De Aumis

JOURNAL OF THE

TRANSVAAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

Number 1

Die Burgers Pond — 1874





JOERNAAL VAN DIE

TRANSVAALSE NUMISMATIESE VERENIGING

Nommer 1

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FOREWORD

Numismatic Literature has grown extensively during the past few years, most of it has been prepared for the specialist, a little has been written for the beginner who seeks to obtain, at small cost, an account of the particular branch of coin collecting in which he or she is interested.

This issue — the maiden one of the Transvaal Numismatic Society, has as its Editor, Mr. James T. Becklake and I am writing this foreword with great pleasure because I believe that he is adding to our knowledge of numismatics and thereby creating public interest in it and moreover, the generations to follow will value our Maiden Publication as a piece of valuable Africana. Thus our Society is seeking to place on record its historical background as well as authentic information and data of the absorbing and natural hobby which interests us and which is our specialised form of relaxation — it is a happy wholesome escape from life's oppressive materialism.

Experience from childhood, has taught me that the history of coinage is a parallel to the history of the wor'd, similarly this booklet we hope, and its successors from time to time will reveal a great deal of the coinage history of South Africa, therefore my foreword I feel, should include something about our earlier Mints and Mintings.

President Thomas Francois Burgers, President of the Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek, 1872-1877, must be looked upon as the "Grandfather" of a South African Coinage His 837 "staatsponden" of exactly the same weight and metal composition as the English Soverign were minted by Messrs. R. Heaton, the Mint Birmingham. These gold pieces arrived in the Transvaal towards the end of 1874 but only 833 were shipped.

The "Staatsmunt" i.e., the first South African Mint, was established in Pretoria in the time of President Shephanus Johannes Paulus Kruger, President of Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek, 1881-1902, in terms of the National Bank Concession, August, 1890. This Mint had a short production life; it produced coins at odd periods from 1892 to July, 1900, and it is estimated that the number of coins struck was approximately just over eight million pieces.

In 1892, 227,464 pieces, including all denominations from one penny to the pound, were struck in Berlin. The

Berlin Mint was responsible for the error of striking coins showing the ox waggon as having a double shaft, "twee disselbome", instead of a single shaft (a bad mistake for the Republic but a lucky one for Numismatists and Collectors). Probably Otto Schultz, the Engraver and Die-cutter, of the Royal Prussian Mint at that time, was to blame.

The "Staatsmunt" struck at the request of the late Mr. Samuel Marks, 215 gold threepenny pieces.

Towards the last year of the Anglo-Boer War, coins were scarce, consequently, a "Staatsmunt te Velde" was established at Pilgrims Rest. Mr. P. J. Kloppers was appointed "Hoofd van die Staatsmunt te Velde", i.e., Master of the Mint in the Veld — he was also the die-cutter. A total of 986 "veldponde" was struck, the design was simple — "Z.A.R. 1092" on the one side and "EEN POND" on the other. The "Staatsmunt te Velde" ceased operations in June, 1892.

The next phase in the history of the South African Mints was the establishment of the Pretoria Branch of the Royal Mint. The first piece of legislation was the Pretoria Mint Act, 1919, followed by The Coinage Act, 1923. The Governor-General's Proclamation No. 37 of 1923 gave effect to the Order-in-Council as from 1st January, 1923, from which date the Pretoria Mint began to function. The late Mr. Ralph George Jessett Pearson was appointed as the first Deputy Master of this Mint; 1922 to 1937.

Up to the end of 1932, when the Union of South Africa left the gold standard, the Pretoria Branch of the Royal Mint had struck approximately 85,000,000 sovereigns and half-sovereigns and has also replaced the British silver and bronze coins in the Union by issues of a coinage with South African designs.

In 1941, the South African Parliament passed legislation — The South African Mint Act No. 16, whereby on 1st July of that year, the Pretoria Branch of the Royal Mint became the South African Mint. On the 30th June, 1941, Lord Harlech, then High Commissioner for His Majesty's Government in the Union, formally handed over the Mint to the late Honourable J. H. Hofemyer, then Minister of Finance, who assumed responsibility on behalf of the Union Government; and so we have the South African Mint. Mr. James Thomas Becklake, who succeeded Mr. R. G. J. Pearson, as Deputy Master in 1937, became the first Director in 1941 and retired on superannuation in

.1943. Mr. Jacobus Petrus Roux, was appointed Director in 1943 and still holds that position.

The South African Mint has made, and is still making, a major contribution in the interests of Numismatists. Its established policy of designing, striking and issueing medal sets to commemorate great historical events, has been acclaimed throughout the numismatic world; similarly it has built up the popularity of its annual proof coin sets from an average of 30 sets to over three thousand sets per annum.

I feel confident that South Africans, whether Numismatists or just Collectors, will be partners of equality and also will make a major contribution in studying, recording and collecting from our rich fields of Coins and Medals — there is ample room for several specialists, inter alia, in Kruger Coins, Military Medals, Historical Medals, V.O.C. coins, etc.

The contributions submitted by our members and friends to convey useful little known information on various aspects of numismatics will assist in establishing our Society as a small but nevertheless important one.

In conclusion, I wish to take this opportunity of recording my grateful thanks to Mr. Becklake for having accepted the responsible task of being the Society's first Editor.

J. P. ROUX,

President, 1953-1955, Transvaal Numismatic Society.

RESPONSE TO A CHALLENGE

During a very pleasant social evening in 1950 spent with Dr. A. Kaplan of Germiston and Dr. I. Kaplan of Johannesburg, coins were discussed in all their aspects — coin cabinets, coin collectors and collections, coin catalogues and coin sales. It was sometime during the evening that I asked whether a Numismatic Society had ever been in existence in Johannesburg and Dr. A. Kaplan recalled that a long time ago one was mooted but nothing ever came of it. He then suggested that it might be a good idea if someone got a society started, and I took it up as a challenge, and from that very small beginning there emerged the Johannesburg Numismatic Society which has now been developed into the Transvaal Numismatic Society.

At first I sounded out those habitues of the sales at Richard Currie and found them all very enthusiastic. A small meeting was convened and it was felt that there was a real need for a Society in Johannesburg, and the "go ahead" signals were set in motion. With the able assistance of Mr. B. Herring and Dr. A. Kaplan, and the support and encouragement of Dr. F. K. Mitchell of the South African Numismatic Society of Cape Town, Mr. J. P. Roux of the South African Mint and Mr. J. T. Becklake of Pretoria a draft constitution was drawn up and this was formally presented to an Inaugural Meeting in the Johannesburg Public Library on 27th July, 1950. Preceding this meeting an exhibition of coins and medals had been organised by Mr. B. Herring with the assistance of Mr. F. Kennedy of the Public Library and the Africana Museum and many interested numismatists loaned items from their collections for a display which was very well attended, and proved to be of great interest.

At the inaugural meeting which was attended by over thirty people, a strong committee was elected, and under their able guidance and that of subsequent committees, the Society has gone from strength to strength. Now as the Transvaal Numismatic Society, there is still much more scope for development and improvement and with this, our own first Newsletter, we must keep in closer touch with our members and with other interested Numismatic Societies, and not only show faith in the response to that challenge five years ago, but keep up with that same challenge and show ourselves that there is a real need for our Society and that the need is, and will continue to be ably fulfilled.

5



SOME MEMBERS IN ACTION.

Top Row (l.t.r.): A. Graff, S. Gordon, B. Herring.

Second Row (l.t.r.): G. M. Harrison, J. P. Roux, J. T. Becklake,

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THE SOUTH AFRICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY AND OURSELVES

As a Foundation Member of what was then the "Johannesburg", and is now the "Transvaal" Numismatic Society, I am particularly grateful for the opportunity of sending, on behalf of the South African Numismatic Society, a message of good wishes and greetings to "De Nummis".

Frankly, as Hon. Editor since its inception of the "Newsletter" of the South African Numismatic Society, my sympathies are with the editor. I wonder whether he realised, when he agreed to take on the job, just how difficult it is to persuade the South African collector to put pen to paper!! However, even if outside contributions are few and far between, I am sure that Mr. Becklake will make a success of "De Nummis", and we of the S.A. Numismatic Society will have to look to our laurels. He, of course, is well-known to numismatists, not only because of his previous long association with the South African Mint, but also through his "Notes on the coinage of the South African Republic", which, though written more than 20 years ago, remains a standard work, particularly on South African patterns.

The past decade has seen a remarkable increase in the number of coin collectors in South Africa. Where ten years ago there was one numismatic society struggling in its infancy, there are now, with the recent formation of the Natal Society, three active societies; recruits are joining our ranks all the time, and the wind seems set fair for the future. Amidst all this apparent prosperity of our hobby, however, I sometimes pause and wonder whether all is as well as appears on the surface. True, we have a growing band of collectors, but have we not perhaps a dangerous dearth of numismatists? Can our societies claim, as does the Numismatic Society of South Australia, that they are "learned Societies, established for the extension of the study of Numismatology". Have we failed as yet adequately "to disassociate ourselves from the commercial side of numismatic activity"?

Some attention to the "investment" aspects of collecting is, of course, inevitable. But there is much research to be done before we can claim to know all about even our own country's coins and medals. The currency of the Early Cape is a vast field crying out for study; our tokens have never been properly recorded; commemorative medals in their scores await adequate description; even war medals, although a comparatively small series

in this country, still conceal many of their secrets; our interesting early bank-notes deserve much more attention than they have yet enjoyed. And do we not devote too much of our attention to Africana? Could the hope perhaps be expressed that a few more South African collectors might be persuaded to look beyond our own shores and enjoy the many numismatic treasures which have been given to the world by the ancient civilisations of Greece and Rome, and by the many nations of other lands?

A journal of some kind is a "sine qua non" of any learned Society worthy of the name, and in helping to launch "De Nummis" on what I hope will be a long and distinguished career, I look forward to strong competition from the "North" — to our mutual benefit — and to a marked stimulus to our search after numismatic knowledge.

F. K. MITCHELL,

Hon. Editor,

South African Numismatic Society Newsletter.

"THE MINT"

by SIR JOHN CRAIG

(A History of the London Mint from A.D. 287 to 1948)

(A lay person's impressions)

I am tremendously impressed with this authoratative tome, "The Mint" by Sir John Craig.

What amazing industry; what meticulous compiling of facts and figures; what years of patient research in Museums, Galleries and Mint Archives, must have gone into collecting the material for this historical record of

minting.

The State, the Crown, the Clergy and influential persons all seem to have had, at some time in its history, a say in the control of the Mint. Each reign brought changes. The coins passed through so many phases in metal weight and value. With the intricacies of the mint machinery and the changing values of money through the Centuries, which Sir John so carefully explains, I am afraid I am completely at sea, as these technical matters are beyond my comprehension.

However, I was fascinated by the names of coins that are now obsolete, namely the groat, ryal, noble and angel.

What fun buying a pair of shoes for ten angels!

That so many towns at various periods in English history had Mints was also interesting to me. Even Barnstable could boast of a Mint!

Then, the many famous people in the past who had something to do with the Mint, surprised me. Amongst them Benvenuto Cellini, the Italian artist famous in the goldsmiths' art — Leonardo da Vinci, who invented a rolling mill and a press for cutting out blanks. Sir Christopher Wren, the Architect, and most important of all to my mind, Sir Isaac Newton, who was the Warden of the Mint for 28 years. One marvels how anyone in such an exacting position, had time to discover the law of gravity and invent the telescope, etc.

Then, in lighter vein, there were Evelyn and Pepys who, besides visiting the Mint, enjoyed the parties, as only

Pepys knew how, at the Masters Lodge at the Mint.

G.Z.

(The above impressions are of interest and, we hope, will cause many students of numismatics to study this remarkable history of Minting — Editor.)

RECENT COIN SALES IN JOHANNESBURG

The amount of interest displayed in South African Numismatics is indicated in the large number of new Collectors who are to be seen at the coin sales that are regularly held in Johannesburg. I have definitely observed a number of new collectors who have shown particular keenness at these sales, for the Burger and Kruger rareties. There appears to be less of the hoarding type of buyers who are only interested in large lots of gold sovereigns or half sovereigns for speculative purposes, and more of the Numismatic type who are out to obtain an item or two to fill a gap in their collection.

This fact was further indicated at the amount of keenness displayed by buyers for the rarer items of the Burger and Kruger coins, at the sale that was held on May 26th, 1954. When the "99" overstamp was put up, bids were observed to come from every corner of the sale room, and bidding was brisk until it reached £180. The rivalry for the possession of this choice item was then confined to two or three buyers. It was finally knocked down for £200. This is the highest price that this coin has ever fetched. It should be noted however, that it is probably

one of the finest pieces in existance.

The "thin" Beard Burger Pond, which could not be described as better than VF fetched £ and the thick beard Burger Pond of a quality between fine and VF fetched £ this and the high prices of other South African items, I have no doubt, is a true and distinct proof of the keenness displayed by an apparent new lot of keen collectors. All this augers well for the furtherance of Numismatic interest in South Africa, as well as for the advancement of the newly formed Transvaal Numismatic Society.

S. GORDON.

AN INTERESTING EXPERIENCE

Readers of "De Nummis" in the Transvaal may be interested to learn of a most interesting experience I had when in Port Elizabeth for the Medical Congress.

Dr. Froehlich invited me to see some of his recent acquisitions which emanate from the Farouk collection. It was my privilege to be the first to see these items as

they had just arrived.

The controversial M overstamp 9 is a genuine specimen which originally came from the Pretoria Mint. All the documentary evidence accompanies this coin. The significance of this acquisition proves of enormous value to us in South Africa and I feel that Dr. Froehlich is to be complimented on his foresight in not allowing it to be bought by a foreign collector. Further research will doubtless prove most interesting to us all.

The proofs and patterns that Dr. Froehlich has in his collection are quite indescribable for sheer beauty and

interest.

The largest gold medal ever struck to commemorate any event in history is also in his collection and is of South African interest. It is a 32 oz. gold medal of Roberts issued by Spink & Son in 1901 when Roberts thought the Anglo-Boer War was over; but it carried on till 1902 and therefore no other medals of this size were issued. The smaller issue in gold, silver and bronze are well-known to medal collectors.

In exhibiting my specimens of medals and coins of S.A. interest in the doctors hobbies section, I was pleasantly suprised to find how many doctors would like to take up this hobby. So perhaps it was worth the trouble of packing, unpacking and losing some items or misplacing them.

Good collecting to all.

ISIDOR KAPLAN.

THE 9 AND M COUNTERMARKED POND

Interest has been aroused at the recent sale in Egypt of the King Farouk Coin Collection. In the South African Section of Coins and Patterns, particular speculation seemed to centre round Lot 902 which fetched £655. It contained 19 Kruger ponds and half ponds, and included an 1898 pond with countermark of 9 & M under the truncation. This is an item the existance of which, I venture to suggest, no one has ever known or heard of before; it was, therefore, dismissed as a coin of no significance. Dr. Mitchell has, in fact, in his last issue of the South African Numismatic Newsletter, dismissed it as of no importance and as an obvious forgery. My question to Dr. Mitchell is: "What is it a forgery of?"

Dr. Mitchell has not taken the following factors into consideration: Lot 902, apart from the 9 & M overstruck Pond, and with the exception of the gold tickey, contained all the Ponds and half ponds of the South African Republic between 1892 and 1902, including the 99 overstamp, the Veld Pond, the two blanks and the 1893 Half Pond. In attempting to assess these 18 items, we could not possibly price them at higher than £350 at the utmost, and, in view of the fact that the 19 coins fetched £655 it becomes obvious that more than £300 was paid for the 9 & M over-

struck coin.

This is a high figure and it can be visualised that very keen bidding must have taken place, at that memorable sale, for this coin, and the bidders must have been in possession of information and proof as to the validity of this item.

Further to this, I now have information that letters and documents exist which prove that the 9 & M overstruck Pond is an actual mint-struck coin and it can be assumed as having been struck before it was finally decided to issue the 99 overstamp ponds so valuable and keenly sought after

by South African Numismatists.

It may not be generally known that Lot 902 was purchased by the firm of Baldwin & Sons, of London. Mr. Royle Baldwin is a recognised authority on South African Numismatics and was responsible for compiling the Farouk Sales Catalogue. In Lot 902, the 9 & M Overstruck Pond was itemised as being of equal importance to the 99 overstamp, and Mr. Baldwin had no hesitation in stating that this coin was highly important and a unique item.

Taking all these factors into consideration, I would classify this coin as an initial striking and a probable pattern for the year 1899. It is a new and unique discovery in South African Numismatics and of great historical

interest.

FAROUK SALE - S. AFRICAN COINS

A. Graff, P.O. Box 4147, JOHANNESBURG. 1st June, 1954.

Messrs. Spink & Son, Numismatic Department, 5, 6 and 7, King Street, St. James's, LONDON, S.W.1.

Dear Sirs,

re: FAROUK SALE — S. AFRICAN COINS.

Referring to lot 902 in above, this included a "1898 Kruger pond countermarked 9 under bust and M engraved on bust". This lot contained 19 specimen, 18 of which are well-known here and I value these at about £310. The lot was sold for £655. The buyer therefore valued the one coin referred to at about £345.

We South African collectors, have never heard of such an overstamp and are naturally very interested. At the same time we are rather suspicious of its genuineness, as knowing the value of the "99 overstamped" we check these

very carefully.

Could you therefore assist us to investigate the "single 9 overstamp" by sending me a micrograph of it and any other information you may have about it.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) A. GRAFF.

A. Graff, Esq., P.O. Box 4147, JOHANNESBURG, South Africa. 5, 6 and 7, King Street, St. James's, S.W.1.
4th June, 1954.

Dear Mr. Graff,

I thank you for your letter of the 1st June, referring to the "1898 Kruger pond, countermarked '9' under bust and 'M' engraved on bust". I examined this lot particularly in Cairo, on the instructions of several South African customers, and am of the opinion that the piece is a forgery. This opinion has been confirmed by those who subsequently attended the sale. The 9 was a large figure 9 by itself, and could have been added at a later date. The M was just scratched on by an engraving tool. We did not purchase this particular lot, and do not have access to this particular coin.

Yours sincerely, (Sgd.) D. GROWTHER (?).

DESIGNS OF SOUTH AFRICAN COINS, FROM 1947 TO 1954

A. GENERAL.

The designs of South African coins bearing the effigy of George VI were unchanged up to 1947. From 1948 onwards, the word "Imperator" did not figure on the obverse, and VI was spelt out fully as SEXTUS on all the coins. This had to be done in order to fill up the space round the Kings' head.

The first five shilling pieces struck in S.A. since 1892—the latter were the famous President Kruger five-shilling pieces, were struck in 1947.

This was a commemorative issue, commemorating the Visit of the Royal family to the Union of S.A. The obverse design was similar to that on the other coins, and the reverse design and modelling was submitted by Coert L. Steynberg, the well-known Pretoria sculptor, but the conception of the lay-out was by J. P. Roux. The design depicts a full-grown running Springbok just on the point of showing off ("proking") and in the foreground is shown Aloe Claviflora in full bloom. This aloe is found throughout the Orange Free State, Great Karroo, Namqualand and South West Africa, and was first described by the famous and celebrated British naturalist, William J. Burchell.

In 1952 the reverse design was changed for that year only. A special five shilling piece was issued in commemoration of the landing of Jan van Riebeeck on 6th April, 1652. in Table Bay, Cape Town. The obverse has the effigy of King George VI (modelled and designed by Henry Paget). The reverse depicts Table Mountain, Table Bay and Jan van Riebeeck's three ships with the "Dromedaris" on the foreground. This was designed and modelled by Mrs. M. Walgate of Cape Town — South Africa's leading sculptress.

B. INSCRIPTIONS ON REVERSE OF COINS.

A change in the inscriptions on the reverse design took place in 1951, and has not been changed since then.

(1) In the 5/-, 3/-, 6d., 1d. and \(\frac{1}{4}\)d., the inscription was reversed, so that the Afrikaans "Suid-Afrika" appeared on the left side of the reverse, and the English "South Africa" on the right. Up till then the English was on the left in all denominations. It remained so on the 2/6, 1/- and 3d. and \(\frac{1}{2}\)d. pieces.

- (2) "Shilling" or "Shillings" where it appeared in the past was replaced by the letter "s". The 5/-, 2/6, 2/- and 1/- denominations then had this change.
- (3) The date was placed uniformly at the top in all denominations a change in the 2/6. and 2/-pieces.
- (4) In all denominations the hyphen between "South" and "Africa" was eliminated i.e. a change in the 2/6d., 2/-, 1/-, 1d., ½d. and ¼d. pieces.
- (5) In all denominations a hyphen was placed between "Suid" and "Afrika" i.e. a change in the sixpence and threepence.
- (6) The type of letters on the reverses was changed to conform to that of the obverses. Thus all coins were balanced in design and lay-out.

The first gold coins to be minted in South Africa since 1932, were minted in 1952 and are still being minted — i.e. the £1 and £ $\frac{1}{2}$. These are special proof pieces for Numismatists and Collectors. The reverse design is identical to that used for the usual five-shilling pieces — i.e. Coert Steynberg's leaping Springbok.

C. DESIGNS OF CURRENT SOUTH AFRICAN COINAGE.

Obverse:

Uncrowned effigy of Elizabeth II with inscription ELIZABETH II REGINA. (This effigy is being used throughout the Commonwealth and was designed and modelled by Mrs. Mary Gillick, of London.)

Reverse:

Five Shillings: A full-grown running Springbok just on the point of showing off, and in the foreground is shown Aloe Claviflora in full bloom with low hills in the background.

Halfcrown: Quartered crowned shield of the Union Coat-of-Arms, representing the Cape Province, Transvaal, Orange Free State and Natal — South Africa's four Provinces.

Two Shillings: Similar to the half-crown except that the shield is uncrowned.

Shilling: Represents the figure of Hope, portion of the Union Coat-of-Arms.

Sixpence: Within a broken circle composed of six bundles of faggots representing "six pence" is an open Protea blossom with leaves. The bundles are each composed of four faggots and represent the four Provinces.

Threepence: Within a broken circle of three bundles of faggots, representing "three pence", is an open Protea blossom with leaves. The bundles are each composed of four faggots and represent the four Provinces.

Penny: A Dutch-India Merchantman under full sail, reflecting, South African history, its trade with the East, and symbolic of our sea-faring Ancestors.

Halfpenny: The same as the penny.

Farthing: Within a circle are two sparrows perched on a sprig of mimosa — an indigenous South African thorn tree. The sparrows refer to the well-known Biblical passage, Matthew chaper 10, verse 29: "Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father."

D. SUMMARY.

The designs of the South African coins bearing the effigy of George VI were unchanged up to 1947. From 1948 onwards the word IMPERATOR does not figure on the obverse, and VI is spelt out fully.

Five Shilling pieces have been struck since 1947, with a change in the reverse design in 1952 only.

The next change took place in 1951, but only affected the reverse designs.

One pound hand half-pound gold pieces were struck in 1952 and are still being minted.

Since 1953 all South Africa's coins bear the effigy of H.M. Queen Elizabeth II.

J. P. ROUX,

Director of the South African Mint.

"COUNTERFEITING" IN NATAL

(from a statement by the Govt. Archivist in Pietermaritzburg in 1937)

On the 4th October, 1898, George Charles Fraser and Louis Anker were indicted before the Supreme Court of the Colony of Natal for the crime of being in unlawful possession of machinery and presses for making coin. After a trial which lasted until the 10th the accused persons were discharged, a unanimous verdict of not guilty being returned by the Jury.

On an application by counsel it was ordered by the Court that all machinery excepting the dies and milling machine be restored to the owners.

From the evidence it would appear that the plant was erected mainly with the object of minting various denominations of silver coins of the South African Republic and that the following machinery was utilised for the purpose: a rolling machine, a stamping machine or medal press and a milling machine as well as numerous other technical appliances produced as court exhibits. Most of the apparatus were apparently imported.

The five pairs of dies impounded by the court are still in the custody of the Registrar of the Supreme Court (Natal Provincial Division). An application by this office for their transfer to the Archives, some years ago, did not have the desired effect. The stamping machine, I am reliably informed, is presently used by a local jeweller for striking medals.

J. T. B.

TOWN COINS — COMPARISON OF (1940) OF PIECES EXAMIN GRIQUA

GRIQUA 10d. PIECE

					1	
1667 77.03 grains 1.003"—1.006" 0.041"—0.042"		Museum, rg, No. 1664 33.45 grains 0.809"—0.806" 0.028"—0.024"		1662 94.120 grains 0.982"—0.972" 0.060"—0.059"		66.84 grains 0.840"—0.841" 0.057"—0.056"
1666 83.03 grains 1.005"—1.007" 0.042"—0.044"		Johannesbur 46.77 grains 0.833"—0.832" 0.033"—0.036"		1663 101.318 grains 0.980"—0.968" 0.066"—0.063"		53.94 grains 0.806"—0.802" 0.050"—0.049"
60.18 grains 0.969" 0.038"	d. PIECE	The late Mr. Roos' 36.78 grains 0.826"—0.836" 0.024"—0.026"	La. PIECE	98.22 grains 0.962"—0.977" 0.060"—0.062" (Worn piece)	¼d. PIECE	52.15 grains 0.816" 0.055" (Worn piece)
	GRIQUA 5	Spink's (London) 32.20 grains 0.803"—0.825" 0.024"	GRIQUA	103.60 grains 0.966"—0.978" 0.059"—0.060"	GRIQUA	
82.31 grains 1.110"—1.090" .47"—.043"		Mint (Pretoria) 33.78 grains 0.839"—0.841" 0.019"—0.021"		81.49 grains 0.998"—1.002" 0.043"—0.044"		51.34 grains 0.811"—0.808" 0.046"—0.050" (Obv. worn)
Weight Diameter Thickness		Weight Diameter Thickness		Weight Diameter Thickness		Weight Diameter Thickness

here

All pieces in E.F. condition except wl

GRIQUA TOWN COINS

10d. The Mint specimen and Africana Museum specimens are from the same dies (obverse and reverse).

The late Mr. Roos' specimen reverse is from a different die. (Differences in lettering, size, etc.)

- 5d. (a) The late Mr. Roos' and Mint specimens are from same die (reverse).
 - (b) Spink's and Africana Museum 1664 from different dies (reverse).
 - (c) Spink's and Africana Museum specimens are from different obverse dies to items (a) and (b). (Differences wing position.)
- The late Mr. Roos', the Africana Museum and Spinks' specimens are from same dies (obverse and reverse).

The Mint Specimen reverse is from a different die. (Differences in lettering, size, etc.)

The late Mr. Roos' specimen "worn".

The late Mr. Roos' and Africana Museum 1660 specimen from the same die (obverse and reverse).

Africana Museum specimen 1661 from a different die to the Africana Museum 1660 (reverse). (Differences lettering, positions.)

Mint Specimen "Worn" and Mint obverse "worn".

J. T. B.

CHINESE MINTS AND DOLLARS

NOTES OF A VISIT TO THE HALL STREET METAL ROLLING CO., BIRMINGHAM, IN MAY, 1934

The Manager, Mr. Wharton, gave me a most detailed account of his experiences of Minting in China.

It is interesting to note that Mr. Wharton went, at the age of twenty-one, as Assayer to the Chinese Mint at Nankin (Kiangnan) in 1898 and stayed till the Boxer Rebellion or a little after. He was in charge of the Tientsin and Nankin mints. The former mint had 280

Taylor & Challen presses installed and he thought it must have been the biggest mint in the world. At the Tietsin mint silver and bronze (90% cupro, 10% zinc) were generally used.

He returned later with a wife and children in 1909 to 1910 to undertake the recoinage of currency for the Government but the rebellion quashed this scheme entirely. Modern type mints were started in China under the supervision of men from Mint Birmingham mainly, and in 1900 at Tientsin, Wyon was in charge of the dies and the training of engravers, etc. (the Kantonese particularly were most apt at this work). Taylor & Challen presses and rolls and Oertling weighing machines were largely used and the Mint Birmingham supervised work and, I believe, acted as agents for purchase. Mints were set up as follows (approximate dates):—

- 1895—Nankin (Kiang-nan). (This mint had about 100 presses in the silver section.)
 - Hankow (Wuchang Hupeh Province) about 18 presses.
- 1900-Tientsin (Chili) about 150 presses.
 - -- Manchuria (Mukden).
 - Kirin.
 - Szechuen (1,000 miles up the Yanksi).
 - Hunan.
 - -- Ankwei.

In 1910, rebels practically wiped out the Tientsin Mint and set fire to it after looting the coins and breaking the plant. Just prior to 1910 it had been decided to issue one universal Chinese dollar and the previous independent coinages of the various provinces were to be called in and replaced entirely. 5,000 tons of copper "cash", etc., were collected for recoinage when the rebellion started. Several million dollars were struck (but not issued) sometime previously. Their non-issue was due to the dollar symbol appearing on the coin and this symbol \$1 resembled a Chinese vulgarity.

Mr. Wharton had a complete series of the dollars struck at the various mints. On the one side each had a five claw royal dragon and on the other side the names of the various provinces in which each dollar was struck appeared, generally in English and Chinese.

LIST OF CHINESE DOLLARS (Detailed by Mr. Wharton)

- 1 Tola=180 grains=1 Tael.
 - 1. "Kiang Nan (Nankin)" 7 Mace and 2 Candareens. Wyon Die Ag. 19/16" dia. Milling with centre line of "halfmoons". Obverse Royal Dragon, 5 clawed.
 - 2. "Kirin Province. 7 Caindarins 2 (i.e. 72 Candareens) $1^9/_{16}$ " Ag. Ordinary milling. Obverse Similar but not exactly the same.
 - 3. Fungtien Province. Obverse 5 Clawed Dragon (Diff. and Chinese). Ordinary milling.
 - 4. An-hwei Province. 7 Mace and 2 Candareens. 5 Clawed Royal Dragon. 19/16" dia.
 - 5. Szechuen Province. 7 Mace and 2 Candareens. 5 Clawed Dragon. Ordinary milling. 19/16" dia.
 - 6. Kwang Tung Province. 7 Mace and 2 Candareens. 5 Clawed Dragon. Wyon Die 19/16". Milling ordinary.
 - 7. Manchurian Province. 33rd Year of Kuang Hsu. 5 Clawed Dragon. 19/16" dia. Ordinary milling. Minted in Mukden Mint or possibly Jehol (?).
 - 8. Tai-Ching-Ti-Kua. Silver coin, as above. (Tientsin Mint.)
 - 9. Unissued \$ only English sign "\$1" was a vulgarity. As above otherwise. 5 Clawed Dragon.
- 10. Cheh-Kiang Province. 3 Mace and 6 Candareens. 5 Clawed Dragon. Hangchow Mint. 13" dia.
- 11. Nankin ½ Dollar. 3 Mace and 6 Candareens. Similar to No. 1 but ordinary milled edge. 1¾" dia.
- 12. Hu-nan Province. 1 Mace and 44 Candareens. Ordinary milling. Dragon. 15/16 dia.
- 13. Kiang-Nan (Nankin) Province. 72 Candareens. Milled. Dragon. 3" dia.
- 14. Manchurian Province. 1 Mace and 44 Candareens. Dragon. 15/16" dia.
- 15. 1/10 Dol. Unissued. 1911. 10% Ni. 50% Ag. 40% Cu. Milled. Dragon. Rolled well and piece looks well. 3" dia.
- 16. 2 Cents. Tombac. 90% Cu. 10% Zn. (Made at Nankin and Tientsin only.) 18" dia.
- 17. Made at Nankin and Tientsin only as No. 16. 1 Cent. $1^3/_{16}$ " dia.

J. T. B.

OF CENSUS AND STATICS, PRETORI BUREAU

Extract from Monthly Bulletin of Statistics

Union Coins Struck at the Mint in Pretoria

(A) Number

Unie-muntstukke geslaan by die Munt in Pretoria

(A) Getal

Gold	Gond.			Silver.—	Silwer.			Bro	Bronze.—Brons.	
Pounds. Ponde.	Half- pounds. Tien- sjieling- stukke.	Crowns. Krone.	Half- crowns. Half- krone.	Florins. Twee- sjieling- stukke.	Shillings. Sjielings.	Six- pences. Ses- pennie- stukke.	Three-pences. Drie-pennie-stukke.	Pence. Pennies.	Half- pence. Half- pennies.	Farthings. Oortjies.
£1	10s.	5s.	2s. 6d.	2s.	1s.	ed.	3d.	1d.	1d.	1d.
3,184	- 657		1,228,080 2,555,875	696,316	809,033	209,110	303,292	91,027	12,080	32,800 94,838
6,086,264 11,107,611 16,379,704 18,235,057	946,615		460,143 204,930 193,653 984,253	323,730 323,730 398,541 1,092,111	238,017 488,455 889,270	79,23 21,60 47,78	357,584 1,572,059 2,284,964 919,390	393,095 285,168 385,669	69,295 64,753	
12,024,107 10,027,756 8,511,792 1,066,680			323,590 852 852 1,028,616 135,799 415,918	0,44,00, 0,48,00,4	21,70 6,60 36,60 21,01	448,267 4,850 1,524,910 2,818,595 1,518,864	980,71 980,71 1,621,96 1,356,56	54,28 48,43 59,51 90,07	146,680 145,343 106,438 63,435 325,830	6,560 154,233 105,403 31 26

Source: South African Mint.

Bron: Suid-Afrikaanse Munt

EDITORIAL NOTES

- 1. The Executive Committee of the Transvaal Numismatic Society has for a long time, felt the desirability of issuing periodically, a journal so that its very widely scattered membership can be kept in closer touch with the Society's activities than is practicable at present. As a result Issue No. 1 now makes its appearance.
- 2. We appreciate very sincerely the good wishes expressed by Dr. F. K. Mitchell whose enthusiasm and able guidance has so firmly established the parent body in the Union of S.A.
- 3. We are fortunate, through the good offices of our President, in being able to secure a composite and cleverly unusual presentation by Victor Ivanhoff, of the Society's Committee in concerted action. It is hoped members will be stimulated and perhaps quietly amused. It would be most helpful if other members when visiting Johannesburg would notify our Secretary for the purpose of having their numismatic aptitudes shown to advantage in some future issue of "De Nummis".
- 4. In reference to articles contributed to "De Nummis", it should be emphasised that the freeest expression of opinions will be welcome but it is also emphasised that whilst the Editor takes no responsibilty for statements made, he will endeavour, always, to give the opportunity of reply by the opposite side in all controversial issues.
- 5. Our President has expressed the hope that "De Nummis" will present from time to time a wide range of subjects of general interest and this factor together with Dr. F. K. Mitchell's remarks anent the desirability of more research on S.A. Coin history as well as the study of coinages beyond our shores has prompted me to put on record in this issue some earlier notes on

- "Chinese Dollars", "Counterfeiting in Natal" and "Comparative Weights of the Griqua Coins".
- 6. It is hoped that the inclusion of the records of pieces struck in the present Mint in Pretoria will be of assistance to members as also should be our President's summary of S.A. Coin designs from 1947-1954.
- 7. We are very glad to report that the President and the Secretary-Treasurer have agreed to continue in office for a further period. Their services to the Society have been outstanding and I am sure I can say on behalf of all members, how much we appreciate the work they are doing on our behalf.
- 8. This first issue of "De Nummis" is designed to place on record the history of our Society from its inception. A record of the Executive Members of the meetings held since 1950 has, therefore, been included.

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J. T. BECKLAKE.

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A RECORD OF THE SOCIETY'S EXECUTIVE MEMBERS AND DATES OF THEIR ELECTION

- 27th January, 1950: Chairman: Dr. R. Norris; Vice-Chairman: N. C. Foster; Secretary: B. Herring; Committee: J. T. Becklake, S. Gordon, J. Albu, M. McDonald. Meeting held at Johannesburg Public Library.
- 28th February, 1951: Chairman: M. S. Foster; Vice-Chairman: J. T. Becklake (after the death of Mr. Foster early in 1952 J. T. Becklake was appointed in his place); Secretary: B. Herring; Treasurer: J. Albu; Committee: S. Gordon, I. Kleinot, Dr. P. J. Toit. Meeting held at Johannesburg Public Library.
- 27th February, 1952: Chairman: J. P. Roux; Vice-Chairman: Col. G. M. Harrison; Secretary: B. Herring; Committee: Dr. A. Kaplan, S. Gordon, R. Craggs, Dr. H. M. Stoker. Meeting held at Mint House, Pretoria.
- 22nd September, 1953: President: J. P. Roux; Vice-President: Col. G. M. Harrison; Secretary: W. S. van As; Committee: J. T. Becklake, Dr. H. M. Stoker, S. Gordon. Meeting held at Col. Harrison's Residence, Johannesburg.
- 29th March, 1954: President: J. P. Roux; Vice-President: Col. G. M. Harrison; Secretary: W. S. van As; Committee: J. T. Becklake, T. T. Schlotz, A. Graff. Meeting held at Mint House, Pretoria.
- 27th April, 1955: President: J. P. Roux; Vice-President: Dr. H. M. Stoker; Secretary: W. S. van As; Committee: A. Graff, S. Gordon, T. T. Scholtz. Meeting held at Johannesburg Public Library.

A RECORD OF THE SOCIETY'S MEETINGS FROM 1950 TO 1955

- 27th July, 1950: Inauguration Meeting in Johannesburg Public Library. Exhibition of Coins, Medals, etc.
- 23rd August, 1950: Johannesburg Public Library. Dr. P. J. du Toit on "The Coinage of Deutsche Ost Africa".

- 27th September, 1950: Johannesburg Public Library. Mr. M. McDonald on "Coinage and Medals of Australasia and East India".
- 22nd October, 1950: Johannesburg Public Library. Mr. B. Herring on "Overstamped 99".
- 22nd November, 1950: Residence of Mr. Craggs. Mr. Craggs Lecture on Medals on view.
- 28th March, 1951: Johannesburg Public Library. Dr. Stoker on "Kruger Medals, Coin and Patterns".
- 23rd May, 1951: Johannesburg Public Library. Dr. Seymour Davies on "Ancient Gold and Metallic Currency of Persia and Lydia".
- 12th December, 1951: Mint House:
 - (a) Mr. Kaplan on "The Old Copper Currency of the Northern Transvaal Tribes".
 - (b) Mr. J. P. Roux "Exhibition of Models i.r.o. Commemoration Medallions, Tercentenary Medals, etc.
- 2nd April, 1952: Residence of Col. G. M. Harrison. Col. Harrison on "How I came to start collecting with reference to coins on view".
- 25th June, 1952: Mr. J. T. Becklake's Residence. Mr. J. T. Becklake on "Ancient Coinages of Greece and its Colonial Empire".
- 28th August, 1952: Dr. A. Kaplan's Residence. Dr. A. Kaplan on "South African Commemorative Medals".
- 30th October, 1952: Dr. H. M. Stoker's Residence. Dr. Stoker on "Fluctuations in the Catalogue Prices of Coins of the S.A. Republic from 1892-1952.
- 28th January, 1953: Mr. A. Graff's Residence. Talk on improved methods of Catalogueing Coins and the storage of Coins in Cabinets by Mr. A. Graff.
- 29th September, 1953: Mint House. Dr. Holloway "Gold Coins and their influence of International Affairs".
- 10th November, 1953: Mr. P. Stoker's Residence. Mr. P. Stoker "A Micro Study of 3 different Z.A.R. Veldponde".
- 12th April, 1954: Mint House. A visit to the Mint's Numismatic Museum and Library.
- 17th August, 1954: Mr. S. Gordon's Flat. Exhibition of Kruger Coins, Pattern Pieces, etc.
- 2nd November, 1954: Mr. A. Graff's Residence. Lecture on Coins on Exhibition.
- 27th April, 1955: Johannesburg Public Library. President's Address; Annual Reports and Election of Officers.

TRANSVAALSE NUMISMATIESE VERENIGING. TRANSVAAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

evenue and Expenditure Account for year ended 31.12.1954.

£40
17
2
£40
31
V
1

Balance Sheet as at 31.12.1954.

LIABILITIES	ASSETS
Revenue and Expenditure Account Balance as at 28.2.54 Add excess for year ended 31.12.1954 Advance Subscriptions Advance Subscriptions	CASH United Building Society Standard Bank 26 2 2
£118 0 1	£118 0 1

W. S. VAN AS, Hon. Treasurer.

true statement of the income and expenditure 31st December, 1954. the above Income and Expenditure Account is a books of the Society for the period 1st March to that reflected in the I certify

examined the above Balance Sheet with the books of the Society which have been properly kept and tashibits a true and correct view of the state of affairs of the Society as at 31st December, 1954. have ex certify

P. J. DE JAGER, Hon. Auditor,

THE TRANSVAAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

LIST OF MEMBERS

	Albu, J. H Abromowitz, I	P.O. Box 1438, Johannesburg. 64, 10th Street, Orange Grove, Johannesburg.
9	Amon D	P.O. Box 733, Johannesburg.
	Alexander V	Deceased.
	Alexander, K. L	210, Lunnon Road, Hillcrest,
4.	Becklake, J. T	Pretoria.
	Belcher, C. I.	31, Sauer Street, Johannesburg.
	Boshoff-Mostert, M	P.O. Box 84, Balfour, Transvaal.
7.	Borchardt, Dr. F	8, Lake Road, Klippoortjie,
		Germiston.
8.	Brown, L	P.O. Box 1826, Johannesburg.
9.	Bauer, J. E	P.O. Box 5651, Johanne burg.
	Boyd, R	P.O. Box 1900, Johannesburg.
	Craggs, R.	41, Villa Street, Clydesdale,
		Pretoria.
12	Crewe-Brown, G.	68 van Riebeek Medical Buildings,
12.	O10110 D101111, O	Schoeman Street, Pretoria.
12	Dunn D	118, Main Street, Johannesburg.
	Dunn, D	P.O. Box 8212, Johannesburg.
	Duys, G. J	38, Albert Street, Waterkloof,
15.	du Toit, Dr. P. J	수는 사람들이 있는데 그렇게 되었다면 보면 있다면 보다 되었다면 사람들이 되었다면 보다 하는데 사람들이 되었다면 보다 되었다면 하는데 사람들이 되었다면 하는데 되었다면 하는데 되었다면 보다 되었다.
		Pretoria.
	Des Vages, V	P.O. Box 510, Cape Town.
17.	Eckhardt, J. V	Ellahof, Flat 104, 41, Hamilton
		Street, Pretoria.
18.	Engelbrecht, Prof	Lisdoganlaan 164, Pretoria.
19.	Froehlich, Dr. C. L.	Quoit House, 36, Western Road,
		Port Elizabeth.
20.	Frederickson, F. R.	P.O. Box 8, Nairobi, Kenya.
	Frazer, R	104, Lawley Street, Waterkloof,
		Pretoria.
22.	Gordon, S	79, Rissik Street, Johannesburg.
	Graff, A	P.O. Box 4147, Johannesburg.
	Griffin, R. H.	Waterkloof, Pretoria.
	Heydt, A.	502 Avonal Court, v.d. Merwe St.,
		Hillbrow, Johannesburg.
26	Harrison, Col. G. M.	P.O. Box 2271, Johannesburg.
	Henderson, P.	587, Jorissen Street, Pretoria.
		P.O. Box 550, Pretoria.
	Hyde, S II II	112, Commissioner Street, Johan-
49.	Hodgskinson, H. F	nesburg.
20		147, Fox Street, Johannesburg.
	Herring, B	
	Ireton, G. O.	P.O. Box 109, Johannesburg.
	Kaplan, Dr. A	P.O. Box 132, Germiston.
33.	Kaplan, Dr. I	21 Hannah Court, Eloff Street,
		Johannesburg.
34.	Kleinot, I	7D Married Quarters, City Deep,
		Johannesburg.
35.	Kleinot, K. C.	7D Married Quarters, City Deep,
		Johannesburg.
36.	Kleinot, H. R	7D Married Quarters, City Deep,
		Johannesburg.

37. 38.	Lautz, T. R Loock, J. J	309, Paul Kruger Street, Pretoria. Bluegum House, P.O. Bethesda Road.
39. 40.		P.O. Box 245, Krugersdorp. c/o 4th Street and 1st Avenue,
41.	Morris, Dr. R	Lower Houghton, Johannesburg. 615 Philadelphia Corner, Jeppe
42.	Morris, J. S	Street, Johannesburg. 615 Philadelphia Corner, Jeppe
43. 44.	Morris, G. W	12, Pembroke Street, Sydenham,
4 5.	MacDonald, M	Johannesburg. 67, Leo Street, Kenilworth,
46.	Mulock-Bentlyeq, Dr. T	
47.	Machanik, Dr. F.	land. 46 Jenner Chambers, Jeppe St., Johannesburg.
48.	Mitchell, Dr. F.	P.O. Box 1073 Cane Town
49.	Maar, J	55. Albert Street, Johannesburg.
50.	Naylor, E.	c/o S.A. Mint, Visagie Street, Pretoria.
51.	Ray, M	P.O. Box 273. Bloemfontein.
52.	Rosen, H.	72, Kilmore Avenue, Crosby, Johannesburg
53.	Rule, W	56 Orion House, Bree Street.
54.	Roux, J. P.	P.O. Box 607. Pretoria.
55 .	Roux, J. P. (Jnr.)	P.O. Box 607, Pretoria.
56.	Roux, Miss R. V.	P.O. Box 607, Pretoria.
57.	RISSIK, G.	P.O. Box 427, Pretoria.
58.	Rosen, J.	34A. Plein Street, Johannesburg.
59.	Stoker, P.	235. John Street, Pretoria.
60.	Stoker, Dr. H. M.	154, Balmoral Avenue, Arcadia. Pretoria.
4,5	Schulman, L.	P.O. Box 26, Fordsburg, Johannesburg.
62 .	Stephens, R. A.	7, 3rd Avenue, Lambton, Germiston.
63.	S.A. Numismatic Society	P.O. Box 1073, Cape Town.
64.	Scholtz, T. T.	294, Brooklyn Street, Menlo Park. Pretoria.
65.	S.A. Reserve Bank	P.O. Box 427. Pretoria.
		P.O. Box 47, Belgravia, Johannes- burg.
67.	Salakoff	7, Compton Road, Greenside Extension, Johannesburg.
68.	S.A. Mint (Curatrix)	P.O. Box 464. Pretoria.
69.	Slater, J.	PO. Box 764. Pretoria.
70.	van As, W. S	6 Bridgeway Mansions, Cellier Street, Pretoria.
71.	van der Walt, H.	32. Marais Street, Baileys Muckle- neuk, Pretoria.
72.	Zinn, D	195, 10th Avenue, Highlands North, Johannesburg.
		Tiorui, ounamicoburg.

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V & R-Pta.

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS UITVOERENDE LEDE

President:
J. P. ROUX.

Vice-President — Vise-President: H. M. STOKER.

Honorary Secretary-Treasurer— Eresekretaris-Penningmeester: W. S. VAN AS.

Committee—Komitee:
A. GRAFF, S. GORDON, T. T. SCHOLTZ.

July, 1955.

Julie 1955.

De Aumis

JOURNAL OF THE

TRANSVAAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

Number 1

Die Burgers Pond — 1874





JOERNAAL VAN DIE

TRANSVAALSE NUMISMATIESE VERENIGING

Nommer 1

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