle of dots is "PLATINUM 99.9%" and around "CENTRAL MINING RAND MINES GROUP".

Enquiry by the Director of the Africana Museum to the Secretary of Messrs. Rand Mines Ltd. has elicited the following interesting reply :-

"With reference to our letter to you of 2nd April, 1959 in regard to the platinum medal in your possession, we have referred the matter to our London officials who have replied as follows:-

'The metal for the medallions in question of which it is believed that six were struck, came from the platinum mine established on the farm "Onverwacht" in the North Eastern Transvaal by the Transvaal Consolidated Land and Exploration Company, Limited, coming into production in 1926. As this was the first time that platinum had been produced in South Africa, the Board of the Central Mining & Investment Corporation Limited decided that the occasion should be marked by striking a medallion of the metal. Mr. Robert Walker, then a Manager of the Corporation, went to the Royal Mint in London to enquire if they could undertake this. They were most interested and readily undertook the work, suggesting that in view of the unique nature of the medallion an artist should be commissioned to design suitable lettering for the inscription. This was done but the name of the artist has now been forgotten.

'The Corporation bought the Platinum from Onverwacht Platinum Limited and it was delivered to the Mint by The Mond Nickel Co. Ltd. who refined the Company's output of platinum matte at their refinery at Acton.

'It is known that one medallion was presented to the then Minister of Mines in South Africa, one to Lt. Col. Pollen and one to Mr. Walker. It is possible that a further medallion was presented to the then Prime Minister of the Union and it is believed that the other two were sent to the Corner House.'

We regret that we have no knowledge of the two medals that were sent to the Corner House, but nevertheless trust that these facts will be of help to you."

So this /...

So this medallion, one of only six, marks the start of South Africa's now thriving platinum mining industry - truly an historic piece!! Keep hunting chaps - who can guess when or where one of the other five will come to light?

THE CURRENCY OF SOUTHERN RHODESIA AND THE FEDERATION.

EDITORIAL INTRODUCTION.

We have always regarded "Africa south of the Equator" as forming part of the home area of our Society, and we therefore take particular pleasure in placing the following account of the domestic coinage and banknotes of the Rhodesias and Nyasaland on permanent record. We take pride in doing so, too, because we believe this to be the first comprehensive record on the subject to be made available to the numismatic world.

The information given below has been procured through the courtesy of the Chief Cashier of the Bank of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, and to him and the Bank we extend our most grateful thanks. Certain numismatic amplification has been made by your Editor, and by your President, Mr. C. Wilmot - who took the initiative in asking for this information from the Bank in Salisbury, and who originally suggested that we should attempt to cover the subject. Your Editor, through helping to prepare this article, has already succumbed to the idea of attempting to assemble a full collection of Southern Rhodesian coins - those of our members who follow his example will have Mr. Wilmot to thank for it!!

That this is a series well calculated to attract the collector, will be amply demonstrated by reference to Tables III and IV. Despite the fact that the coinage was only introduced 27 years ago, there are already available 50 different "type coins", while the whole series contains a total of only 141 date-varieties, of the modest face value of £6. 19. 11. As much of the early silver issues have already been withdrawn, the assembly of a complete collection would be no easy feat, but the probability of considerable capital appreciation must add spice to the interest which this series will evoke.

The Banknotes do not offer such a variety to collectors, but they are nonetheless of considerable interest - especially the Wartime Five-shilling issue - and they are included here to make the story complete.

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T H E C O I N S . (SEE TABLES I TO V).

1. Prior to the issue of Southern Rhodesia coinage, British coins were the coinage medium of Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland.
2. In 1932, the first Southern Rhodesia silver coins, which were of .925 fineness (92.5% silver and 7.5% copper), comprising the 2/6d., 2/-, 1/-, 6d and 3d denominations, were issued and circulated side by side with the British coins. This first minting included 302 sets of "proof" coins for sale to collectors.
3. The obverse design of these coins was the crowned effigy of His Majesty King George the Fifth, consisting of head and bust, wearing the Robe of State with the Collar of the Garter and looking to the left, with the inscription "GEORGE V, KING - EMPEROR".

The reverse designs were as follows :-

Halfcrown	:	The Shield of Arms of Southern Rhodesia surmounted with the Royal Crown; on a scroll "GV R I".
Florin	:	A Sable Antelope.
Shilling	:	The Zimbabwe Bird.
Sixpence	:	Two Native War-Axes Saltirewise.
Threepence	:	Three Native Spear-heads.

4. In 1934, the first Southern Rhodesia coins of the 1d and ½d denominations, made of cupro-nickel (75% copper and 25% nickel), were introduced.
5. The designs of these coins, which were perforated in the centre, were, on the obverse, a Double Rose, crowned, within a broken circle, with the inscription "GEORGE V, KING EMPEROR", and, on the reverse, ornamental scrolls.
6. In 1936, the death of King George the Fifth occurred and silver coins minted in 1937 bore, on the obverse, the crowned effigy of His Majesty King George the Sixth, consisting of head looking to the left, and the inscription on all coins was changed to "GEORGE VI, KING-EMPEROR" - "KING" being to the left of the crown, and "EMPEROR" to the right.
7. No coins were minted during the short reign of King Edward the Eighth in 1936.
8. In 1938 the obverse design of the silver coins was slightly altered. The size of the King's head and crown was reduced, the design of the crown itself was slightly modified, "KING" in the inscription was moved to the right of the crown, while "EMPEROR" was carried further around the circumference past the neck.

9. British coin ceased to be legal tender in Southern Rhodesia on the 8th July, 1939.
10. In 1942, owing to a war-time shortage of nickel for coinage purposes, the composition of the 1d and ½d denominations was changed from cupro-nickel to bronze (97% copper, 2.5% zinc and .5% tin) and the first minting of such coins was dated 1942. (Pennies of both nickel and bronze were minted in this year, but only bronze half-pennies).
11. In 1944, as a result of the war-time shortage of silver for coinage purposes and the rising price of that commodity, the fineness of the silver coins was reduced from .925 to .500 (50% silver, 40% copper, 5% nickel and 5% zinc).
12. In 1947, owing to the continued steady rise in the price of silver, the coins of the 2/6d, 2/-, 1/-, 6d and 3d denominations were debased from silver to cupro-nickel and a policy of withdrawal of the silver coins from circulation for recovery of the silver content was embarked upon.
13. In 1948, as a result of the passing of the "Independence of India Act", whereby His Majesty the King ceased to hold the title "Emperor of India", the word "Emperor" was removed from the design of Southern Rhodesia coins and the inscription on all coins became "KING GEORGE THE SIXTH".
14. The accession of Queen Elizabeth the Second to the throne in 1952 necessitated a further change in the design of Southern Rhodesia coins. The obverse design of the cupro-nickel coins became the uncrowned effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, consisting of head looking to the right, and the inscription on all coins became "QUEEN ELIZABETH THE SECOND". The one and only minting of Southern Rhodesia coins, other than the crown, bearing the Queen's effigy, was dated 1954.
15. In 1953, the only minting of Southern Rhodesia crown pieces was made, to commemorate the birth of Cecil John Rhodes in 1853. The coins were of .500 silver and the issue comprised 123,500 ordinary pieces for circulation and 1,500 "proof" pieces in presentation cases.
16. The design of the crown piece was as follows -

Obverse : The uncrowned effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, consisting of head looking to the right, with the inscription "QUEEN ELIZABETH THE SECOND".

Reverse : A portrait of Cecil Rhodes, three-quarter face, in a circle above three shields bearing the Arms of Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland resting upon and enclosed by two sprigs of laurel entwined by a ribbon bearing the name "CECIL RHODES" and dated 1853-1902.

Edge : The edge of the coin bore the inscription "1853 OUT OF VISION CAME REALITY 1953" in incuse lettering. During minting, the direction of the "collar" was left to chance, with the result that approximately 50% of the coins had this edge inscription "reversed".

17. The coming of the Federation of the Rhodesias and Nyasaland in 1953 necessitated a complete change of coinage design and the first minting of Federal coins was dated 1955. This first minting included 2,000 sets of "proof" coins in presentation cases, most of which were sold to collectors.
18. The designs of the Federal cupro-nickel coins all have for the obverse impression the uncrowned effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, consisting of head looking to the right, with the inscription "QUEEN ELIZABETH THE SECOND" but the reverse impressions differ, as follows -
- Halfcrowns : The Coat of Arms of the Federation surmounted by the Royal Cypher "E II R".
- Florin : A Fish Eagle in flight with a fish in its talons, between the letters "ER".
- Shilling : A Sable Antelope.
- Sixpence : A Leopard.
- Threepence : A Flame Lily.
19. The designs of the two denominations of Federal bronze coins, which are perforated in the centre, have, for the reverse impression, ornamental scrolls, but the obverse impressions differ, as follows -
- Penny : Two Elephants rampant, facing each other, with, between the upstretched trunks, a crown, and, around, the inscription "QUEEN ELIZABETH THE SECOND".
- Halfpenny : Two Giraffes facing each other, with, between the heads, a crown, and, around, the inscription "QUEEN ELIZABETH THE SECOND".
20. British coin was demonetised in Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland on the 1st January, 1955.
21. The diameters and weights of Southern Rhodesia and Federal coins are as follows -

	<u>Diameter.</u>	<u>Weight.</u>
Halfcrown	1.272 inch	218.18181 grains
Florin	1.122 inch	174.54545 grains
Shilling	.929 inch	87.27272 grains
Sixpence	.764 inch	43.63636 grains
Threepence	.640 inch	21.81818 grains
Penny	27 millimetres	100.00000 grains
Halfpenny	21 millimetres	45.00000 grains

22. The total quantities of Southern Rhodesia and Federal coins which have been minted from 1932 to 1958 are given in the following schedule. All these coins were struck at the Royal Mint, London.

NO. OF PIECES.

	<u>Southern Rhodesia.</u>	<u>Federal.</u>
Crown	123,500	-
Halfcrown	26,928,800	4,160,000
Florin	18,347,000	5,100,000
Shilling	33,892,600	5,400,000
Sixpence	21,736,000	5,200,000
Threepence	37,596,000	10,400,000
Penny	27,104,400	16,920,000
Halfpenny	5,520,000	5,520,000
	<u>171,248,300</u>	<u>52,700,000</u>

Note : The above figures do not include proof pieces mentioned in paragraphs 2, 15 and 17.

23. The names of the artists employed by the Royal Mint to prepare the designs of the coins, as far as the Bank's records show, and the dates of the coins which bear their designs are shown in the attached Table II. The reverse sides of silver coins were designed by the late Mr. G. Kruger Gray, C.B.E., who died in London in May, 1943. His initials K.G. appear on the reverses of all silver coins struck from 1932 with his design. In 1944, the Southern Rhodesia Currency Board was advised by the Royal Mint, London, that it had been customary for many years past, where a design was the work of a single artist and not an adaptation of a design, to reproduce the artist's initial on all coins to which his design was applied. It was, therefore, assumed that the design used for the obverse of Rhodesia silver coins minted from 1932 to 1936, which bore no initials, was an adaptation of some other design.
24. Cupro-nickel coins of the denominations 3d to 2/6d are legal tender for the payment of an amount not exceeding forty shillings. Bronze and cupro-nickel coins of the denominations 1d and 1/2d are legal tender for the payment of an amount not exceeding one shilling.

C U R R E N C Y N O T E S .

25. Prior to the establishment of the Southern Rhodesia Currency Board in 1939, the notes in circulation in Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland were the "Rhodesian Issue" of the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, and Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas - now D.C.O.).

35. In addition to the main features common to the other denominations, the £10 notes bore, on the front, a Lion and, on the back, a group of Elephants.
36. On the 15th March, 1956, the Bank of Rhodesia and Nyasaland was established and became the note issuing authority for the Federation in succession to the Central Africa Currency Board.
37. The first Bank of Rhodesia and Nyasaland notes were issued in April, 1957, and now circulate side by side with the Currency Notes, no more of which will be issued.
38. The designs of the new Bank Notes which are of the 10/-, £1, £5 and £10 denominations, follow very closely those of the Currency notes and the main features common to all the notes are the portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, the watermark comprising Cecil Rhodes' head, the quotation from Kipling around the watermark panel and a metallic thread running vertically through each note.

In addition, the notes have the following main features in their designs -

	<u>Front.</u>	<u>Back.</u>
10/-	A Fish Eagle	A view of Lake Nyasa.
£1	A Leopard	The Zimbabwe Ruins.
£5	A Sable Antelope	The Victoria Falls.
£10	A Lion	A Group of Elephants.

TABLE I.
SOUTHERN RHODESIA AND FEDERATION COINAGE.
NUMBER OF COINS IN EACH DENOMINATION PURCHASED FROM THE ROYAL MINT (EXCLUDING PROOFS).

Year	5/-	2/6	2/-	1/-	6d.	3d.	1d.	½d.
1932	Nil	633,600	498,000	896,000	544,000	688,000	Nil	Nil
1933	"	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
1934	"	419,200	154,000	333,000	214,000	628,000	360,000	240,000
1935	"	512,000	365,000	830,000	380,000	840,000	492,000	Nil
1936	"	517,600	683,000	1,663,600	675,000	1,051,600	1,044,000	240,000
1937	"	1,174,400	552,000	1,700,000	823,000	1,228,400	908,400	Nil
1938	"	400,000	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	240,000	240,000
1939	"	224,000	120,000	420,000	200,000	160,000	1,284,000	240,000
1940	"	800,000	525,000	750,000	600,000	1,200,000	1,080,000	480,000
1941	"	1,240,000	400,000	800,000	300,000	600,000	1,720,000	Nil
1942	"	2,008,000	850,000	2,100,000	1,200,000	2,000,000	720,000	480,000
								Cupro- Nickel: Bronze:
1943	"	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	960,000	960,000
1944	"	800,000	1,300,000	1,600,000	800,000	1,600,000	480,000	960,000
1945	"	Nil	Nil	Nil	400,000	800,000	Nil	Nil
1946	"	1,400,000	700,000	1,700,000	1,600,000	2,400,000	Nil	Nil
1947	"	6,000,000	3,750,000	8,000,000	5,000,000	8,000,000	3,600,000	Nil
1948	"	800,000	750,000	1,500,000	1,000,000	2,000,000	Nil	Nil
1949	"	1,600,000	2,000,000	4,000,000	2,000,000	4,000,000	1,440,000	Nil
1950	"	1,200,000	1,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	Nil	720,000	Nil
1951	"	3,200,000	2,600,000	3,000,000	2,800,000	5,600,000	4,896,000	480,000
1952	"	2,800,000	1,800,000	2,600,000	1,200,000	4,800,000	2,400,000	480,000
1953	123,500	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
1954	Nil	1,200,000	300,000	Nil	Nil	Nil	960,000	960,000
1955	"	1,600,000	1,750,000	200,000	400,000	1,200,000	2,040,000	720,000
1956	"	160,000	1,850,000	1,700,000	800,000	3,200,000	4,800,000	480,000
1957	"	2,400,000	1,500,000	3,500,000	4,000,000	6,000,000	7,200,000	1,920,000
1958	"	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2,880,000	2,400,000
Total No. of Coins	123,500	31,088,800	23,447,000	39,292,600	26,936,000	47,996,000	44,024,400	11,040,000
Total value in £ Rhodesian	£30,875	£3,886,100	£2,344,700	£1,964,630	£673,400	£599,950	£183,435	£23,000

NOTE: The proof coins of 1932, 1953 and 1955 are NOT included in the above figures.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA AND FEDERATION COINAGE.
RECORD OF ARTISTS EMPLOYED TO PREPARE THE DESIGNS.

Year	5/-		2/6		2/-		1/-		6d.		3d.		1d.		Rev.	Obv.
	Rev.	Obv.	Rev.	Obv.	Rev.	Obv.	Rev.	Obv.	Rev.	Obv.	Rev.	Obv.	Rev.	Obv.		
1932	-	-	K.G.	-	K.G.	-	K.G.	-	K.G.	-	K.G.	-	-	-	-	-
1933	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1934	-	-	K.G.	-	K.G.	-	K.G.	-	K.G.	-	K.G.	-	R.M.	D.W.	R.M.	D.W.
1935	-	-	K.G.	-	K.G.	-	K.G.	-	K.G.	-	K.G.	-	R.M.	D.W.	R.M.	D.W.
1936	-	-	K.G.	-	K.G.	-	K.G.	-	K.G.	-	K.G.	-	R.M.	D.W.	R.M.	D.W.
1937	-	-	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	R.M.	D.W.	R.M.	D.W.
1938	-	-	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	R.M.	D.W.	R.M.	D.W.
1939	-	-	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	R.M.	D.W.	R.M.	D.W.
1940	-	-	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	R.M.	D.W.	R.M.	D.W.
1941	-	-	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	R.M.	D.W.	R.M.	D.W.
1942	-	-	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	R.M.	D.W.	R.M.	D.W.
1943	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1944	-	-	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	R.M.	D.W.	R.M.	D.W.
1945	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1946	-	-	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	R.M.	D.W.	R.M.	D.W.
1947	-	-	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	R.M.	D.W.	R.M.	D.W.
1948	-	-	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	R.M.	D.W.	R.M.	D.W.
1949	-	-	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	R.M.	D.W.	R.M.	D.W.
1950	-	-	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	R.M.	D.W.	R.M.	D.W.
1951	-	-	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	R.M.	D.W.	R.M.	D.W.
1952	-	-	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	K.G.	P.M.	R.M.	D.W.	R.M.	D.W.
1953	H.P.	M.G.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1954	-	-	K.G.	M.G.	K.G.	M.G.	K.G.	M.G.	-	-	-	-	R.M.	D.W.	R.M.	D.W.
1955	-	-	H.P.	M.G.	H.P.	M.G.	H.P.	M.G.	P.V.	M.G.	P.V.	M.G.	R.M.	S.	R.M.	S.
1956	-	-	H.P.	M.G.	H.P.	M.G.	H.P.	M.G.	P.V.	M.G.	P.V.	M.G.	R.M.	S.	R.M.	S.
1957	-	-	H.P.	M.G.	H.P.	M.G.	H.P.	M.G.	P.V.	M.G.	P.V.	M.G.	R.M.	S.	R.M.	S.
1958	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	R.M.	S.	R.M.	S.

Rev. = Reverse
 Obv. = Obverse
 K.G. = Mr. G. Kruger Gray, C.B.E.
 P.M. = Mr. Percy Metcalfe, C.V.O.
 H.P. = Mr. H. Paget
 P.V. = Mr. Paul Vineze

M.G. = Mrs. M. Gillick
 S. = Mr. Sindall (Initials unknown)
 D.W. = Mr. Derwent Wood
 R.N. = Royal Mint Engravers.

TABLE III

A FULL COLLECTION OF THE COINAGE OF SOUTHERN
RHODESIA & THE FEDERATION,
1932 TO 1958.

Number of different dated Coins in each Denomination,
Number of different "types", and total face value.

Denomination	Number of Different Types.	Number of Different Dated Coins.	Face Value.
Crown	1	1	5 0
Half-crown	8	22	2 15 0
Florin	8	21	2 2 0
Shilling	7	20	1 0 0
Sixpence	7	21	10 6
Threepence	7	20	5 0
Penny	6	* 22	1 10
Halfpenny	6	14	7
TOTAL	50	141 coins	£6 19 11

* This figure includes the second alloy used for part of the 1942 production.

TABLE IV

CHANGE OF TYPE (INCLUDING CHANGE OF ALLOY).

COIN	'32-'36 Geo. V.	1937 Geo. VI.	'38-'43 Modified Obv.	'44-'46 .500 Fine Silver	1947 cupro nickel	'48-'52 "Emp-eror" omitted.	'53-'54 Eliz. II.	1955 Federation.
5/-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
2/6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2/-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1/-	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1
6d	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1
3d	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1
1d	1	1	-	'42-'47 bronze		1	1	1
½d	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	1

TABLE V

PROOF COINS.

1932	: Proof Set 2/6 - 3d	: 5 coins:	302 sets
1953	: Proof Crown	: 1 coin:	1,500 coins
1955	: Proof Set 2/6 - ½d	: 7 coins:	2,000 sets.

THE CAIRNCROSS FAMILY GROUP OF WAR MEDALS.

B. L. Cairncross.

A description of this group appeared in the Newsletter of November, 1954. At that time it consisted of 36 medals to 11 individuals; but since then a further 19 medals to 8 individuals have been added to the group, which now consists of 55 medals to 19 individuals, all named Cairncross, all South Africans and all descended from William Cairncross, born in Scotland on 27th May, 1759, i.e. just two hundred years ago.

Of these 55 medals, all except 5 have the name CAIRNCROSS officially impressed on the rim. They cover five wars :- the Matabele Rebellion of 1896, the Anglo-Boer War of 1899-1902, the Great War of 1914-18, the 2nd World War of 1939-45, and the Korean War of 1952. There are three groups of six medals each to three individuals. The first group is in respect of the first three wars enumerated above, and the other two are in respect of the World War of 1939-45. There are two medals of some rarity, i.e., the Colonial Auxiliary Forces Officer's Decoration, Edward VII, conferred on Major T.W. Cairncross of the Cape Town Highlanders in 1908, on the completion of twenty years voluntary service; and the Korean Medal of 1952 issued by the Union of South Africa to Lt. M. Cairncross, who also received the American Flying Medal for gallantry in action, and the United Nations Korea Medal. He, unfortunately, was killed in a flying accident in May, 1955, when the East African Airways machine, of which he was Second Officer, crashed on Mt. Kilimanjaro, killing all twenty persons on board.

One of the medals in the group is the Anglo-Boere Oorlog, 1899-1902, awarded to those who fought in the Boer forces. This medal was to Charles Cairncross, a Lieutenant in the Johannesburg Staatsartillerie and then 53 years of age. He was captured by the British in 1900, and among the British forces was his own son, Archibald, serving with the British South Africa Police. Father and son actually met on the battlefield. This Archibald had other noteworthy experiences. He was among the British troops who relieved Mafeking in May 1900, taking some Boer prisoners of war, of whom two were cousins of Archibald, William and John Cairncross, burghers of the Transvaal Republic. (No less than fourteen South African Cairncrosses took part in the Anglo-Boer War, seven with the British, and seven with the Boer, forces.) But the most amazing experience which befell Archibald was that within the space of half a dozen months he was personal bodyguard (with others) to both the leading South African personalities of last century - President Kruger and Cecil Rhodes. In 1895, at the age of 20, Archibald went up to Pretoria from the Cape, and joined the Pretoria Staatsartillerie, being drafted shortly afterwards to the President's personal guard. He tells the story of falling asleep at his post one night and being awakened by the President himself, who offered him the choice of immediate punishment or court martial. Archibald chose the former and the President gripped his biceps for a second with his hands; but such was the President's strength that for several days Archibald was hardly able to use his arms. Immediately after the Jameson Raid in January 1896,

Archibald/...

Archibald and other recruits whose loyalty was suspect, were summarily dismissed, and he made his way to Bulawayo, arriving there just in time to enlist in the Matabeleland Mounted Police for service against the Matabele. The war ended after Mr. Rhodes had conferred with the Matabele chiefs in the Matopos; and on one occasion during the interviews Archibald was a member of Mr. Rhodes' bodyguard. No other instance is known to me of anyone serving as bodyguard to both these great personalities.

There are still some ten war medals to half a dozen South African Cairncrosses not yet in the collection. One of them is the Royal Red Cross and three are Queen's medals, all for the Anglo-Boer War. Perhaps they may yet join the family!

The collection formed part of the Medal exhibition at the Africana Museum, Johannesburg, in July-August 1957, which was staged to celebrate the acquisition by the Museum of the first V.C. to be won in South Africa, that of Major H. Garrett Moore, won at Draaibosch in 1877.



A MEDAL FIND -- SERENDIPITY IN SOUTH AFRICA.

B. L. Cairncross.

It has been said that it is better to be born lucky than rich. Certainly good fortune, combined with the collector's instinct, is much to be desired, for it adds zest to collecting that is not to be had by the mere expenditure of money. Recently I had ample confirmation of this. On a Friday I received a letter from my friend the Editor of this Newsletter, telling me of several rare and very desirable medals he had had given to him in the space of half an hour. As I read the letter, I thought I would write and congratulate him on his acquisitions, at the same time stating briefly that Dame Fortune had not smiled on me for some time. The very next day, a Saturday, my wife commanded me to accompany her to see some people, total strangers to me, who lived some miles away in the district. Dutifully I obeyed, meeting a charming couple and being invited to partake of tea. During the course of the repast, I mentioned casually that I was a medal collector, whereupon my host opened a drawer, took out a bar of six medals, and handed them to me with the words "Take them -- they are of no use to me". Imagine my delight when I saw the first was the D.S.O. and that the whole group was to a South African for the Anglo-Boer War and the Great War!

A week later, on Saturday afternoon, a friend arrived, to ask me to accompany him to a farm house some half a dozen miles from George. I did so, and again I was introduced to complete strangers, albeit affable and friendly. Over a cup of tea with them later, I mentioned my good fortune of the previous week, and to my astonishment my host said he also had some medals which he would be pleased to give me. He thereupon produced the three for the Great War 1914-18, issued to himself, a survivor of

Delville/...

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Delville Wood, for service with the 1st S. A. Infantry Brigade. I had hardly examined them and expressed my appreciation of the gift, when he said somewhat diffidently "Here is another medal. I don't know if it is of any use to you, but if it is, you are welcome to it." I took the proffered medal, and felt my heart thump, for I recognized it as a specimen of the Military General Service Medal, 1793-1814, and saw with incredulity that it bore a bar reading "CHRYSTLER'S FARM". My incredulity increased when I examined the inscription around the rim and found that it read "Capt. J.M. Shand, 89th Foot." However, it was no illusion. I thanked my host, and, as on the previous occasion, remarked that I was being given something of value and would be only too pleased to pay for it. But my offer was again brushed aside. Rushing home, I hunted up "Chrystler's Farm" in Major Gordon's "British Battles and Medals" and discovered that only 225 medals with this bar had been issued, and only 83 to the 89th Foot, very few officers receiving it. It was awarded for service in an action fought on 11th November 1813, between British and American forces, on Canadian soil, during the British-American War of 1812-14. The loss of the action caused the Americans to withdraw from Canada. That this rare medal - awarded to an officer, and in perfect state - should come to light in a country farm house in a remote district of the Cape of Good Hope, seems like a fairy-tale!!

My letter of congratulations to my friend the Editor did not end on the sombre note I had anticipated!!

EXHIBITION : COMMEMORATIVE MEDALS.

The Africana Museum, Johannesburg, has once again arranged a special exhibition of great interest to S. A. Numismatics. Held in the Johannesburg Public Library from 17 November to 11 December 1958, the Exhibition included Commemorative Medals relating to the Transvaal up to and including the Anglo-Boer War, together with "Kruger" medals up to 1958.

The basis of the collection exhibited came from the Africana Museum's own collection, and from the Transvaal Museum, Pretoria - including the magnificent collection of commemorative medals presented personally to President Kruger in Europe after he went into exile, and housed in the "Kruger Huis" in Pretoria. In addition, a number of items were loaned by private collectors, including a not inconsiderable contribution from Cape Town.

Space does not permit us to do justice here to this magnificent exhibition. Those of us who were fortunate enough to see it enjoyed a numismatic treat which we are never likely to forget. Fortunately, and thanks to the incredible Miss Anna Smith, an outstanding descriptive catalogue was prepared which gives a full

description /...

description of all items exhibited - and also of some of the known deficiencies. This catalogue, roneoed and bound in paper covers, was produced separately in English and in Afrikaans, and has already become the standard work of reference on the subject. Copies may still be available on application to the Director, Africana Museum, Public Library, Johannesburg.

Congratulations to the Johannesburg City Council and its Africana Museum on another great Exhibition, and congratulations and thanks to Miss Anna H. Smith on another great contribution to our Numismatic Literature.

F.K.M.

NUMISMATIC CONVENTION.

Latest reports are that the postponed National Numismatic Convention being arranged by the Transvaal Numismatic Society, will now be held during 1960 - the Union's Jubilee Year. The venue will be in Pretoria, and mid-March appears the likely date. Plans are well in hand and there is every indication that the event will be a numismatic feast. Our Society has undertaken to co-operate to the fullest possible extent - having regard to geographic difficulties - and it is hoped that our members will produce their quota of papers. All would-be contributors are asked to contact us as soon as possible. Papers may be from one minute to ten minutes in length, and should if possible be ready for inclusion in the Convention brochure by the end of this year.

Hon. Editor

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