

COIN AND MEDAL NEWS MUNT EN MEDALJE NUUS

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BEPERK

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 1971 VOL. 7 NO. 1 30c



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TRANSVAAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY STRIKES 21st BIRTHDAY MEDAL

At our last Club Evening of the 29th June, 1971, the President, Mr. W. van As, announced that the Society would be celebrating its 21st Birthday on the 27th July, 1971. On the 27th July, 1950 about 30 people attended the inaugral meeting in the Johannesburg Public Library. Since that historic date the Society has been most fortunate to have Dr. Robert Morris, Mr. J.T. Becklake, Mr. J.P. Roux, Dr. H.M. Stoker, Dr. Felix Machanik, Mr. R.A. Stephens, and Mr. W.S. van As as its successive Presidents. The suggestion by the President that an appropriate medal be struck to mark this historic event was received with overwhelming enthusiasm. In consequence the President has finalized this matter in consultation with one of our leading artists and I have pleasure in advising that a medal, in gold, silver and bronze, will be available in Spetember. Particulars of this medal are:-

Obverse Design

An eagle with a Kruger coin in its claws surrounded by lettering "The Transvaal Numismatic Society. Die Transvaalse Numismatiese Vereniging".

The eagle is the Provincial bird of Transvaal and is therefore symbolic of Transvaal whereas the coin most commonly associated with Transvaal is the Kruger coin.

Reverse Design

A floral arrangement, incorporating

REPORT KRUGER RESTRIKES TO S.A. POLICE

The S.A. Police have requested that members of the Transvaal Numismatic Society be advised that they must please contact the Police when they are approached by person(s) offering restrikes of coins of the Kruger series.

the Protea and some of our beautiful indigenous flora, around an artistic 21 with the words year/jaar below and above the figures.

Size: 11/2" dia.

Metal: 9 Ct. gold, sterling silver and

bronze.

Prices: Gold R50-00 Silver R10-00 Bronze R5-00

Kindly place your orders immediately, accompanied by a remittance, because the orders received before the 31st August, 1971, will determine the number of medals to be struck. It will be a "once only" and a limited issue.

Numismatic Holiday

The Society has been approached by Senator Woolf of Johannesburg with a view to arranging a party of not less than 15 numismatic enthusiasts who would be willing to go on a numismatic tour of Europe where the most important Museums and places of numismatic importance will be visited.

Members are requested to indicate whether they would be interested in this trip and which time of the year would be most suitable. Further particulars regarding the cost involved, the duration of the trip and the places to be visited could then be discussed.

Please write to the Secretary immediately.

Orders for the Transvaal Numismatic Society's 21st Birthday Medallion should be sent to:

The Secretary,
Transvaal Numismatic Society,
P.O. Box 1526,
Pretoria.

(N.B. CHEQUES SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO THE TRANSVAAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.)

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BICKELS

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Adresveranderings sal NIE aangeteken
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met die versoek gestuur word nie.
Meld asseblief duidelik wat die ou en
die nuwe adres is en gee ook u intekenaarskodenommer. Hierdie nommer verskyn elke maand saam met die
adres op die koevert.

RENEWAL NOTICES:

Every subscriber will receive a renewal notice approximately 1 month before the expiry date of the subscription.

HERNUWINGS-KENNISGEWINGS:

Commonward Commonwood

Elke intekenaar sal omtrent 'n maand voor die subskripsie ten einde loop, 'n versoek ontvang om sy intekengeld te hernu.

VOLKSKAS NUUS

Volkskas Beperk kondig met trots aan dat die bank nou reeds oor 'n volwaardige Numismatiese-afdeling beskik, met kantoor in Johannesburg en 'n voltydse personeel. Danksy die intensiewe opleiding, verskaf deur Bickels Munte en Medaljes (Edms) Bpk., is die amptenare verbonde aan Numismatiese-afdeling reeds goed op hoogte en ingelig oor die munt- en penning-kunde.

Amptenare in takke van die bank word ook die geleentheid gegee om 'n "kitskursus" van 3 tot 4 weke in numismatieseafdeling te volg en die kennis so opgedoen terug te neem na die tak waaraan hy/sy verbonde is. Hierdie instelling werp reeds goeie vrugte af en 'n entoesiastiese numismatis word aan die tak terugbesorg.

Vertoonkaste, met 'n aantal aantreklike numismatiese-items daarin uitgestel, is voorsien aan vyf-en-tagtig takke op die groter sentra dwarsdeur die land. Groot belangstelling van die publiek laat ons dit nou oorweeg om hierdie diens van die bank wyer uit te brei en ons stel as oogmerk om mettertyd elke tak van die bank van so 'n vertoonkas te voorsien.

Hierdie unieke diens wat die bank aan die publiek van Suid-Afrika bied is daarop gemik om in elke muntversamelaar se behoeftes plaaslik te voorsien in soverre alle navrae en bestellings ens. deur bemiddeling van die naaste takkantoor aan Numismatiese-afdeling gerig kan word.

Die gedurige aanwas in die aantal numismatiste in ons land en oorsee dui op al groter belangstelling in hierdie uiters interessante en lonende tydverdryf. (Of sal ons dit liewer belegging noem?).

coin prices

oy computer

(WORLD COINS, MAY, 1971)

Actual sale prices of 30 000 coins of the world issued by 787 countries since 1200 AD have been listed in "Foreign Coins Price Digest" and printed in a 132-page book.

The concept of the work, was developed over four years by T.R. Byrley, Plainfield, New Jersey. Entered in a computer in the fall of 1969 were reports of auction prices, dealer buying and selling offers with information regarding date of issue, mintmark, assayer's initials, catalog reference, grade, price and a simple code to reflect the date and source of the price.

First issue of the publication, intended to be issued quarterly, summarizes information from 1,217 auction catalogs and dealer price lists. The book is currently through prices reported as late as December 10, 1970.

GOOD-WILL & FRIENDSHIP THROUGH NUMISMATICS

ESPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR COIN AND MEDAL NEWS

CLAY READ, CALIFORNIA U.S.A.
(1ST NUMISMATIC GOOD-WILL AMBASSADOR.)

Many of us have looked in the dictionary regarding the meaning of "NUMISMATICS". It is true that the meaning is as stated but there is much more to this hobby than what the dictionary says.

First of all "NUMISMATICS" is the individual himself; what it really means to him; the length to which he will go to strive for it and the helping of others in this field.

It also means spreading friendship and good-will whenever one has a chance to visit foreign countries and bring forth new ideas in numismatics. "Numismatics" also means assisting at all conventions and coin shows, bringing along your exhibitions and if possible assisting with a lecture on some phase of numismatics.

My feeling is that conventions are especially the main source of inspiration of numismatics, since excellent displays are brought forth for the public to see. The great educational value of these displays are of utmost importance since in many cases this may be the first time that the public have had a chance to become acquainted with numismatics.

Great as this hobby is, we must not forget that behind the scenes good-will and friendship are motivating factors. Another thing to remember is that the Juniors of today will be the numismatists of tomorrow. They may have started first with the help of parents or good friends, but now we can encourage them through the supply of good

books, catalogues, articles and showing them how to start the subject themselves. Encourage them to form their own clubs and associations, so that at an early age they can learn how important good-will and friendship is in numismatics.

Lastly numismatics is world wide, and in time, with the help of numismatics good-will ambassadors, we surely will be planning to visit conventions in different countries. When this happens, in different parts of the world numismatics will achieve the big goal of friendship and good-will. This guiding light will then shine everywhere.

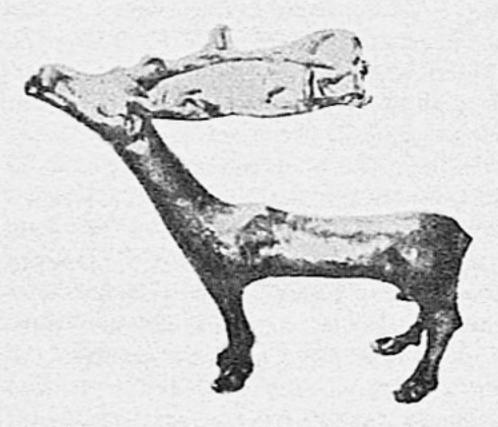
Remember the two keys of numismatics are Friendship and Good-will.

VALUABLE GOLD COINS SOLD IN NEW YORK

The recent magnificent sale of Japanese and Chinese gold coins by the Schulman Coin and Mint Inc, of New York, contained some of rarest and most expensive coins of these two oriental countries to be offered for sale in modern times.

The elaborately-presented catalogue

of the rarities. We reproduce here pictures of two gold rarities, proving once again that numismatics and its associated hobbies is VERY, VERY BIG BUSINESS. The prices in brackets indicate the auctioneers suggested values only.



Magnificent male reindeer type of animal. His head upward with elaborate stretched antlers. 31.5 grams, 3x2". Very valuable – this was dug up in Northern Iram – a guarantee that these are authentically excavated items can be supplied by the firm who did the archaeological digging. E.F. (\$3 000.-4 000.)



Smaller running ibex to right its 2 horns bent. 3½" from hind feet to horns, height 2½", 17.85 grams. Some coloring from cleaning off the earth. E.F. (\$2 000 - 2 750)

Thousands visit Cape Numismatic Display

The numismatic display – organized by officials of the South African Numismatic Society – held at the recent Republican Festival, Goodwood, Cape proved an outstanding success.

A report to the society by Mr. W. Bergman, shows that the display attracted thousands of interested people. Here are a few experts from the report to the Society's meeting in June:

The exhibition was open to the public from 10th to 31st May with the exception of Sundays and Ascention Day, and at no time was the hall left unattended.

There was no knowing how many people would visit this exhibition, but right from the start a constant stream of visitors filed through the hall. This became larger and larger as the celebrations moved towards the climax, and there were days when the Police had to control the inflow into the exhibition hall. It is not a lie to say that there were days when more than one thousand people viewed the exhibits. It can also be said quite safely that more South Africans visited this exhibition than the exhibitions of the four Numismatic Convention combined.

BIG PLANS

FOR

NUMISMATIC INTERNATIONAL

Numismatics International, founded in July, 1964, is starting its 8th year, and officials announce plans for a banner year for its members which not only cover the U.S.A. but 37 foreign counties as well.

Among the articles which will be presented in forthcoming monthly N.I. Bulletins will be such feature articles as: "GALLIENUS" His times and his coins by CHARLES HOFFACKER, "GEORGE V AUSTRALIAN PENCE" by W.R. REEVES, N.S.W. AUST-RALIA, "THE PERSIAN VERSION" by ROBERT L. CLARKE, "THE REBEL COUNTRY" Rhodesia her times and coinage by DOLORES H. DAVIS, also featured will be continuing series of articles relating to the "COINAGE OF ENGLAND" by JIM CORBETT, "COINAGE OF KUTCH" by RICHARD K. BRIGHT and "ORIENTAL COINAGE" by PAT-RICK D. HOGAN.

A new feature page will be added to the N.I. Bulletin "The Member Profile Page" upon which will be presented the photograph and background story of either an N.I. Officer, Staff Member, or Club Member thus enabling the entire organization to become familiar with one another.

A major step in the N.I. 1971 planning will be the publication of a concise and comprehensive study of "CZECHOSLOVAK COINAGE 1918-1970" by DOLORES H. DAVIS in book form tentatively slated to be released for sale early fall. The book will cover the background history of Czechoslovakia, all coinage issued from 1918 to 1970 including mintage figures and valuations, varieties, and both legal tender and Ducat-Medal commemorative issues of gold coins.

THE RISE AND FALL OF THE PEACE DOLLAR

By Ray Young Reprinted from Coins

The last regular issue silver dollar design had a somewhat curious history. Its design was a result of World War I, and its demise occurred during the Depression. In the 15 year interim, the coin was taken for granted to the extent that few people bothered to obtain them from the corner bank. Today, it's a widely sought and treasured numismatic item.

The Peace dollar, designed by Anthony de Francisci, was another of those designs which occurred without Congressional approval. In 1921, the old Morgan design dollar had been struck for some years, going back to 1878, (except for the years 1905-1920), and this was over 40 years old at the time.

During World War I the Treasury melted down some 270 million silver dollars, mostly for export but some for re-coinage into smaller denominations. The authorizing legislation, the Pittman Act, provided that these coins were to be replaced by silver dollars at a later date.

Therefore, in 1921 production of the Morgan design was resumed after a 17-year lapse. Between February 21, 1921, and December 21 of that year, the three U.S. mints struck a combined total of 86 730 000 of the type. Broken down by mints, Philadephia coined about 45 million, with 20





million coming from Denver and 21-1/2 million from San Francisco. Certain details on the old Morgan dies were sharpened up a bit for this striking which ended the Morgan series.

The Peace dollar production beganvery late in the year, with only about three weeks (counting the Christmas holidays) in which to strike them. Thus production for the first year was just over a million, and all of those being from the Philadelphia Mint.

The Mint's initial plans for the Peace dollar seem to have run into difficulties. These was some trouble with too-high relief on the first coins, thus helping to delay regular production until the late date mentioned.

For his design, de Francisci used a modernized version of a familiar theme for commemorating the end of World War I. Liberty, said to be patterned after his wife, is a youthful lady wearing a warrior's spiked head-dress. About the top, with some letters behind the portrait, is LIBERTY. Below, flanking the neck, is the legend IN GOD WE TRVST.

That "V" in "TRVST" is not an error. It was the classical way of writing "U". However, since the artist was not consistent in this – he spells UNITED and PLURIBUS with the regular modern "U" – some people see the V and think they have a rarity.

This is a good commentary on some of the general public, because inspection of more than one date of this design would show "TRVST" throughout.

Below the portrait was the date, in large numerals. On the reverse, an American eagle sits on a mountain crag, looking off into the sun. Whether it is a rising sun – indicating hope for the future and the dawn of a new day with all that implies – or a setting sun is debatable. The setting sun idea implies the eagle, home from the wars, in the peace that follows a hard day's work. Above the eagle are the inscriptions, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and E PLURIBUS UNUM. The value flanks the eagle, and below, on the crag, is the word PEACE.

This is the only regular issue coin to have a word other than the customary coinage mottoes on it. The "Peace" idea was to commemorate the end of the war. Originally, there was agitation for a special commemorative half dollar, but then it was decided to settle for a silver dollar, on the grounds that there was greater opportunity for artwork on a larger coin. And so what happened? Little use of the space for the peace idea!

Although the Peace dollar was the last silver dollar for regular circulation, it wasn't the most plentiful in terms of coinage. The old Morgan dollar had a coinage of some 550 million, compared to the Peace production of about 270 million. This is why, during the 1930's '40's and '50's, the collector who wandered into a bank to buy silver dollars was more likely to receive Morgan than Peace coins.

The big years for Peace coinage were 1922 and 1923. Philadelphia struck almost 52 million in 1922, and not quite 31 million the next year. The last "big" issue was the 1925. After that, yearly coinage was about 2 million to not quite 7 million. As the 1920's neared their end, coinage dropped and finally ended in 1928.

In the last year of issue, the San Francisco Mint struck 1 600 000 dollars, while Philadelphia minted fewer than 361 000. The reason for this discrepancy has been given as the fact that the 1928 Philadelphia coins were struck to be placed, into corner stones. In those days, it was the custom to place coins of the current year into the cornerstones of new

buildings, and silver dollars were preferred for this. However, if anyone needed 1928 dollars, he could use a 1928-S as well as anything. The reason for the 1928 Philadelphia coinage was that the Mint was rounding off its required 270 million dollars for replacing the old melted coin. After Philadelphia made those 360 649 pieces, and San Francisco struck its 1 632 000 in 1928, that meant the law had been complied with.

Production was resumed in the 1930's under a totally different authority, two acts concerned with silver. In 1934 and 1935, the last Peace coins, 7 074 557, made their appearance. There were five dates and mint varieties, 1934, 1934-D, 1934-S, 1935 and 1935-S. There were no 1935 Denver issues. The lowest mintage was the 1934, with 954 000 and the highest 1935-S with 1 964 000.

In 1935, the Peace dollar was discontinued, because of a commonsense provision that made its continued coinage unnecessary.

After the country went off the gold standard, in 1934, it was necessary to replace the gold certificates then in circulation. One way to do this was to print additional silver certificates. Now, on the old silver certificates, the bills were specifically printed and worded to be redeemable in SILVER DOLLARS. The old dollar silver certificate stated that the holder could take it to the Treasurey and receive one silver dollar for it.

In 1935, the new series of silver certificate stated that the bill could be redeemed for ONE DOLLAR IN SILVER. (A dollar in silver is not the same thing as a silver dollar.) What this meant was that the Treasury had only to redeem the notes in silver metal, not coin. Thus the holder received a dollar's worth of silver, under the interpretation of the new wording. Of course, in actual practice, until the big silver crisis of the 1960's there was nothing to prevent a citizen from obtaining a silver dollar for the bill if he wanted one.

The new wording on the dollar bills, however, meant that the Treasury didn't have to strike any more dollars to back additional silver certificates that had been printed. All it had to do was hold enough silver to redeem those printed. This, in fact, was the system used to pay off silver

certificates just before the Treasury stopped making them redeemable for silver in 1968. (To answer the question some new collectors might ask: No, the old silver certificates CAN'T be turned in for silver any more. They are, however, still good money, that is, legal tender.)

Now that we can see why the Government stopped making Peace dollars, let's consider the series itself. There are 24 different types for general circulation. One for 1921, and the full three-mint set in 1922, 1923, 1926, 1927, and 1934. The remaining eight coins are the 1924 and 1924-S; the 1925 and 1925-S; 1928 and 1928-S; and the 1935 and 1935-S. There were none minted in 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, or 1933.

The Peace dollar is also one of those modern series that lacks many proof specimens. Between 1916 and 1936, the Government did not strike proofs for sale to the general collecting public, although some specimens of the 1921 dollar are regarded as proofs. When Uncle Sam again sold proof coins in 1936, the dollar was not among them, as proofs included in those days, ONLY the denominations coined for general circulation. There wasn't, in fact, any authority left on the books for further dollar coinage following the 1935 production.

The scarcest dates in the series are the 1921, 1924-S, 1928, and for some reason the 1934-S. From 1922 through 1924, with the exception of the 1924-S, prices tend to be fairly low because of the ready availability of the coins. Why the 1934-S should be so expensive today is a good question, considering that over a million were struck. Yet the coin is valued at far more than the 1921, which had a 33 per cent lower coinage, or the 1928, which was minted in only about one-fifth the quantity of the 1934-S.

On the branch mint coins, the mintmark is found below the ONE of the value and above the eagle's tail. Because of the very high value of the 1928, unscrupulous individuals have removed the mintmark from the 1928-S. This is one fake to guard against carefully.

In regard to some other design features: The strange mark found below the neck of the goddess is the designer's monogram, for his initials. The eagle on the peace dollar is the FIRST such bird, on dollar coinages, to have no symbols of war associated with him. (I haven't seen anyone else mention this yet. Will it catch on?) He has an olive branch, the sign of peace, at his feet, but no arrows. Strangely enough, the old trade dollar, which was supposedly issued to facilitate peaceful commerce, DOES have arrows in his grasp. In fact, he clutches them with his right claw, thus showing in heraldry a preference for war over peace!

As far as condition goes, the silver dollar is prone to have small scratches and nicks called bag marks, acquired during handling by banks or whomever. A choice uncirculated specimen should be free of such blemishes. However, slight ones are almost inevitable on the usual uncirculated dollar. As long as they aren't really bad, most collectors tend to tolerate them if they can't afford the choice uncirculated specimens.

Considering that most dates are fairly common. It is a good idea to get the best available coins or the best you can afford. There are plenty of worn or damaged 1922 dollars about, but why settle for one if that date is reasonably priced in B.U.? Frankly, a badly worn common date Peace dollar has little resale value except for bullion. So consider buying a worth-while specimen.

Back in the 1940's this coin was available from banks for the asking. It was usually obtained for one of three purposes: gambling in the West, promotional stunts, or by kids who liked to see what they looked like. It was common a few years ago for Army Reserve or National Guard units to pay off their members with silver dollars, so that local merchants could see the organizations impact on the town's economy. (The Navy used to do the same thing with the two dollar bill.)

It was always a thrill for a kid to receive his first silver dollar. The coin was not widely known until collecting got its big boom a few years ago. Considering that a dollar 30 years ago could buy more — a silver dollar that weighed almost an ounce and was 38 mm-in diameter was a good handful. However, the coin seldom stayed in circulation very long. It was too big

Continued on Page 10 Col. 3

Ethiopia is one of the world's oldest kingdoms. Its known history predates the birth of Christ and is a mixture of fact and fanciful legend. The queen of Sheba is said to have journeyed from Ethiopia to Jerusalem to visit King Solomon, bringing with her "a very great train, with camels that bear spices and very much gold and precious stones."

The queen bore a son by Solomon, Menelik, whom Ethiopians believe founded the line of the Lion of Judah. He is also believed to have gone to Axum and become Ethiopia's first emperor. The current monarch, Emperor Haile Selassie claims direct desent from King Solomon.

Archeologists and historians have a somewhat less romantic outlook toward Ethiopia's earliest origin and lineage. About 500 BC, a number of villages emerged on the southwest bank of the Red sea on the Ethiopian coast. The inhabitants are believed to have been Sabeans, immigrants from southern Arabia. They were a trading people and gradually became integrated with the indigenous population to form a new an dynamic culture which grew to become the powerful Axumite kingdom.

By the second century AD the Axumite kingdom had grown strong, remaining a powerful state until the eight century. Its merchants were famous throughout the civilized word and they traded with Persia, India, Arabia and Byzantium. Their major port, Adulis, on the Red sea, became a major interchange point between the Mediterranean and India. Among the legacy it left behind were a number of finely struck gold coins, which portrayed the reigning monarch. Today, these coins are much sought after by collectors and command rather high prices.

Christianity has had a strong impact on the culture of Ethiopia. Converted to Christianity in 333 AD, Ethiopia soon found herself cut off from the mainstream of the church when, in 640 AD Egypt fell to Islam. Much of Ethiopia's history was obscured for centuries afterward while she fought to maintain herself against Muslims, pagans and other hostile groups. For the succeeding 800 years Ethiopia developed her own style of Christianity.

In the 13th century, King Lalibela

built at the village that bears his name, 10 magnificent churches, hewn out of solid rock. For architectural design and sculptural excellence they are among the greatest monuments to any culture on the African continent. Combining Roman columns and archways with Grecian crosses, Muslim pointed-windows and colorful Byzantine art, the churches reflect the blending of many diverse cultures.

On account of their durability the churches at Lalibela are still used and pilgrims travel hundreds of miles to visit this "Jerusalem of Ethiopia."

One of the churches, the Church of Golgotha-Mikael contains Ethiopia's most sacred place of worship, the Trinity crypt. In this underground sanctuary, the priests of Lalibela conduct the most solemn ceremonies of the liturgy. In another part of the church, there are two tombs one containing Lalibela and the other, according to Ethiopian legend, is the tomb of Adam himself.

In 1402 an Ethiopian embassy reached Venice, restoring contact with the Christian world. Other ambassadors visited Venice in 1408 and 1427, and a delegation reached Lisbon in 1452 while another visited Rome in 1481.

The Pope sent an embassy to Ethiopia in 1453 to establish a Christian alliance against the Moslem Mamlukes in Egypt, though such an alliance never came to pass.

Portuguese under Francisco Alvarez visited Ethiopia 1520 to 1526. In 1527 Ahmed Gran, the Somali Muslim chief, overran Ethiopia and the Negus asked the Portuguese for aid. Christopher da Gama (son of Vasco da Gama) led a Portuguese expedition to the kingdom in 1541 which expelled Ahmed Gran, and led to the establishment of Portuguese missionaries in Ethiopia from 1555 to 1633; in the latter year all Catholic mission were prohibited.

With the increase in explorations, and later, colonization by the European powers, more became known of Ethiopia. Portuguese visitors discovered an Ethiopia similar to medieval Europe. Chrisitan in religion, it had a class of ruling nobles with loyalty to their king, with a hierarchy of lesser nobles, vassals, and lastly, landless peasants, laboring for their lords.

THE CO.

REPRINTED FROM THE AMI PUBLISHED IN I

The Italians attempted to colonize Ethiopia in 1885 and later but were defeated by forces under Menelik II at Adua on March 1, 1896. Menelik, before becoming emperor in 1889, had been king of Shoa, a province in the central part of the country. It is with Menelik that the first regular coinage of modern Ethiopia began.

Until now, Ethiopia survived with its primitive system of barter and use of the popular Austrian Maria Theresa talers, but with the expansion of trade the need developed for a more diverse coinage.

The first modern coin for Ethiopia was struck at Harrar, in Ethiopia, in 1893. Known as a mahallak or piastre, it is a small silver coin about 15 millimeters in diameter. On the obverse there is a crown and the Amharic legend MENELIK, KING OF KINGS. The reverse has the word ITOPIA, the denomination 1 MAHALLAK and the date, 1885.

This 1885 date corresponds to 1893 on our calendar as the Ethiopian dating system is seven years and eight months behind ours. This coins is quite rare and I know of the existence of just four specimens, including the one in the collection of the American Numismatic Society.

In 1894, a decree by Menelik created a national coinage to be struck at Paris consisting of four silver and three copper coins. Jean Lagrange, a Frenchman, was chosen to design the coins. The obverse of the silver coins shows a bust of Menelik II facing right with a necklace of four strings of pearls ending in a cross, wearing an ornamented tiara, including a reproduction of St. George slaying the dragon, and surmounted by a cross.

INS OF OPIA

ERICAN MAGAZINE, COINS OLA, WISCONSIN

Below the tiara is a scarf that falls in back of the neck; the legend MENELIK II, KING OF KINGS OF ETHIOPIA surrounds the coin and the Ethiopian date is located on Menelik's shoulder. The reverse shows a crowned lion facing left, with his left front leg raised and holding a cross with a solid banderole. Surrounding him is the legend "He is triumphant, the lion of the tribe of Judah," at bottom the denomination and under the ground of the lion the artist's name LAGRANGE in capital letters and the mintmark A and symbols of the Paris Mint.

Denominations struck were the talari, half talari, quarter and eight talari. Three years later the gersh or 1/20 talari was introduced when Menelik put the currency on a decimal system. This coin was of the same design but with the designer's name omitted.

At one point, Menelik decreed that the 1/20 talari should circulate at 1/16 of a talari. This was done to place it on a par with the British India two anna coin which circulated widely along the coast.

Of the five silver denominations only the 1/8 talari is scarce, there having been only 25 200 pices struck in two years before it was withdrawn

The copper coins were struck in denominations of one, one-half and one-quarter gersh, being 38, 32 and 26 millimeters, respectively, in size. As only 200 of each denomination were struck the coins can be regarded as patters, though like many patterns, some did circulate for a time. These are similar to the silver on the obverse except that the artist's name is below the bust. The reverse has no lion, but

only the Amharic legend, the denomination and the date.

Three years later — but dated 1889 (1897) — a copper 1/100 talari was introduced in keeping with the change to the decimal system. This coin was of the same design as the above mentioned copper coins; 500 000 pieces were struck for circulation.

Shortly thereafter Menelik, for some reason, wanted a change in coin design. Perhaps he desired a stronger image, for the lion on the talari was changed to a more ferocious beast. Jules Clement Chaplain was commissioned to effect the changes in design of the talari. The obverse bust of Menelik was made older, the cross on chest is absent, the tiara has slight modifications, the border is a fret pattern instead of beaded and the lettering in the legends is somewhat more elaborate. The date is below the shoulder and not on it as with the Lagrange type.

The reverse shows a fierce lion with his mouth open and teeth showing, a more muscular body and a longer and more curved tail. His right paw is raised and holding the cross which contains a thinner and longer banderole. The artist's name CHAP-LAIN is on the right near the edge and the two symbols of the Paris Mint are below the lion.

In 1896 Menlik ordered that a Mint be established in Ethiopia at Addis Ababa. Strikings were made of coins in denominations of half, quarter, and 1/20 talari. Dies were also made for a talari but only a few specimens in gold are known to have been struck.

Dies also apparently were made for 1/8 talari but no silver speciments are known. Copper pieces, called besas, were struck from these dies and circulated at the rate of 1/32 of a talari. Of the Ethiopia besas I examined, the denomination of 1/8 talari (below lion) has been either partially or totally obliterated on about two-thirds of the coins. The balance contain the denomination 1/32 of a talari.

One theory for this difference is that the Government wanted to get the besas into circulation as early as possible and did not take the time to reengrave the new denomination on the dies until a later date.

This new coinage, struck at Addis Ababa, is generally referred to as the Chaplain type. However, the obverse is similar to the Lagrange type except that the portrait of Menelik has been modified to give an older appearance. An interesting characteristic of the new portrait is that Menelik's earlobe is pierced, something he may have had done in later life.

The reverse lion is similar to that of the Chaplain type talari, with the more ferocious lion and its right paw raised holding the cross, except that the banderole is solid as on the Lagrange type. Also, the edge is beaded as on the Lagrange type and the designer's name CHAPLAIN has been omitted from the right edge. And, of course, there are no symbols or mintmarks as on the coins minted at Paris. In addition, the reverse of the Lagrange. coins is 100 per cent rotated in telation to the obverse as are most U.S. coins, while the Chaplain type is not.

There are several interesting and puzzling characteristics to these later coins. One is that they all carry the same date, 1889 in the Ethiopian era, irrespective of their actual mintage date. Another is the strange combination of the Lagrange and Chaplain designs. The original dies of the Lagrange type may have been recut to satisfy Menelik's desire for a more ferocius lion and more mature portrait while the rest of the coin was left essentially the same as the older Lagrange type.

Unfortunately, no firm mintage figures have been uncovered for those coins struck at Addis Ababa. Numerous die breaks and metal runs can be observed, which may account for the relative scarcity of these pieces. Of the three silver pieces, the quarter talari appears to be the easiest to locate, though it is not common. The half talari and gersh are somewhat more difficult to find and either or both are often missing in many advanced collections. The copper besa is quite common and easily obtainable for a few dollars. Several specimens of the gersh, 1/4 and 1/2 talari of the Chaplain type are known to have been struck in gold.

Menelik died in 1913; apoplectic, he had been succeeded as emperor by his grandson, Lij Yasu, on May 15, 1911. Lij Yasu, after converting to

Continued on following page.

Islam, was deposed September 27, 1916 by the head of the Ethiopian church. Empress Zauditu (Judith, daughter of Menelik, succeeded.

The empress issued a few gold coins which were used only as presentation pieces and cannot be considered part of the regular coinage as they were never intended for circulation. Some have her portrait though the majority bear the head of Menelik.

In the latter part of Empress Zauditu's reign, Menelik's gran nephew, Ras Tafari, became regent and in 1930, upon the death of the empress, became emperor with the name of Haile Selassie I.

He authorized a new coinage to be struck in 1932 and in the several succeeding years coins were struck at Addis Ababa in nickel in denominations of 10, 25 and 50 cents and in copper of five cents. Copper cents were struck in England at King's Norton Mint.

In design, the coins paralleled the earlier coinage of Menelik. The obverse has a portrait of Menelik facing right, wearing a tall ornamented crown. Surrounding is the inscription THE FIRST HAILE SELASSIE, KING OF KINGS OF ETHIOPIA, the denomination in Amharic is below the bust, and the date is in back of the neck. All the coins bear the date 1923, or 1931 in our era.

The reverse has the Lion of Judah similar to the Chaplain type talari but facing right, the legend "He is triumphant, the lion of the tribe of Judah" and the denomination in Arabic numerals below. In addition to the above, Haile Selassie issued two gold coins bearing the date 1931 which were used as presentation pieces and not intended for circulation.

With the Italian invasion and subsequent occupation, no coins were minted until 1944. Then a whole new coinage was struck; four coins in copper in denominations of one, five, 10 and 25 cents and a silver 50 cent coin. The obverse has a more modern portrait of Haile Selassie without a crown and the date below. The reverse has the Lion of Judah facing right the denomination below and the inscription "Lion of the Tribe of Judah."

In 1952, a 25-cent coin bearing the same Ethiopian date 1936 (1944) was issued with a serrated edge. The earlier

25-cent pieces with the round edge were withdrawn and the populace ordered to turn them in. This was done because some unscrupulous individuals were silver plating the 25-cent coins and passing them for the 50-cent coins which were identical in size.

Today there are stiff penalties, reportedly including hanging, for anyone caught in possession of one of the illegal 25-cent coins. The penalties are a stiff reminder that the inscription "Death to the Counterfeiter," which appears on so many early American coins and tokens, is still taken seriously by many countries that realize the importance of preserving the integrity of their coin and currency.

Ethiopia's ability to remain independent and free of foreign incursions for nearly its entire history owes much to her geography. The landscape ranges from lowlying deserts to jagged mountains that tower up to 15 000 feet, arising from two huge plateaus. Numerous rivers have cut steep-walled gorges in the plateaus creating Grand Canyon-type escarpments. South of Lake Tana, the source of the Blue Nile, millions of gallons of water plunge over the breath-taking. Tis Abbai falls and continue their journey eventually to merge with the White Nile in the Sudan.

Ethiopia today sharply contrasts the old customs with the new technology. Farmers till the land with ancient single-pointed plows pulled by teams of oxen. Nearby, huge jets of Ethiopian Air Lines land at the modern airport at Addis Ababa, the capital. Men drive goats and cattle through the streets while women carry baskets of eggs, fruit and vegetables to sell at open markets. But there are many modern stores selling even the more sophisticated Western goods. Natives wear traditional garb combining Muslim and African styles while businessmen and government workers wear Western suits and dresses.

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Continued from Page 7 Col. 3

for practical use. In fact, the half dollar wasn't popular in many places, either. For all practical purposes, the silver dollar was a bank coin, one kept on hand to comply with the letter of the law about redemption.

There was a brief flurry of interest in a resurrected silver dollar of the Peace type, in 1964. Congress was working on a law to permit the coinage of some 40 000 000 silver dollars, at the same time silver coin of any kind wasn't remaining in circulation. President Johnson went along with the idea, but then someone in the Treasury pointed out the infeasibility of the project and the plan was quashed.

One of the reasons for the premium prices on circulated dollars is the metal content. The dollar has 7/8 of an ounce silver, .900 fine. This means that it is worth somewhere around \$1.25 as metal, depending on silver prices at the time. Again, circulated specimens or poor quality coins are fairly common, and it is the metal content, not rarity, of the common dates that makes them sought out in bad condition. In fact, until the late 1960's it was hard to find a dealer who'd buy common dates, So plentiful were most of them, that around the end of World War II only three coins had any appreciable premium value, to the dealer buying for stock. These were the 1934-S, 1928, and for some reason the 1925. It was possible to buy a B.U. set in 1946 - in an album - for \$60.00. As late as 1962 the premium value for most common dates was approximately \$1.10 in B.U. - and the coins had to be just that!

The scarcity of the 1934-S dollar may be due to its not having been placed in circulation and otherwise disposed of. During World War II, some 44 million worn-out silverdollars were melted down and coined into smaller denominations or foreign coins but this would not have affected the better condition dollars. Or, perhaps the 1934-S coinage went to Nevada, where it would have been submitted to the wear and tear of the silver dollar slot machines, or been carried home by souvenier hunters instead of staying in banks.

GROWING DEMAND FOR OLDER BRITISH AND COMMONWEALTH COINS

By: RICHARD J. TROWBRIDGE, World Coins, Ohio, U.S.A.

From 1964 to 1967 there was a steady, healthy rise in interest and price of coins of Great Britain, both in that country and the United States.

In late fall, 1967, a large number of investors and collectors who wished to become professional dealers in coins of Great Britain advertised and purchased large hoards of modern British coins in uncirculated condition from 1930 to date. Often they paid above market prices for their material, and offered the coins for sale in Great Britain, thus causing a false market.

This continued into late 1969, when a reluctant collector market was encountered. Most investors and dealers in Great Britain dropped huge hoards of this material onto the market. This action returned prices to the pre-1967 market price.

Most collectors of coins of Great Britain have completed their type or date set of modern British coins, 1930 to 1967, and have moved their area of interest into the coins from George III, 1760-1820, to George V, 1911-1927. Coins in this date range in uncirculated condition are scarce and very popular. The price range of this series is still very low and will continue to rise.

Coins dating from before George III are now in demand, spurred by new reference books coming onto the market and creating a new popular collector field. Coins in this series are rapidly increasing in price. The few pieces available are sought in grades very fine to extremely fine.

From 1964 to 1968 there was little interest in British Commonwealth coins in the United Kingdom, although these were popular in Commonwealth countries and the United States. Early in 1969 there was a surprising surge of interest in these coins in the United Kingdom which is continuing to the present. The popularity of British Commonwealth coins (except Great Britain and Canada) in the United

States and in many Commonwealth countries is at an all-time high.

Included in the countries whose coins are now popular are British Honduras, British West Africa, Southern Rhodesia, East Africa, Jamaica, Isle of Man, Jersey, Guernsey, Sarawak, Seychelles, India, and coins of countries whose coinage is now obsolete.

Many coins from these countries are simply not available in grades above fine to very fine. The truly scarce items in these series have steadily risen in price and are still selling for only a fraction of their true value.

The third edition of "The Guide-book and Catalogue of British Commonwealth Coins" by Somer James and Jerome Remick is a tremendous improvement over their second edition. Even so, many of the scarce coins listed in the volume are underpriced and should be carefully scrutinized for the true appraisal of individual rarities. I predict that collectors who wait for these coins to be offered at a lower price are in for a sad surprise. Now is the time to purchase scarce and rare date and type material of the British Commonwealth!

Prices in the farthing and threepence Trends are based upon the James-Remick book, but with adjustments in current market prices which I have indicated. Letter V in the mintage column indicates that the mintage for that line is included in mintage figures above.

U.K. COLLECTORS CAN NOW OWN GOLD COINS

The British government executed a virtual about-face on April 1 when it revoked five year old restrictions which prevented hobbyists in that country from freely collecting gold coins.

The revised regulations permit British citizens to freely buy, sell and hold gold coins in any quantity. They also provide a "relaxation" of administrative bars on the use of gold for medal manufacture. Only the export of gold coins will continue to come under strict exchange control regulations.

The former rules, invoked in April of 1966, had prevented residents of

the United Kingdom from holding more than four gold coins minted after 1837 (the Victorian coinage commenced in 1838, and it was deemed that only gold coins dated prior to that time were of broad historical-numismatic significance). Exceptions were made for those who were recognized through licensing by the Bank of England as "genuine collectors."

"I am glad to announce the removal of these petty restrictions," stated the British Treasury's Terrence Higgins. "I am satisfied that the justified irritation they have aroused out-weighed their small importance in terms of foreign exchange."

Correction

It appears that our front cover and the caption "99 OVER-STAMP SEE PAGE 15" from the previous Coin and Medal News (June/July 1971) gave rise to quite some misunderstanding.

The front cover showed an enlarged photograph of a ;;99 OVERSTAMP" Pond. This was NOT the coin advertised on page 15. The one advertised on page 15 was an EF whilst the one depicted on the front cover was not.

1971

VALID to the end of GELDIG tot die einde van

SEPTEMBER 1971

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- 4. All prices are subject to change without notice.
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- NEXT LIST OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1971

NOTAS:

- BETALING: Stuur asseblief tjek, poswissel of posorder.
- Alle items word aangebied op voorwaarde dat voorrade nog nie verkoop en nog beskikbaar is, wanneer bestelling ontvang word.
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 S.A. of R1 S.A. = \$1.40 V.S.A. (ongeveer)
- Pryse is onderhewig aan veranderings sonder kennisgewing.
- Wanneer bestellings geplaas word, meld asseblief die Item nommer en gee besonderhede.
- 6. VOLGENDE PRYSLYS: OKTOBER/NOVEMBER 1971

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219	1967	Prf	17,50	255	1916-T	F	R	13,50	301	%d	1954	Proof		16,00
							200							

302	1d	1935	EF	4,00	310	2/6	1950	UNC	72,50	316	£½	1895	VF+	58,00
303	1d	1947	EF	6,50	311	£1/2	1957	Proof	125,00	317	£1/2	1896	VF-	55,00
304	6d	1954	Proof	9,50	312	£1/2	1959	Proof	95,00	318	£%	1897	F-	45,00
305	6d	1959	UNC	7,00	313	£1	1956	Proof	130,00	319	£1	1893	VF-	65,00
306	1/-	1948	UNC	45,00	313					320	£1	1894	VF	62,50
	548 - 250	1959	UNC	8.00			2.1	A.R.		321	£1	1896	VF	65,00
307	1/-		Committee of the Commit	70.00	314	5/-		DS-VF-	117,50	322	£1	1898	VF+	59,00
308	2/-	1950	UNC	77,50	315	£1/2	1894	F+-	47,50	323	£1	1898	EF	66,00

Old English Hammered Pennies

WE HAVE PLEASURE IN OFFERING A SMALL SELECTION AS FOLLOWS:-

EDWARD I - (1272 - 1307)

1	LONDON AND DURHAM MINTS LONG CROSS PENNIES ALL AT	R 4,75 each
	EDWARD II — (1307 — 1327)	
2) 1 ONLY SILVER PENNY	R 9,50
	EDWARD III - (1327 – 1377)	
3) 1 ONLY LONDON PENNY (Seaby No. 961)	R 9,50
	CHARLES I — (1625 — 1659)	
4) 1 ONLY PENNY (HOLED) POOR RARE	R 8,50
	COMMONWEALTH - (1649 - 1660)	
5) 1 ONLY ½ GROAT (Seaby 2555)	R 7,50

1971 AUSTRIA

50 SCHILLINGS SILVER

COIN DEPICTING

JULIUS RAAB

UNC R3.25



bickels coin accessories

1. S.A. VOL. 1. DE LUXE ALBUM

This volume (from 1923 to 1946) is the product of many months of research and experiment. It houses a complete collection of South African Coins — (all the coins from ¼ d. to 5/- are spaced together on one half a page). The compartments have been tailored to fit the size of the coin, and a listing of quantities minted appears for each date (all denominations). Two dates are allocated to a page and it is thus possible to locate all coins of a particular date at a glance. Handsome dark brown and gold leatherette cover with transparent polythene sheets. Album complete, per Vol. Registered Design 167/66.

2. S.A. VOL. II DE LUXE ALBUM

(1947 to 1968). Identical to the above in appearance and construction, except that this album has three different configurations.

- a) For 1947 to 1960 series.
- b) For 1961 to 1964 series.
- c) For 1965 to 1970 series.

Album complete, per Vol. Registered Design 164/5/6/66.

3. S.A. VOL. III DE LUXE ALBUM

(1969 onwards) contains same type of cover as S.A. Vol. 1 & 2 and has 3 plastic sheets to take the coins up to the end of 1973. Extra sheets for future years will be available to owners of these albums at 50c each.

Album complete per Vol.

NEW - PLEASE NOTE

For collectors who do not wish to cut up their mint sets, we now have a new plastic sheet (2c) (2 compartments) to fit the S.A. Vol. III or universal album. Two complete mint sets can be placed into one sheet. (i.e.) The coins for two years can be housed on one sheet.

Price per sheet.

4. UNIVERSAL COIN ALBUM

This is undoubtedly the finest all purpose Album for different coins on the market. Upholstered Leatherette red and gold cover; the inside has 144 transparent polythene pockets for coins from the Crown size down to the smallest coin.

5. RHODESIAN COIN ALBUM

Collectors of the Rhodesian Series will find that their collection will be more attractively displayed in this album. The Rhodesian Coin Album houses a complete collection of Rhodesian coins by denomination.

6. LOOSE SINGLE PLASTIC SHEETS FOR UNI-VERSAL ALBUM.

Crown Size (12 coins)	ea.	40c
2/6 Size (20 coins)		40c
1/- Size (30 coins)		40c
Small Size (48 coins)	ea.	40c
with separator cards	ea.	45c

7. LOOSE SINGLE PLASTIC POCKETS FOR SINGLE COINS

Crown Size	ea04c
Shilling Size	ea. 03c

R8.75 8. COIN & MEDAL NEWS COVER-BINDER

DE LUXE UPHOLSTERED AND GOLD IN-SCRIBED FOR 12 ISSUES (ONE COMPLETE VOLUME).

We can now offer you this cover-binder so that you can put up to 12 issues of COIN & MEDAL NEWS into one volume. You turn your 11 or 12 copies of our monthly magazine into an 8½" x 11" book. It looks good, puts all the stray copies together for easy reference and will be a volume of which you can be proud.

Cover-binder complete with steel positioning rods in special fitting — available only in antique brown or olive green.

per cover

MISCELLANEOUS

9. MEDAL ALBUM

Similar in size and style to the Universal Album, but it contains six sheets each holding six medals. A total of 36 medals can be housed with ease. Medals are usually thicker than coins. However, an extra sheet or two could still be added. It is the only De Luxe Album for medals currently on the market.

R5.75

R2.95

10. BANK NOTE ALBUM

This banknote album is the eleventh addition to our series of holders of coins, medals etc. It measures 10" x 13½" contains 35 clear PVC sheets with separator cards as follows:

- (1) 18 Sheets with 4 Windows each to hold Banknotes up to 3" x 7½".
- (2) 12 Sheets with 3 Windows each to hold Banknotes up to 4" x 7½".
- (3) 4 Sheets with 2 Windows each to hold Banknotes up to 6½" x 7½".
- (4) 1 Sheet full sized Window to hold a Banknote 12½" x 7½".

The Album Complete with 35 sheets — R10.50
Additional sheets with separator cards available at .25 cents ea.

R8.75

R5.75

R8.75

R4.50

25c

15

BUUKS AND GAIALUGUES

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	Complete listing of British Crowns. Terms and g	
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An illustrated catalogue of most of the modern Gold Coins with details on each coin's size, weight, etc.

Roman and Byzantine Coins

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i	G2	Large Gold Tremisis Constantine IX Concave 1" 1059 – 1067		52,00	AR ANTONINIANUS of PHILIPPUS 244 - 249 AD	R	6,80
	G3	Large Gold Tremisis Constantine X Concave about 1" Constantinople 1072			NO. 57: Roman Empire		
きくく	G4	Justin I Tremises ½" 518 – 527			AR DENARIUS OF ANTONINUS PIUS 138 – 161 AD	R	7,50
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いくには	G6	Another Justinian I Tremisis 3" Victory holding Globe & Wreath	R	44,00	Roman Empire AR DENARIUS OF MARC ANTONY 41 BC	R	7,25
3)	OTHER ROMAN COINS			NO. 81:		(
でくずでくい))	. 50: Roman Empire AR DENARIUS OF SEPT. SEVERUS. 193 – 211 AD	R	7,50	Roman Empire AR ANTONINIANUS of HERENNIA ETRUSCILLA, WIFE OF TRAJAN DECIUS 249 – 251 AD	R	8,25
はつくまう) NO.	. 53: Roman Empire AR DENARIUS OF TRAJAN			NO. 82: Roman Empire AR ANTONINIANUS of GODIAN III		(
3		98 – 117 AD	R	7,50		R	7,50