

August 1967 Vol. 3 REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER PRICE 25c

AND MEDAL NEWS



highlights of 3rd s.a. coin convention

the victoria cross a history in english & afrikaans

### Bickels Coin & Medal News

PUBLISHER:

Bickels Coins and Medals (Pty.) Ltd., 151 Jeppe Street, Johannesburg.
P.O. Box 10690, Johannesburg.
Telephone: 834-8210.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

South Africa and African Postal Union — R2.00 (Post Paid) for 1 year. Single issues — .25 cents each. Overseas (foreign): \$3.50 for 1 year. Airmail — \$9.50.

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LAYOUT: P.M. Breytenbach

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#### **EDITORIAL**

## THE VALUE OF A COIN CONVENTION

If ever there was a vote of confidence in South African Numismatics, last month's Third Numismatic Convention in Durban provided it.

We do not refer to the organization: We knew that under Pastor J.F. Rowlands this would be exceptional. We knew that the exhibits, which covered the whole ambit of international numismatics, would be fascinating. We knew, too, that the papers on coins, medals and medallions would be superb.

What we did not know and had no way of guaging in advance, was the vast crowds of people who thronged the hall in the Acutt Street Provincial Administration Building from opening till closing time.

The visitors included old men who had a skimpy knowledge of coins from a handful they accumulated dur-

ing a life time; school children who were anxious to learn about coins and budding numismatists who were already converts to the hobby. These people came in their hundreds — at least 2,500 are estimated to have walked through the hall — to ask, to look and to learn.

We, like many others in this country, have frequently pondered over the mysterious attraction of coins. Some attribute it to a love of beautifully designed metalware; others say it is the price factor which motivates people.

After talking to the average collector who visited our stall in Durban, we are of the opinion that the people who are swelling the ranks of South African numismatists daily, are doing so because of a deep love of their country. These people want to own something which is representative of

## Cover Picture

#### THE BIRD OF PARADISE

One of the most beautiful crown-size pieces of the world is the famous 'Bird of Paradise'. Struck in 1894, the 5 Mark 'Bird of Paradise' is one of the most sought after by collectors of the world series.

The series featuring the 'Bird of Paradise' was minted for the German colony of GERMAN NEW GUINEA and consisted of the 10 Pfennig, ½ Mark; 1 Mark; 2 Mark; 5 Mark and the following year (1895) the 10 and 20 Mark gold coins.

The flowing feathers of the peacock is a masterpiece of coin engraving and speaks volumes for the German craftsmen of that era.

Picture by Craig Woods.

South Africa's history, be it a set of Kruger coins, Union coins or war medals.

This desire to collect Africana was not so evident or widespread five or six years ago. Admittedly the recent growth can be attributed to the price factor. But many of those who sought profit only are no longer in the ranks of the true numismatists and now only the dedicated collectors are left.

These are the people we met in Durban. Collectors, young and old, who want to assemble their own hoard of Africana: A treasured collection which can be passed down the family.

This maturity in collecting goes hand and hand with an expanding national pride and argues well for the future of numismatics in the Republic.

#### Record Prices for Kruger Coinage

Richard Currie's, of Johannesburg, held one of the most successful auctions of Kruger coins seen in South Africa last month. Prices for the normal run-of-the-mill Kruger material were high while those of the recognized rarities were spectacular.

Here is a list of the Kruger material (grading is that supplied by the auctioneers) with the prices: 1 Penny 1893 (UNC) R90; 1 Penny Blank (EF) R14; 1892 Silver set 3d. to 2/6 (UNC) R100; 1893 Silver set (EF and UNC) R40; 1894 Silver set (EF and UNC) R48; 1895 Silver set (EF and UNC) R50; 1896 Silver set (EF and UNC) R28; 1897 Silver set (EF and UNC) R40.

Crown 1892 S/S (UNC) R100; Crown 1892 D/S (EF/UNC) R130; £1/2 1892 D/S (UNC) R120; £1/2 1893 (About EF) R550; £1/2 1894 (EF) R44 £1/2 1895 (UNC) R52; £1/2 1896 (EF) R48; £1/2 1897 (EF) R50; £1 1892 D/S (Proof obverse - slight scratches reverse F.D.C.) R370; £1 1892 S/S (EF) R320; £1 1893 (EF) R52; £1 1894 (EF) R58; £1 1895 (About EF) R66; £1 1896 (EF) R59; £1 1897 (About EF) R54; £1 1898 (UNC) R44; £1 1900 (EF) R58; £1 Rimless Blank (EF) R102; £1 Rim Blank (EF) R78; 1 Veld Pond (EF) R540 and one Burgers Pond (Fine Beard) 1874 (About EF) R1,000.

### U.S. Numismatic Seminar

It may be a while yet, before South African Numismatics fully matures to the sophisticated overseas stage of holding seminars.

Dr. V. Clain-Stefanelli is the Curator of the Numismatic Division of the world famous Smithsonian Institution in Washington D.C. He has kindly sent us an outline of the material covered at the Smithsonian Spring 1967 Numismatic Seminar.

This preview glimpse of the shape of Numismatic things to come in South Africa, might, we hope, stimulate contributors at the Durban Convention to start thinking along similar lines for this country.

The Smithsonian Institution's Division of Numismatics has completed the Spring 1967 Numismatic Seminar held in a series of eleven sessions. A survey of the history of numismotics and its aims was followed by a discussion of the most important numismatic references. Coins as documents of history and art in coinage, formed the subject of two sessions. Two other sessions giving a survey of coining metals and of coining techniques provided the necessary basis for a presentation of special methods germain to numismatic research like the comparative study of dies in order to estabcontinued on page 11

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### 70 JAAR Motorisering in Suid Afrika



Ter herinnering aan die aankoms van die eerste "motorwa", die Benz "Velo" in Suid-Afrika in Desember 1896 en ter herinnering ook aan die twee historiese reise van die Benz "Comfortable", die een met 'n welwillendheidsboodskap aan President Kruger 1899, die ander met gelukwense aan Staatspresident C.R. Swart tydens die vyfjaarfees van die Republiek op 27 Mei 1966 is 'n reeks van 14 goue medaljes geslaan, waarvan die No. 1 deur United Car and Diesel Distributors (Edms.) Bpk., hoofverteenwoordigers van die Daimler-Benz AG namens die Mercedes-Benz organisasie van Suid-Afrika in Januarie 1967 aan die Staatspresident oorhandig is. Bo en behalwe die 14 goue medaljes is 180 medaljes in sterlingsilwer geslaan.



## THE THIRD SOUTH AFRICAN COIN CONVENTION

## A Resounding Success for Natal Organisers

No two people will ever agree about the essential ingredients of a successful function.

Some will say that if it maintains interest throughout the duration, it has achieved its goal. Others will judge it on what it teaches those who attend. Still more will appraise it by the famous people which it attracts.

If these are the measures which one should use to classify the success of a meeting or function, then the Third Numismatic Convention held in Durban from July 11 to July 15 and organized by the Natal Numismatic Society, was an outstanding, thumping SUCCESS.

In the four and a half days, more than 2,500 people trooped through the exhibit-filled room adjoining the hall in the Natal Provincial Administration Building, Acutt Street, Durban. In addition, there was a wealth of knowledge to be had for the asking. The 33 exhibits contained a fabulous collection of coins, tokens, medals and commemorative medallions.

The Third Numismatic Convention also had the distinction of playing host to the Mayor of Durban. Mrs. Margaret Maytom, who opened the convention at 3.30 p.m. on the first day; the Acting-State President, Mr. Tom Naude, who paid an unofficial visit while holidaying in Durban, and the Administrator of Natal, Mr. T.J.A. Gerdener, who is also the Patron of the Natal Numismatic Society.



Pastor J.F. Rowlands (right) explaining to the Acting State President, Mr. Tom Naude, the intricacies of his British Crown collection.

Another feature of the convention was the attendance of the two British dealers, Mr. Peter Seaby, a director of the famous British firm Seaby's and one of the top three dealers in the world and Mr. Jeff Hearn, who is noted for his stock of rare world coins.

Apart from the knowledge which these dealers freely gave to those who spoke to them, the most significant lesson of their visit was their concentration of rare coins. Although Mr. Seaby did not have very much South African material, he brought a splendid collection of rare British gold and silver. Mr. Hearn, on the other hand, brought a vast selection of South African material, ranging from rare Kruger proof coins to some of the rarer South African proof sets. By their insistence on rare, quality coins, Mr. Seaby and Mr. Hearn reflected a world trend away from the run-of-the-mill coin in low conditions to expensive and sought-after rarities.

The organization of the convention was faultless. The burden of arrang-

Every brochure sold at the Third South African Numismatic Convention in Durban was numbered and the "lucky numbers" were drawn at the President's dinner held on the last night of the Convention.

The "lucky" numbers were:

Numismatic Coin Clock, presented by Alec Kaplan & Son (Pty.) Ltd. No. 1,306

Set of De Luxe South African Coin Albums, Volumes one and two, presented by Bickels Coins and Medals (Pty.) Ltd. . . . . . . . . . . No. 2 A Silver Verwoerd-Strijdom Medallion presented by Bickels Coins and Medals (Pty.) Ltd. . . . No. 900 A Bronze Verwoerd-Strijdom Medallion presented by Bickels Coins and Medals (Pty.) Ltd. . . No. 1,219 A 1967 Proof Set of SA Coins presented by the Natal Numismatic Society . . . . . . . . . . No. 1,410 Carson's 706-page "Coins - Ancient, Mediaeval, Modern' presented by PastorJ.F. RowlandsNo. 1,309 1966 Bahamas Specimen Set presented by Georgian House Antiques . . . No. 1.458

People who have brochures with "lucky" numbers and have not claimed their prizes, should write to the convention secretary, Mr. D.D.V. Gibson, 35, Jackson Road, Fynnland, Durban.

ing the thousands of small details rested on the executive committee, headed by Pastor J.F. Rowlands, the president of the Natal Society.

The other members of the committee were: Mr. D.D.V. Gibson (Hon. Sec.); Mr. P.R. Muller; Mr. M.J.S. Rathbone; Mr. P.M. de Waal; Mr. Q.K. Epstein; Dr. J.I. Sneider and Mrs. Elizabeth Gibson.

The committee had no easy task. They undertook to look after everyone's accommodation, arrange the programme for the week, lay on tea and refreshments and be responsible for the hundreds of minor requests made to them during the convention. They did their task superbly and the success of the convention is mainly due to the thorough work of Pastor J.F. Rowlands, his brother, Alec and the committee. A very large share of the work during the convention was done by the Indian members of Pastor Rowlands' church who took leave from their jobs to help with the organization. They arranged the tea and handled the lighting and recording of all the lectures.

#### **EXHIBITS**

To the numismatic beginner, the exhibits were a sheer delight. They included coins which most collectors only read about and never hope to see.

The busiest numismatist (apart from the organizers) at the convention was Dr. Frank Mitchell, of Cape Town, who arranged four displays and delivered four lectures. His exhibits included "Early Cape Coinage", "Transition from Silver to Nickel", "A Peep into a South African Medal Cabinet" and "Coins from the Wreck of the Fame"

TOP: Seen discussing coins (what else!)
in the Convention Hall are (left to
right) Mr. Q.K. Epstein, of Durban;
Dr. Jack Sneider, of Durban and Mr.

Jeff Hearn, of London. CENTRE: Mr. Peter Seaby (left) talking to Mr.

Felix Machanik.

BELOW: The Mayor of Durban, Mrs. Margaret Maytom, with Mr. P.R. Muller.







One of the most fascinating exhibits was Pastor Rowlands' collection of British crowns. Containing some of the rarest coins — including some seldom-seen patterns — the Pastor's crown collection was a constant source of interest. Mr. M.J.S. Rathbone's virtual complete collection of South African coins (excluding the 1931 tickey) in EF to UNC condition was the envy of everyone who has sweated to complete a similar series.

Mr. 'Bill' Hibbard showed a unique collection of "Unofficial Boer War Medals". Mr. P.R. Muller displayed a very marked degree of ingenuity by obtaining from the South African Railway Administration the new awards for the S.A.R. & H. Police Force. These were supplemented by other Railways Police Awards. Mr. Muller's second exhibit, which was just as interesting, showed a very wide selection of medals and badges that are worn and can be won by South African bowlers. Some of the country's best bowlers, including Snowy Walker Pinky Danilowitz, Tom Press, Kelvin Lightfoot and a number of others, lent their awards for display.

The lectures ranged from "The Coins of the New Testament" by Pastor J.F. Rowlands to "From Silver to Nickel" (a brilliant paper describing the change of South Africa's coinage from the old decimal sterling to the new coinage) by Dr. Frank Mitchell.

The lectures were a masterpiece in themselves. Pastor Rowland's talk on the "Coins of the New Testament" was extremely well illustrated by slides and his presentation was an exercise in captivating an audience.

The Cape Town Trio of Dr. Mitchell, Mr. "Bill" Hibbard and Mr. "Mac" Day were well to the fore, carrying the banner of numismatic learning from the Cape.

Mr. Hibbard, with the thoroughness of the university official and lecturer he is, arranged for the printing of a special book to accompany his talk on the "Unofficial Medals of the Boer War." His effort was well worth it as medal collectors now have a reference work at their fingertips.





Mr. "Mac" Day used his quiet but penetrating wit to the full extent in his discussion on "Henry the VIIIth and his Children". His lecture on "The development and decline of the coinage of Rome" was also absorbing.

Dr. Stan Kaplan presented a very well prepared talk on "Odd and Curious Coins." His speech was very ably illustrated with slides taken by Mr. Gilbert Marshall. Mr. Richard Aron showed his film entitled "A History of Currency in South Africa".

DEALERS
Unlike the two conventions which



 Last minute arrangements are concluded between Pastor Rowlands and Mr. D.D.V. Gibson, the Convention secretary.

 Dr. Frank Mitchell, of Cape Town (right) with cigarette in hand emphasising a point by waving a pen in his right hand, talks to Mr. I. Horwitz, of Johannesburg.

 Dr. William Annandale, president of the Orange Free State Numismatic Society, attended the Convention.

 Pastor J.F. Rowlands (right) greeting Mr. Oldfield, a medal collector from England.

Two of South Africa's leading coin experts, (right to left) Mr. A. Graff and Mr. S. Gordon, both of Johannesburg, in ernest conversation with Mr. Jeff Hearn.

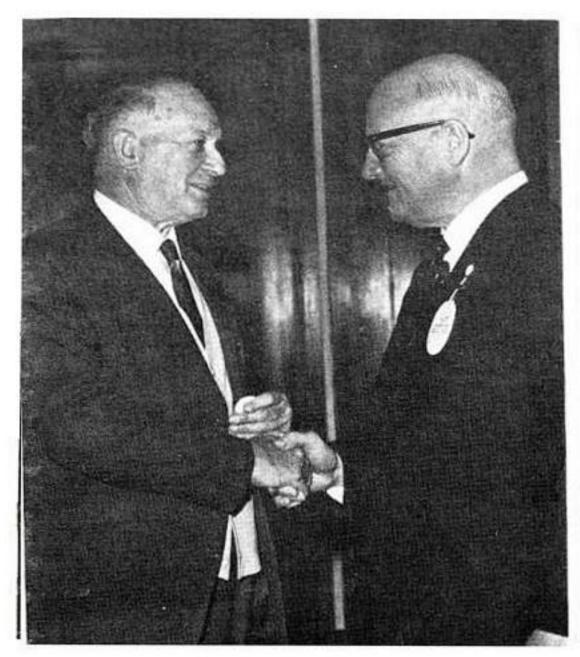
 Mr. B. Herring, one of South Africa's wellknown collectors points out features of his "Mini-Gold Coin Exhibit" to Dr. Jack Sneider.

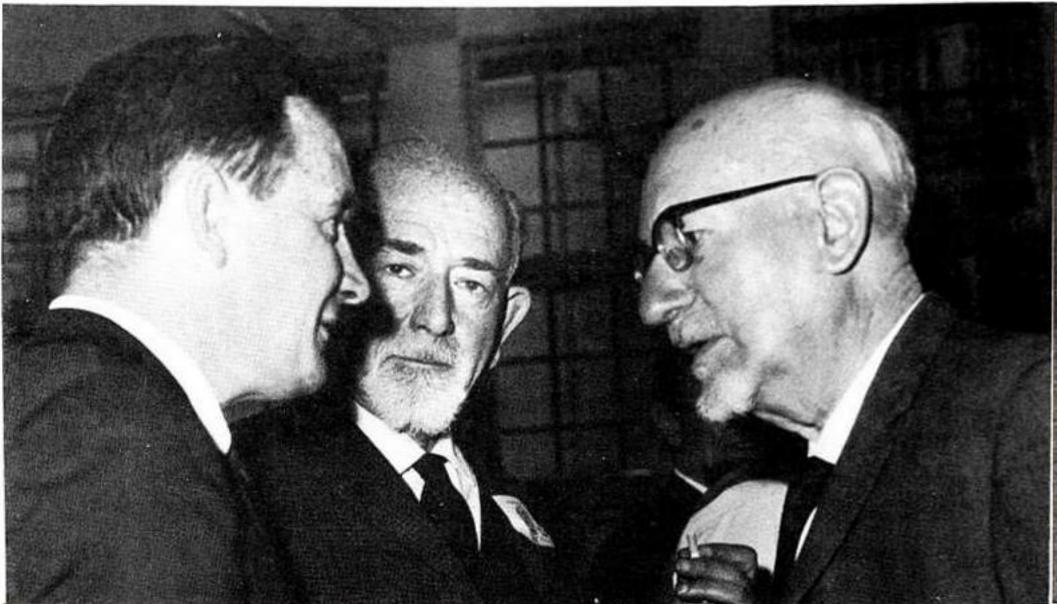
7. Dr. Stan Kaplan and his wife, Lilian.

preceded last month's event in Durban, a number of dealers were allowed to run bourse tables.

The reaction to this innovation was alarm by some numismatists who felt that dealing would introduce an element of everyday trade into the convention.

Anyone who had been in doubts before the convention about the desirability of admitting active dealing,
completely changed their minds by
the end of the four and a half days.
One collector admitted that the Natal
organizers could not have thought of
a better idea, because the admission











of dealers allowed collectors the chance of meeting many of the people they had only known in correspondence. Active dealing gave the public a chance of acquiring coins and thereby introducing more people to the hobby.

These were some of the highlights of last month's convention. The four days were packed with absorbing events and if the enthusiasm shown by the Durban public and the collectors who travelled there from other parts of South Africa is any indication, the time is fast approaching when conventions must become annual events.

#### HIGH STANDARD AT CONVENTION - SAYS EXPERT

Mr. Peter Seaby, commenting on the Third Numismatic Convention in Durban said: "I was amazed by the number of papers which were delivered at the convention.

"I have been to many similar conventions throughout the world and I have never known so many papers of such a high calibre to be read at one meeting.

"The fact that South African numismatics is able to produce research of such a high quality, speaks vol-

umes for the type of person who is going in for coin and medal collecting in the Republic.

"It is also incredible that South Africa, with its relatively small population, is able to have so many collectors who know so much about their country's coins and those from other lands. I was very impressed and I am sure that collecting in South Africa has a very bright future."

Bickels Coin & Medal News, August 1967

Nearly half a century ago, one of the Masters at Jeppe High School, Johannesburg, told the following story to illustrate the difference between bravery and foothardiness.

"It is said that during the Crimean War, one of the Russian generals had an arm amputated by a cannon ball from one of the British guns. He survived and was eventually presented with a medal for his bravery by the Czar of Russia. While presenting the medal the Czar said: "My general you have been a brave and loyal soldier and made a great sacrifice for your country. Would you, if the occasion arose again, be prepared to sacrifice the other arm in the service of your country?" "Yes, your Majesty" said the general, and promptly drew his sword and cut off the other arm. Bravery? Foolhardiness? May be."

The Crimean War was noted for some of the most foolhardy decisions made by the commanding officers and for some of the most courageous acts by the army and navy. An instance of this was the foolhardy decision to send the 600 units of the Light Brigade in a charge against the Russian cannons, causing the death of almost every man. Florence Nightingale and her band of nurses, who were responsible for initiating the hospitalisation of the wounded in warfare, repeatedly took aid to the injured in the battlefields. It was the courage of those who participated in this war that lead to the institution of the Victoria Cross. (Note: It may be of interest to note that during the Crimean War, Morse telegraphy was used for the first time as a means of conveying messages from London and Paris to the war area, reducing the time taken for such messages from four weeks to approximately ten days, and the method was called "conveying messages by the electric cable".

# THE VICTORIA CROSS

by

H.C. PHILIPSON

#### **BRAVERY AWARD**

The Victoria Cross was initiated in 1856 by Queen Victoria (said to be at the instigation of the Prince Consort) and like the medal presented by the Czar to his general, was an award for individual bravery in either the Army or Navy during the Crimean War.

Extract from the Victoria Cross Warrents (Appendix 1).

"...Whereas the third class of Our Most Honourable Order of the Bath is limited, except in rare cases, to the higher ranks of the Services and the granting of Medals, both in our Navy and Army, is only awarded for long service or meretorious conduct, rather than for bravery in action or distinction before an enemy, such cases alone excepted where a general medal is granted for a particular action or campaign, or a clasp added to a medal for some special engagement, in both of which cases all share equally in the boon, and those who by their valour have particularly signalised themselves, remain undistinguished from their comrades; now for the purpose of attaining an end so desirable as that of rewarding individual instances of merit and valour, We have instituted and created, by these presents, for Us, Our

Two of our regular contributors, Mr. H.C. Philipson and Miss M. Esterhuysen, have, quite independently of each other, written in English and Afrikaans. We publish both articles beside each other for readers to compare the different approach by both authors to the same subject.

We assure readers that it is purely co-incidental that Mr. Philipson and Miss Esterhuysen have tackled the same subject. Their research work has provided a very interesting history of the famous Victoria Cross.

Heirs and Successors a new Naval and Military Decoration, which we are desirous should be highly prized and eagerly sought after by the officers and men of Our Naval and Military Services, and are graciously pleased to make, ordain and establish the following rules and ordinances for the government of the same, which shall henceforth be inviolably observed and kept:-

Firstly:- It is ordained, that the distinction shall be styled and designated "The Victoria Cross" and shall be a Maltese Cross of Bronze, with our Royal Crest in the centre and underneath an escroll bearing the inscription "For Valour"

The first distribution of the Victoria Cross took place at Buckingham Palace on the 26th January, 1858 when Queen Victoria decorated 61 officers and men, 14 from the Navy and 47 from the Army, all veterans of the Crimean War.

Prior to the year 1858, when the first presentations were made, the Victoria Cross was only awarded for action in the "face of the enemy", but in that year it was ordained that the deed need not necessarily be performed in the face of

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In die meeste ontwikkelde lande bestaan daar een of ander spesiale toekenning vir buitengewone indiwiduele dapperheid en pligsgetrouheid in krygsdiens, afgesien van die algemene medalje wat toegeken word aan alle persone wat deelgeneem het aan 'n spesifieke veldslag of oorlog.

Na die beëindiging van die Krimoorlog het die behoefte ontstaan vir 'n spesiale toekenning om erkenning te gee aan Britse onderdane vir merkwaardige dapperheid, veral daar die Franse die toekenning van die "Kruis van die Ere Legioen" vir heldedade gedurende die Krimoorlog ontvang het. Om aan die behoefte te voorsien is 'n nuwe dekorasie vir die vloot en leer in Januarie 1856 deur Koningin Victoria ingestel wat bekend is as die "Victoria-Kruis".

Die dekorasie is in die vorm van 'n Maltese Kruis met die koninklike wapen in die middel, nl. 'n gekroonde leeu wat bo-op 'n kroon staan. Daaronder kom 'n wapenlint voor met 'n inskripsie wat oorspronklik ,,For the Brave" gelees het, maar Koningin Victoria het 'n bevel uitgereik dat dit verander moes word na "For Valour". Op die keersy is spasie vir gravering van die datum toe die heldedaad gepleeg is en die persoon se naam. Die kruis hang aan 'n dwarsbalkie met lourierblare daarop uitgebeeld. Die lint is 11/2 duim breed en was oorspronklik blou vir die vloot

## DIE VICTORIA KRUIS

deur

#### M. ESTERHUYSEN

en rooi vir die leër. Die kruis moet op die linkerbors gedra word en geniet voorrang bo alle ander ordes en dekorasies. Jocelyn, (1956:143) bewys egter dat dit nie in alle gevalle prakties moontlik is om die Victoria-Kruis voorrang te laat geniet nie. 'n Miniatuur van brons word op die lint gedra met informele drag en in gevalle van 'n addisionele toekenning word 'n tweede miniatuur replika langs die ander een gedra.

Die mate van die Victoria-Kruis is 12/4" vierkant met 'n presiese gewig van 434 gram wat net 3½ gram minder is as 'n ons avoirdupois. Victoria-Kruise is doelbewus van brons gemaak sodat die intrinsieke waarde laag is en die materiaal wat gebruik word se handelswaarde is ook net 'n skrale 1¼d. Die eerste Kruise is gemaak van 'n Russiese brons kannon wat by Sebastopol buitgemaak is gedurende die Krimoorlog. Hierdie dekorasie kenmerk 'n buitengewone gewigtige morele daad wat soldate nie meer galant maak nie, maar die mag van simbolisme sterk en aandag vestig op die ware betekenis van dapperheid.

Die Victoria-Kruis kan maklik nagemaak word en daar bestaan glo wel vervalsings, waarvan sommige moeilik onderskeidbaar is van die egte. Vervalsings is gewoonlik effens kleiner as die egte artikel.

Koningin Victoria het persoonlik die

eerste toekennings uitgereik in Hyde Park, Londen, aan 62 soldate wat die onderskeiding verwerf het gedurende die Krimoorlog. Die heel eerste persoon wat die dekorasie verower het was 'n seekadet, Charles David Lucas, wat aan boord van die "H.M.S. Hecla" op 21 Junie 1854 tydens 'n aanval van die Russe, 'n bom wat op die dek geval het, gegryp en oorboord gegooi het. Die bom het ontplof net voordat dit die water geraak het.

Volgens sommige verwysings is die oorspronklike aanbeveling vir hierdie tipe toekenning deur Sir William Russell gedoen. Taffrail Howard (1956:20) suggereer egter dat Prins Albert die idee van 'n Victoria-Kruistoekenning laat ontkiem het en dit ook ontwerp het.

Sedert die instelling van die Victoria-Kruis is talle wysigings aangebring aan die oorspronklike voorwaardes vir kwalifikasie om aan te pas by omstandighede.

In 1858 is bepaal dat dade van dapperheid nie noodwendig in die teenwoordigheid van 'n vyand op die slagveld vir kwalifikasie vir die Kruis moes wees nie. In dieselfde jaar is die Victoria-Kruis dan ook toegeken aan burgerlikes wat hulself onderskei het tydens die Indiese Muitery, 'n Victoria-Kruis is in 1867 toegeken aan Manskap Timothy O'Hea van die Bataljon Skutterskorps, vir sy waaghalsige daad om 'n brand te help blus in 'n ammunisie-spoorwegwa gedurende die ...Fenian"-opstand in Kanada. Dit is ook toegeken aan 'n dokter en vier soldate van die 24ste Infanterie, wat lewens van makkers gered het tydens 'n storm op see naby die Andaman Eilande in Mei 1867.

Persone aan wie toekennings gemaak is se name is gepubliseer in die "London Gazette" en aangeteken in 'n register wat gehou word by die Ministeriële Oorlogskantoor. Indien iemand homself onderskei vir 'n tweede toekenning vir die Kruis, word 'n balkie wat op die lint vasgespeld word, toegeken.

Die toekenning gaan gepaard met 'n spesiale pensioen van £10 per jaar

vervolg op bladsy 11

the enemy, as in the case of Private O'Hea who was awarded his V.C. when he averted an explosion of 2000 lbs. of ammunition in a train which caught fire on its way from Quebec to Montreal on the 10th August, 1858.

It was not until 1902 that post humous awards were permitted. King Edward the Seventh decreed that all relatives of men from whom the decoration had been withheld, owing to the death of the recipient prior to the date the presentation was due were to receive the award.

A recent case of the post humous award took place when the Governor General of Australia presented the Victoria Cross to a boy George Wheatly. His father, Warrant Officer Kevin Wheatly, died refusing to leave a fellow Warrant Officer who had been wounded in a battle with the Vietcong on November 13th, 1965.

#### MEDAL'S SALE

It has been said that the sale of the Victoria Cross is forbidden except after the death of the recipient, but there does not appear to be any justification for this statement in either the Royal Warrants or its appendices. Recently, a V.C. that was awarded to Second Lieutenant William John Symons of the Seventh batallion, First A.I.F. in 1915 for bravery at Gallipoli was sold at Glendennings & Co. London for the sum of £700. At the same auction a group of medals including another V.C. was sold for £950. There is a considerable difference in the price paid for the above-mentioned V.C.'s and those that were sold at the beginning of the Century, i.e. the V.C. of Private James Byrne was sold in London in June 1893 for £35, that of Trumpeter Thomas Monaghan London on November 5th, 1903 for £43, that of Leading Seaman William Odgers sold on the 28th June, 1903,

in London for £110. A number of V.C.'s have been donated to the United Services Institute London.

There have been 104 V.C.'s awarded for heroism in warfare in South Africa and to South Africans in other spheres of War. The first V.C. awarded for action in South Africa was to Major H.G. Moore, and it was for bravery at Komgha during the Gaika War in 1877. The best known V.C. in South Africa is of course Lieutenant John Rouse Merriot Chard (one of the heroes of Rorkes Drift on the 22nd January, 1879) after whom the South African John Chard Decoration and Medal are named. Some of the more recent South African V.C.'s are:

Lieut. Col. R.J. Hayward Mr. W.H. Hewitt. France 1917. Major W.A. Bloomfield. German East Africa 1917.

Lieut. Quentin G.M. Smythe. Alem Hanza.

Capt. Edwin Swales.Pforzgheim 1945. Capt. G.N. Norton. Italy, 1944. Capt. O.A. Read. Diala River.

Of the Victoria Crosses won in South Africa only one, Surgeon Captain A. Martin-Leake of the South African Constabulary, who was awarded his Victoria Cross for bravery and devotion to the wounded at Vlakfontein on February 8th 1902, has been awarded a Bar to his V.C. for Valour in France 1914/15. He is one of only three who have been awarded Bars to their Victoria Crosses.

An Extract from the Sunday Times 12/3/67 of topical interest "Col. A.E. Newman V.C., who, arrived from Britain, by sea on Wednesday, is 63 and won his V.C. 25 years ago when he lead the raid on St. Nazaue."

#### **RUSSIAN CANNONS**

The medal was a bronze (cross) "pattee" 1½" across with raised edges made from the metal of captured Russian cannons used in the sieges of Sebastopol and Balaclava. On the obverse, in the centre, is a lion "statant gardant", standing upon the Royal Crown and below the words "For Valour", on a semicircular scroll. The reverse has raised edges as on the obverse and a circle in the centre for the date and the act for which the Cross is awarded. The suspension is by a plain link in the form of a V on a clasp, ornamented with laurel leaves. On the back of the clasp, through which the ribbon passes, is engraved the name, rank and regiment or ship of the recipient.

The ribbon, 1½" wide, was originally crimson for the Army and blue for the Navy. Later, the crimson ribbon became common for the Army, Navy and Royal Air Force.

For the lower ranks of the Army and Navy the Cross originally carried a pension of £10.0.0 a year with an additional £5.0.0. per annum for each bar.

Extract from Victoria Cross Warrants. (Appendix 1).

"Fourthly:- It is ordained, that any one who, after having received the Cross, shall again perform an act of bravery, which if he had not received such a Cross, would have entitled him to it, such further act shall be recorded by a Bar attached to the riband by which the Cross is suspended, and for every additional act of bravery an additional Bar may be added".

Extract from Victoria Cross Warrents. (Appendix 1)

"Fourteenthly:- In reply to a question asked in the House of Commons on January 13th 1898, Mr. Brodrick, the Under Secretary of State for War stated:- In reference to soldiers earning the Victoria Cross, who, from old age or infirmity not due to their own fault, may be in poor circumstances and unable to earn a living, it has been decided that at the Secretary of State's discretion the sum of £50.0.0 a year may be granted by way of pension in lieu of

the £10.0.0 which has accompanied the Victoria Cross since its inception."

**WRONG DEEDS** 

A condition (V.C. Warrent Appendix 1. 15) of awarding the Victoria Cross was that any recipient, who was convicted of any felonious offence, would have his name erased from the register, but could be restored at the discretion of the Monarch. To date there have been eight erasures.

vervolg van bladsy 9

en vir elke balkie 'n addisionele £5 per jaar. Bevel is in 1898 uitgereik om die pensioen te verhoog na £50 per jaar.

Indien 'n persoon wat die VictoriaKruis verower het, ooit na die toekenning skuldig gevind word of verdink word van hoogverraad, lafhartigheid of enige misdaad, word die
eer verbeur om die Kruis te besit, sy
naam word geskraap van die rol en
die pensioen word ook gestaak. Daar
was glo reeds agt gevalle waar Victoria-Kruise verbeur is, waarvan een
'n seekadet was wat die toekenning
gedurende die Krimoorlog verower
het.

Wanneer 'n groot aantal persone saam kwalifiseer vir die toekenning, word die Kruis toegeken aan 'n bevelvoerende offisier, een offisier wat nie in bevel was nie en twee gewone manskappe. Hierdie vier persone word aangewys deur stemme van kamerade wat aandeel gehad het in die heldedaad.

Dit is onwettig vir 'n pandjieshouer om die Victoria-Kruis as pand te aanvaar. Die Victoria-Kruis is nie verhandelbaar nie en sal dus nooit op 'n veiling verkoop word nie.

In 1902 is 'n wysiging deur Koning Edward aangebring dat die Victoria-Kruistoekennings oorhandig kan word aan familielede van persone wat dood is voor uitreiking. Voor hierdie stipulasie het gesneuweldes wat gekwalifiseer het vir die toekenning, se name bloot verskyn in die amptelike "Gazette", maar dekorasies is nie uitgereik nie. Hierdie wysiging was terugwerkend en alle toekennings nadoods is uitgereik aan naasbe-

staandes.

In 1911 is die reg vir toekenning ook aan Indiërs toegesê en in 1918 na die 1ste Wêreldoorlog is die lint verander na net een kleur nl. rooi, vir alle afdelings, hetsy vloot, leër of lugmag. In 1920 is Koninklike volmag verleen dat vroue kon kwalifiseer vir die Victoria-Kruis, soos bv. matrones, verpleegsters en hospitaalpersoneel op slagvelde. Geen vrou het al egter die toekenning ontvang nie.

Ongeveer 1,343, Victoria-Kruise, (waarvan 290 nadoods uitgereik) en drie addisionele balkies is uitgereik sedert 1856. In drie gevalle is die Victoria-Kruis deur vader en seun verower en in vier gevalle is die toekenning aan broers gemaak. Nog net een toekenning is aan 'n persoon wat nie 'n Britse onderdaan was nie, gemaak. Hy was Majoor Anders Lassen, 'n Deenwat in die Spesiale Lugdienspatrollie in Italië diens gedoen het in 1945. 117 Victoria-Kruise is in Suid-Afrika toegeken waarvan sowat 25 Suid-Afrikaners was. (Jocelyn, 1956:142). Die heel eerste Suid-Afrikaner wat hierdie gesogte toekenning verower het, was Kol. G.H. Moore wat dit by Draaibosch, naby Komgha, op 29 Desember 1877 verower het. (Afr. Mus. 1957:4).

In die versameling van die Nasionale Kultuurhistoriese en Opelug-museum, Boomstraat, Pretoria is 'n onuitgereikte Victoria-Kruis wat tesame met 38 medaljes met hul kleurvolle linte deur die Ministerie van Oorlog in Londen, in 1959 geskenk is.

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continued from page 3

lish chronological sequences of coins. The application of scientific methods of investigation — particularly physics — in numismatics was the subject of another session. The concepts guiding the activity of numismatic museums throughout the world and a history of the National Numismatic Collections completed the series of Seminars.

In the review session, the Curator emphasized the necessity for a continuous re-appraisal of the scope of numismatics. The recognition of its ever developing fundamental duties should not be swayed by traditional concepts like the prevailing metallistic approach. It is the mission of numismatists at the Smithsonian to follow the developments of modern economy and to preserve the historical records typifying this evolution while it is in progress and while documentary material is relatively easy to obtain. In our quest for history, there is, of course, little if any place for the curious, the unusual as such. Emphasis must be placed instead on historically significant aspects and the intrinsic qualities of numismatic materials as well as their extrinsic characteristics.

Dr. and Mrs. Clain-Stefanelli established this Seminar along rather unique concepts. Usually courses in numismatics are concerned with certain historical periods or limited geographic areas. Instead, it seems to be more important to give a general outline and basic principles resulting in an over-all familiarity with the subject. Anyone who acquires such general knowledge should be able to apply it in special projects or subjects with which he may concern himself.

All Seminars were illustrated by slides and films as well as practical demonstrations. A reading course is held as a continuing related programme.

Bickels have a new range of coin albums: TV Album: R8.75, Beginner's Album: R1.50, Small Coin Wallet: R1.25 (stiff cover) and R0.85 (soft cover).

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Unless one has great means at one's disposal to buy all the rare coins, the large number of GAPS in one's collection could cause the hobby to become discouraging. To solve the problem, BICKELS designed and created the TV ALBUM to house a complete TYPE SET of South African Coins.

We asked ourselves the question: "What basic desire was at the very root of a collectors constant endeavour to complete his collection?" It seemed to us that the answer was: "The desire to have at least ONE specimen of each TYPE of coin which was minted, in one's collection."

At least in this way, we would be able to put together for our children and our children's children a visual record of the changes in the chronological development of this country's coinage.

Six months of research and planning finally enabled us to present S.A. collectors with this TV ALBUM. It transpired that, excluding gold, one required the following to complete a TV collection. — Six Farthings;

Seven Half Pennies and Half Cents; Eleven Pennies and Cents; Ten Tickeys, 2½ Cents and 2 Cents; Ten Sixpences and 5 Cents; Eleven Shillings and 10 Cents; Ten Florins and 20 Cents; Eight Half Crowns; Eleven Five Shillings and 50 Cents; Four silver 1 Rand Pieces – a total of eighty-eight coins.

This handsome gold inscribed, blue leatherette album measures 10" x 9". It contains 8 clear polythene sheets, housing a total of 24 slip-in strips, to hold a total of 102 coins. Each coin type has a specific place allocated to it and every aperture has been tailored to match the size of the coin. The unique feature of the TV Album is that the light and dark blue separator cards have all been overprinted to indicate the date range and choice of coins available for each type change. Each type change is identified with a TV number. Thus, from now on, if we say in our price lists that we offer TV 83 ('56) EF — this means that we have for sale a 1956 Half Crown in EF. (TV Chart in S.A. NUMISTAT 1967/8 lists type change differences.)

The TV ALBUM is a production of which we are extremely proud. It is perhaps not too much to say that this album together with the TV CHART in the S.A. NUMISTAT will fundamentally change the collecting habits of South Africans.

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