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EDITOR: Peter Brown

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BRIEWE

Aan Die Redakteur

Geagte meneer,

Baie dankie vir die interessante en insiggewende artikels wat in u tydskrif "Bickels Coin and Medal News" verskyn, vir die waardevolle bydrae wat u langs hierdie weg aan duisende versamelaars verskaf en vir u dienste aan numismatiek in die besonder. Ek sluit hierby in skedules (drie) wat interessante gegewens weer-speël. Oppervlakkig beskou sal dit van geen waarde wees nie maar vir die kenner, die ware numismaat wat gewillig is om navorsing te doen, kan dit wel van betekenis wees.

Die uwe,

W.S. VAN AS
President

Die Transvaalse Numismatiese
Vereniging

'N WOORDJIE VAN DIE REDAKTEUR
Munt en Medalje Nuus wil net graag hul hartlike dank uitspreek, vir hierdie puik bydrae wat die President van die Transvaalse Numismatiese Vereniging aan ons gestuur het. Ons weet uit ondervinding dat mnr. W.S. van As nie hierdie syfers sou vrystel, as hy nie baie seker van sy saak was nie. Daar steek ongetwyfeld lang ure se werk in hierdie stukkie navorsing.

Wat ons onmiddellik tref, is dat die syfers in die "Total Outstanding" kolom ook met die praktiese toedrag van sake, in die alledaagse handel ooreenstem. Byvoorbeeld, die ou

ooreenstem. Byvoorbeeld, die ou half-pennies is baie moeiliker om in die hande te kry as oortjies of pennies. (sien bladsye 8 en 9).

Geagte meneer,

As gevolg van die nuwe grondwet wat deur die Transvaalse Numismatiese Vereniging opgestel is, word 'n Museum geklassifiseer as 'n instellingslid. Die verteenwoordiger van die Museum het geen stemreg nie, kan nie verkies word op die bestuur van die Vereniging nie en kry ook nie kennisgewings van vergaderings nie.

Die gevolgtrekking wat dus gemaak kan word, is dat 'n Museum lid van die numismatiese vereniging kan wees net om te kwalifiseer om 'n munstel te mag aankoop. 'n Museum-versameling word egter nie opgebou vir persoonlike gewin nie, maar wel om die ontwikkeling en kulturele lewe van 'n volk uit te beeld en die beampte wat so 'n versameling opbou en wetenskaplike belang by die besprekings oor aangeleenthede i.v.m. munte het, behoort tog sekerlik ook die kans gegun te word om 'n stem daarvoor uit te bring.

Die uwe,

MATTHY ESTERHUYSEN
Nasionale kultuurhistoriese en
opelugmuseum

Dear Sir,

It is with some consternation that I read in your June/July 1968 Editorial (quote) "... there were times when we wondered whether we would make the grade for three full years" (unquote); Well! Judging by the extremely good material which has appeared and continues to appear in your very popular publication, it would most certainly be a tragedy to numismatics were this to cease and I sincerely hope that you will manage to "keep the flag flying" for many years to come!

H.K. Kelly,
"Gilwood",
127, Chudleigh Road,
Plumstead.
Cape Province.

SWAZILAND TO ISSUE INDEPENDENCE COINS SOON

The Government of Swaziland will soon produce 2,000 gold coins and 10,000 silver sets to mark the country's independence this year.

According to the Swaziland Ministry of Finance the gold coins will be 1oz. of 22 carat gold and will be called "One Lilangeni" (which means Member of the Royal Family).

The obverse of the One Lilangeni will bear King Sobhuza's head and shoulders, with a circumscription around the upper half of "Swaziland Independence" and below the King's head the words "Sobhuza II". The reverse side will bear the Swaziland Coat of Arms and the circumscription "One Lilangeni" and at the bottom "1968".

The 10,000 80% silver sets will consist of five coins the size of the present South African R1, 50c, 20c, 10c and 5c pieces. The obverse will bear a Swazi traditional shield and assagais with the wording "One Luhlanga" for (Foundation of a Nation) the R1 piece and then 50c, 20c, 10c and 5c respectively.

The selling price of the gold coin is expected to be about R100 while the silver set will sell for about R18. Sales in Southern Africa will be handled by a commercial bank.

The coins are guaranteed to be of extremely high quality as they are being struck by the South African Mint, Pretoria.

COVER PICTURE

The obverse and the reverse of the famous Israeli Bar Mitzvah coin. They are available in three sizes—27, 22 and 19 millimeters—and a complete set costs R96.50. See page 14 of this issue for more details.

Greek & Roman Coins are not what they seem!

You can never be too careful establishing the identity of Roman and Greek coins.

A story on page 5 of this magazine illustrates this—and so does a story from Cape Town about Mr. J. McA. Day, one of the best known collectors from that city.

Mr. Day told a recent meeting of the S.A. Numismatic Society that while he was on a recent overseas visit he decided to "satisfy a long-felt want when he purchased a Roman coin in Rome and a few Greek coins in Athens. He was greatly amused, when he learned that one of the Greek coins, for which he paid very little, was a forgery!"

S.A. PROOF SETS SOON

The South African Mint reports that the production of 1968 proof sets is well up to schedule.

The manufacture of uncirculated sets encased in plastic is averaging 900 a day and this production figure should satisfy the demand.

COIN FLASHES

The South African Numismatic Society will hold its annual auction on Saturday, September 28, at 2.30 p.m. at the S.A. Museum, Cape Town.

Members who wish to offer material for sale should do so by writing to the Convenor, Mr. M.G. Hibbard, at P.O. Box 1689, Cape Town.

.....

Ireland has chosen the same February 15, 1971, decimal conversion date as England. Although she will have her own distinctive coinage, the denominations will be the same as for England, although it is doubted that she will issue a 50 new pence coin.

.....

Several previously unknown British Commonwealth coins have been substantiated: Malaya 1951-H20c British West Africa 1924-H 1 shilling and 1947 1/10 penny; East Africa 1921 1c and 1928 6 pence; Sarawak 1941-H 1c; Malaya and British Borneo 1955-H 50c.

ZAMBIA NEW DECIMAL COINAGE



Picture above is Zambia's new decimal coinage. President Kaunda is on the obverse. A complete set comprises a 20, 10, 5, 2 and 1 NGWEE.



THE GOLDEN AGE OF COMMONWEALTH BRONZE



Beginning with the issues of Queen Victoria in the latter half of the nineteenth century, the British empire's bronze coinage entered a golden age that has lasted down through the present commonwealth. Golden doesn't mean only the coins' color; it refers to the great number and variety of large copper-alloy pieces that circulated throughout most of the civilized world.

Bronze pieces, like gold, acquire a certain pleasing quality the larger they become. The British penny is a prime example. Britannia isn't a small figure seated on a cent, whose features need a microscope's scrutiny. Rather, she's an imposing, regal figure with many details and highlights, quite clearly visible to the naked eye. But, besides the added opportunity for artwork a large coin provides, the metal itself, like gold, is more imposing if in a large quantity.

Finally, of all the nations minting large, halfpenny-sized coppers of the old type, most are within the present-day British commonwealth. And all of the empire or commonwealth issues, recent or past, have the good, honest ring and feel of a rapidly closing day of bronze.

When British law and military power — not to mention capital and trade — expanded outward, the areas incorporated into the Empire naturally adopted types of coins similar to those of the mother country. Most of the minor coins followed the penny and half-penny in size and composition. The example closest to home is the old Canadian large cent discontinued in 1920.

That coin shows the difference size makes. As far as design goes, none of the large cent reverses is particularly outstanding. Yet, in reasonably well-preserved condition (preferably with some of the original finish still showing), the coin is quite impressive when compared to the later small cents. Naturally, the better the coin's preservation, the more this is so. The same thing is true of the old New Zealand large cent.

In the 1840's, the introduction of the large double-value coins for Guernsey, and the fractional parts of shillings for Jersey, produced coins with colorful antique coats-of-arms. For the most part, however, Victoria's bronze pieces struck for overseas possessions relied on size rather than design. The old quarter-anna and half-anna pieces struck from the 1860's through the early 20th century featured the value inside an ornamental floral border, similar to the Canadian cent's design. The Hong Kong cent of the time, through the first part of George V's reign, had the name of the colony, value, and date around the edge, with Chinese inscriptions (value and colony) inside a beaded circle. The Ceylon five-cent bronze piece was more ornate, featuring a palm tree with the customary English and native inscriptions.

The British Honduras, Cyprus, Mauritius and Straits Settlements coins that appeared in the seventies and eighties, under Victoria, set some sort of record for a plain, standardized design. Whoever originated and approved the bronze types apparently decided the best was none too good—



so why bother? The Straits Settlements type has a number of value in the center, with a beaded border. On the outside edge are the name of the colony, the date, and the name of the unit of currency. The Cyprus reverse is the plainest, since it lacks a date. The obverse is one of the relatively few coins bearing the year on the same side as the monarch's portrait.

During the twentieth century, a peculiar thing happened to the empire or commonwealth bronze series. The number of countries issuing large coins in that metal actually increased! So, while the Ceylon five-cent piece was discontinued, and nickel substituted, a similar-sized coin appeared with the Australian penny. The Straits Settlements bronze shrank in size, but New Zealand came out with its own. South Africa struck its own British-sized penny and halfpenny.

The Indian coinage lost the large bronze pieces in favor of the familiar scalloped, square, or holed varieties. The halfpenny-sized quarter anna, with the traditional value inside floral design reverse, was discontinued for a ring-shaped one pice (actually the same value). As time passed, similar coinage changes occurred throughout the rest of the commonwealth. The Hong Kong cent shrank under George V, and then was discontinued as the coinage was progressively debased.

However, what the commonwealth lost in number of individual colonies or dominions doing away with the large bronze, it more than made up for by better quality. The old Australian penny and halfpenny were changed under George VI from the staid old country-value-date reverse to the familiar leaping kangaroos designed by Kruger Gray. New Zealand's bird-reverse penny and idol-bearing halfpenny stand second to none in beauty. The Guernsey and Jersey bronzes were slightly modernized.

When the British Caribbean territories (eastern group) got around to issuing their own coins in 1955, that

area, too, retained the old style of bronze; a penny-sized two-cent piece, halfpenny-sized cent, and farthing-sized half-cent. These coins show what modern design can do, even for a fairly humble design. Like the Victorian coins for some colonies, they bear only the name of the territory, a figure of value, and the date. But on these newer pieces the value is tastefully placed within a wreath. It's obvious what the value is, but the design isn't a stark, spartan statement that it is on so many other pieces.

So, at least within the remaining nations of the commonwealth, the traditional bronze is far from dead, and in fact may last far into the future with the changeover to decimal currency in some areas.

As far as collectors are concerned, the golden age still continues. Many of the older varieties are still fairly easy to obtain, having been made in large numbers. Besides the Australian, New Zealand and British Caribbean issues, there are still the perennial British pence and halfpence, and the Channel Islands, Mauritius, and Seychelles values. These latter two types are the only ones to recall the old plain value and country type started with Victoria; the type of number used on the coins is slightly changed, but otherwise there's no difference on the reverse. This is somewhat surprising in the case of the Seychelles coins, since they were first issued under George VI and during a time when the trend was toward pictorial designs.

A variation from the usual large bronze piece was the East African ten-cent and five-cent coins issued from 1911 until the various components of the area (such as Tanganyika and Kenya) became independent. These were holed coins. The obverse had a crown above the hole, with two ornamental flourishes flanking the perforation, and the name of the monarch and value. The reverse had two pairs of elephant tusks flanking the hole, along with the number (but not the word CENTS), name of colony, and date.

At a time when the world-wide trend is toward smaller coins, the remaining bronze of the old type takes on a special charm. And the penny and halfpenny-sized coins still issued or current in the British commonwealth forms one of the last links with a time when a cent—in whatever currency—was really a cent.

BEWARE OF ROMAN COINS

A while ago Bickels bought an impressive looking old copper coin, which looked really genuine. We thought it may be a Roman coin, and showed it to one or two people who called themselves experts on Roman coins. They all agreed it was genuine identified as a "SESTERTIUS OF TITUS". To make sure we sent the coin to Messrs. B.A. Seaby Ltd. of London. Below is what they replied:-

We thank you for your letter of 29th May with coin enclosed.

Although a very handsome piece, we regret to inform you that your Sestertius of Titus with reverse *Judaea Capta* is not in fact a genuine Roman coin, but probably a product of the Renaissance period in Italy. It is copied from a sestertius of Titus the son of Vespasian, thus accounting for the different legend from the coin appearing in "Roman Coins & Their Values".

To a collector of Ancient coins this piece has no value, but it might well be of interest to collectors of the Renaissance period.

EDITORS NOTE:-

This experience again emphasises the fact that genuine old Roman and Greek coins can only be identified as "genuine" by the overseas experts. It seems that "copying" and "counterfeiting" coins dates back many centuries.

Die Nuwe Dekorasie en Medaljes van die S.A. Polisie

deur : Matthy Esterhuysen
foto deur Willem Judson

Na Republiekwording van Suid-Afrika in 1961 is besluit dat nuwe dekorasies en medaljes uitgereik sal word vir toekenning aan die Suid-Afrikaanse Weermag, Polisie, Spoorwegpolisie en Gevangeniswese.

Die nuutste aanwinst in die Nasionale Kultuurhistoriese en Opelugmuseum in Pretoria is die dekorasie en medaljes van die Suid-Afrikaanse Polisie. Die hoogste toekenning is die Polisiekrus vir Dapperheid wat toegeken word waar lede van die Suid-Afrikaanse Polisie uitnemende heldemoed aan die dag gelê het of hul eie lewens verloor of werklik in gevaar gestel was tydens die vervulling van hul werksaamhede of beskerming of redding van 'n lewe of van eiendom.

Die dekorasie bestaan uit 'n goue kruis met vier arms met 'n kruisvormige goue beuel en 'n langwerpige lus waaraan 'n blou gewaterde nek-lint geheg word. Elke arm van die kruis bestaan uit 'n reeks van vyf vlakke van verskillende groottes wat skuins oploop na die middel waar dit 'n rif vorm.

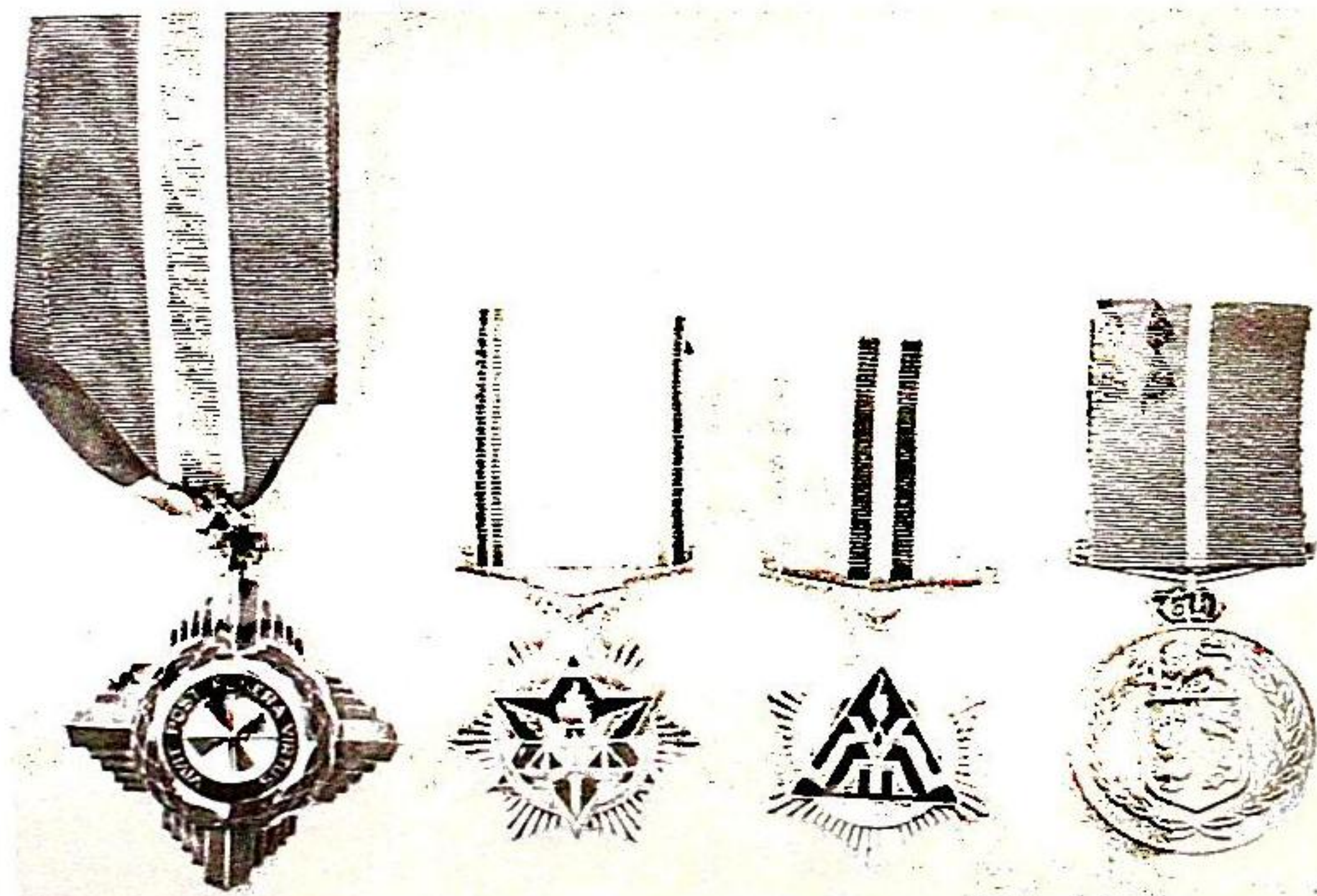
Op die voorsy in die middel van die kruis is 'n emalje medaljon met lourierkrans met groenblare gemonteer. Op 'n sirkel van koningsblou met goudomlynde en wit agtergrond staan die woorde: „VIVIT POST FUNERA VIRUTS”. Onder die ring met leuse, loop agt simetriese fasette na die middel toe.

Op die keersy van die dekorasie is die wapen van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika in relief met die inskripsie: „VIR DAPPERHEID” en „FOR BRAVERY”.

Hierdie dekorasie kan net aan lede van die Suid-Afrikaanse Polisie toegeken word. 'n Persoon aan wie die toekenning gemaak is, mag die letters „P.C.F.” (PRAEFECTURAE CRUX FORTIDUDINIS) agter sy naam skryf.

Die dekorasie kan na die dood van 'n persoon wat vir die toekenning gekwalifiseer het, toegeken word en so 'n toekenning is dan ook reeds gemaak. Die voormalige Staatspresident, mnr. C.R. Swart het die dekorasie verlede jaar (1967) oorhandig aan 'n dogtertjie van 'n polisieman wat sy lewe gewaag en verloor het in uitvoering van sy plig en diens.

ster is gemaak van vergulde silwer met die leuse: „STELLA OFFICII OPTIMI”. 'n Persoon aan wie hierdie toekenning gemaak is, mag die letters „S.O.O.” agter sy naam skryf. Die derde hoogste toekenning is die Polisiester vir verdienste gemaak van silwer. Daar is geen leuse op hierdie ster nie. Sodra 'n lid van die Polisiemag



'n Balkie en gespe word oorhandig as 'n lid van die Polisiemag hom weer 'n keer onderskei vir die toekenning. Dan word daar ook nog 'n miniatuur wat die helfte kleiner is as die oorspronklike dekorasie, aangebied wat gedra kan word by paslike geleenthede.

Die ander nuwe toekennings is die volgende:

'n Polisiester vir voortreflike diens ingestel as 'n eervolle huldeblyk ter erkenning van buitengewone verdienstelikheid of dapperheid. Die

agtien jaar troue diens agter die rug het (nie noodwendig aaneenlopend nie) word 'n medalje vir troue diens aan hom toegeken. Hierdie medalje is gemaak van getemperde brons wat beslis nie baie populêr is nie. Die polisie is te gewoond on hulle kentekens en knope skitter-blink te poets en so 'n dowwe medalje staan hulle dus gladnie aan nie. Die meeste van hulle skuur dit dan ook totdat dit blink!

Bogenoemde dekorasie en medaljes in die Museumversameling is onuitgereikte eksemplare.

LATEST COIN BOOKS REVIEWED

BY JERRY REMICK

"Current Coins of the World" by R.S. Yeoman, Second Edition, 1968.

The second edition of "Current Coins of the World" by R.S. Yeoman, released in May, lists all type coins for all countries of the world from approximately 1940 to date. A valuation for each type coin is given in very fine condition for those coins issued before 1953 and in uncirculated condition for those coins issued from 1953 to date. Many of the type coins are illustrated by very clear photographs.

Each type coin is numbered according to the system set up in Yeoman's brown book entitled "A Catalogue of Modern World Coins." This numbering system is now standard throughout the world.

The book has a hard white cover and is printed on glossy paper of 5" by 7½".

The second edition lists a number of countries which were not included in the first edition as they issued their new coinage after the first edition was published. Among them are Botswana, Brunei, Gambia, Gi-

braltar, Guyana, New Hebrides, Malaysia, Qatar and Dubai, Singapore, and Western Samoa.

This book and Yeoman's "Catalogue of Modern World Coins" are the world recognized standard listing and pricing of type coins of all countries. The Yeoman numbering system has set a necessary standard which has brought order out of chaos. Numismatists throughout the world owe Mr. Yeoman a great debt as his books have enabled thousands of numismatists to form type collections of one or more countries.

The second edition of Current Coins of the World is highly recommended to all numismatists.

"Regal Coinage of Hong Kong" by Ray Hamson, 36 pages, illustrated.

The booklet gives a complete date listing of the currency issued British Regal Portrait coinage of Hong Kong from 1863 - 1966 and also a listing of all the major die varieties. Pattern coins and mules are not included. It is not a priced catalogue and no mintage figures are given. All type coins are illustrated.

An introductory section of 11 pages includes a detailed history of the coinage of Hong Kong from 1841 to date; a section listing the ten rarest coins of Hong Kong and the reason for their rarity; and shorter sections on mint marks, varieties, coin designs, brockages, mistrikes and counterfeits.

The next 15 pages list all Hong Kong coinage from 1863-1966 with good photographs of all type coins. The three types of Victoria one cent are illustrated as well as the two types of Victoria silver 5c, 10c and 20c. The change in the portrait of Queen Victoria from younger to older portrait comes in 1883 for the silver coinage. Many minor die varieties are listed.

The last 15 pages of the booklet is in Chinese.

Ray Hamson has done a great deal of research on Hong Kong coinage during the last decade and results of much of his work are contained in this booklet, which is highly recommended to those interested in the coinage of Hong Kong.

WORLD COIN NEWS

by JERRY REMICK

AUSTRALIA ISSUES 1967 COINAGE

Australia has just issued a 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c and 20c dated 1967. No 50c will be issued. I was mistaken in my last edition of World Coin News saying there would be no 1967 coinage for Australia.

1966 BAHAMA ISLAND COINAGE RESTRUCK

The entire issue of 1966 coinage for Bahama Islands was restruck except

for the 15c. Only small amounts of the \$2.00 and \$5.00 were struck. There was no 1967 coinage struck for Bahamas Islands.

CANADIAN 1968 NICKEL COINAGE TO BE ISSUED IN AUGUST

The all nickel Canadian 10c, 25c, 50c and \$1.00 dated 1968 will be issued early in August. They are now being struck and will be stockpiled till then. The 50c and \$1.00 will be

smaller in diameter the 1967 coins. All coins will have the 1966 design. At present the 10c and 25c are being made of .500 silver but these will be discontinued shortly.

RHODESIA GOES DECIMAL IN 1971

Rhodesia is scheduled to convert to a decimal system in 1971, and it is doubtful that any more of the old system coins will be minted. The 11.5 to 13.5 million mintages of the 1964 6 pence, 1 and 2 shilling, and half-crown coins, coupled with the ½, 1 and 3 pence coins still circulating from the old Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, seem adequate to fill commercial need.

COIN WITHDRAWN FROM CIRCULATION DURING THE PERIOD 1951 - 1968

<u>Silver, 1951 - 1965 (March)</u> 800 Std. (dated 1923 - 1950) coins	<u>1965 (April) - 1968 (March)</u> 800 & 500 Std. (dated 1923 - 1964) coins	<u>No. of Pieces</u>	<u>No. of Pieces</u>
5/-	5/- & 50c	20,000	32,000
2/6	2/6	10,459,201	19,046,400
2/-	2/- & 20c	17,852,500	38,662,000
1/-	1/- & 10c	20,884,500	31,606,000
6d.	6d. & 5c	10,535,380	40,512,000
3d.	3d. & 2½c	-	15,048,280
		<u>59,751,581</u>	<u>144,906,680</u>

SUMMARY

	5/- / 50c.	2/6	2/- / 20c.	1/- / 10c.	6d. / 5c.	3d. / 2½c.
Coin Issued to Banks (1923-1960) (1961-1964)	5,051,781 363,505	43,016,029	49,505,182 15,268,531	48,903,784 11,194,464	56,122,884 17,318,631	134,556,834 378,411
TOTAL ISSUED	5,415,286	43,016,029	64,773,713	60,098,248	73,441,515	134,935,245
Coin Returned to Mint (1951-1965) (1965-1968)	20,000 32,000	10,459,201 19,046,400	17,852,500 38,662,000	20,884,500 31,606,000	10,535,380 40,512,000	- 15,048,280
TOTAL RETURNED	52,000	29,505,601	56,514,500	52,490,500	51,047,380	15,048,280
TOTAL OUTSTANDING	5,363,286	13,510,428	8,259,213	7,607,748	22,394,135	119,886,965

COIN PRODUCTION FIGURES

A. Coins dated 1965

<u>Denomination</u>	<u>For Circulation</u>	<u>Proof</u>	<u>Total</u>
R2 Gold	10,366	6,024	16,390
R1 Gold	10,232	6,024	16,256
R1 Silver	2,341	25,073	27,414
50c Nickel	2,836	25,073	27,909
20c Nickel	58,420,297	25,073	58,445,370
10c Nickel	54,595,315	25,073	54,620,388
5c Nickel	65,380,358	25,073	65,405,431
2c Bronze	59,773,740	25,073	59,798,813
1c Bronze	2,180	25,073	27,253

B. Coins dated 1966

R2 Gold	10,011	11,001	21,012
R1 Gold	10,005	11,001	21,006
R1 Silver	2,927,582	25,000	2,952,582
50c Nickel	16,112,817	25,000	16,137,817
20c Nickel	8,097,089	25,000	8,122,089
10c Nickel	7,369,535	25,000	7,394,535
5c Nickel	8,201,822	25,000	8,226,822
2c Bronze	18,534,825	25,000	18,559,825
1c Bronze	100,313,852	25,000	100,338,852

C. Coins dated 1967

Krugerrand	10,015		10,015
R2 Gold	10,156	11,013	21,169
R1 Gold	10,040	11,013	21,053
R1 Silver	3,088,601	25,000	3,113,601
50c Nickel	103,627	25,000	128,627
20c Nickel	115,709	25,000	140,709
10c Nickel	100,673	25,000	125,673
5c Nickel	9,179,996	25,000	9,204,996
2c Bronze	23,723,731	25,000	23,748,731
1c Bronze	42,227,064	25,000	42,252,064

D. Proofsets

	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>
Long Sets (R2 - 1c)	5,099	10,000	10,000
Gold Pairs (R2 & R1)	925	1,001	1,013
Short Sets (R1 - 1c)	19,889	15,000	15,000
V.I.P.	85	-	-

<u>Bronze</u>	<u>1951 - 1964</u>
1d.	88,879,920
½d.	45,642,059
¼d.	6,186,240

	<u>1965 - 1968 (March)</u>
1d.	72,000
½d.	24,000
¼d.	-
1c	88,124,000
½c	7,994,000

140,708,219

96,214,000

SUMMARY

Coin Issued to Banks (1923-1960)
(1961-1964)

TOTAL ISSUED

Returned to Mint (1951-1964)
(1965-1968)

TOTAL RETURNED.

TOTAL OUTSTANDING . . .

	1d.	½d.	¼d.	1c.	½c.
Coin Issued to Banks (1923-1960) (1961-1964)	130,465,838	60,856,079	93,902,006	-	-
TOTAL ISSUED	130,465,838	60,856,079	93,902,006	97,572,287	77,984,555
Returned to Mint (1951-1964) (1965-1968)	88,879,920	45,642,059	6,186,240	-	-
TOTAL RETURNED.	88,951,920	45,666,059	6,186,240	88,124,000	7,994,000
TOTAL OUTSTANDING . . .	41,513,918	15,190,020	87,715,766	9,448,287	69,990,555

COMMONWEALTH TRENDS -

Africa, South and West

by Anthony Dowle

As might be expected, South Africa, with its long and painful history of European colonization, is of particular numismatic interest. Coin awareness in both official and unofficial circles in South Africa has led to today's prevailing high prices. The coinage of the Z.A.R. with its special mystique for Afrikaner sentiment is in increasing demand, particularly the rarities, which show no sign of slowing down in price. One also suspects that the 19th century patterns for the Orange Free State, Cape Colony, etc. will, when next offered at auction, reach record heights. A group of these were offered last

year at Glendining's on October 26. The Cape of Good Hope penny (Shaw 87) reached £46, the Orange Free State penny (Shaw 100) £38, while the two fantasy pennies for Griqua Town brought £80 and £90 respectively.

seem to fluctuate considerably in price, following a puzzling pattern understood perhaps only by the most devoted collectors. Prices at the moment are pretty high, and one wonders how much higher they can go; only time will tell. The South African currency that deserves more serious attention in this country at least is the paper money. In many ways equally as interesting as the coinage, it is not often offered, but when it is available it is not absurdly expensive. Special mention must be made of the notes issued during the Mafeking siege. The pound denomination is the

large scale until the scrabble for Africa at the end of the 19th century was over. Sierra Leone is a notable exception. The coins of this colony, which was established in the 1790's as a homeland for slaves freed in England, are among the earliest issued specifically for Africa south of the Sahara. They were delightfully executed at the Soho mint, and do justice to the memory of Wilberforce and his associates, the unofficial midwives to the colony. A dollar was recently offered at Glendining's and fetched £95. This piece was almost EF, but was slightly cleaned, while S.F. was lightly scratched on



Top row: one cent of Sierra Leone, 1791; fantasy pattern of Griqua Town. Second row: Mombasa proof-like rupee, 1888; Z.A.R. 1897 half-crown depicting President Kruger.

year at Glendining's on October 26. The Cape of Good Hope penny (Shaw 87) reached £46, the Orange Free State penny (Shaw 100) £38, while the two fantasy pennies for Griqua Town brought £80 and £90 respectively.

The series of South African coins most familiar to British collectors are the proof sets and crowns issued in recent years by the astute Pretoria mint. These, particularly the sets,

rarity of the set, about 600-700 being produced. The design by Baden-Powell is a delight, straight out of *Boy's Own Paper* with three defenders of Mafeking frozen in heroic resolution. The other denominations are much more frequently met with, though by no means common, and are absurdly cheap at the £2-£4 they normally fetch.

Coinage in other parts of Africa was not for the most part introduced on a

the obverse field. Last year (Glendining's, September 28) a set of bronzed proofs, dollar, 50, 20, 10, 1 cent and 2 varieties of penny fetched £220. It seemed expensive at the time but nowadays probably is not. Sierra Leone relied during the 19th century on a variety of foreign and British coin, until the general coinage of British West Africa was introduced in this century.

The coins of British West Africa

display a poverty of design that may explain their relative unpopularity among collectors; they are still among the least expensive coins of the Commonwealth. However, interest in non-British coins is growing, and with many so-called "sleepers" waking up overnight they should have a worthwhile future. Well known rarities exist such as the British West Africa/British East Africa mules and the 1936H 1/4 of a penny, but regrettably the relative rarity of many of the coins is still not known; interested collectors are referred to the tireless Jerry Remick's competent and informative data (Spink's *Numismatic Circular*, February 1967).

The emergence of independent nations in so much of Africa has brought new coinages in its wake, and parallel issues of proof sets and commemorative crowns. Ghana, one

of the first countries to produce a modern commemorative coinage, has created much ill-feeling by acting without good faith: restriking proofs year after year (and in another field altogether, that of postage stamps, cancelling remainders to order).



Rare Z.A.R. one pond of President Burgers

Because of this kind of practice, and the crash of the unhealthy speculative boom in proof sets a few years back, the proof sets, etc. of Africa are not now in great favour. How-

ever, the issues are not really large and while another speculative boom in this area would be both unlikely and undesirable, they may well slowly move up in price and might be reasonably good long-term bets, particularly the silver proofs of Gambia, Sierra Leone and Zambia. At least these have the dignity of being proofs and are not, like the official issues of some countries, "select" base metal discs cased in plastic; the miserable existence of the latter might be excused if they were given away with breakfast cereals, but alas they are not. One might at this juncture express the hope that some future African coins be designed by African artists; with coin design so often pedestrian it would be nice to see if Africa, with its noble tradition of sculpture, could innovate a fresh approach.

EXPORT OF SILVER COINS FROM U.K.

The export of U.K. silver alloy coins minted before 1947, other than coins exported in a quantity not exceeding 10 in number, now requires an export licence. An Order made by the Board of Trade to impose licensing control came into effect on Tuesday, June 4. The Order was directed against the export of coins to be melted down overseas.

The Government is also seeking powers to prohibit the melting down in the U.K. of demonetised coins except by, or with the authority of, the Treasury.

It is already an offence under the Gold and Silver (Export Control, etc.) Act 1920 to melt down gold or silver coin which for the time being is current in the United Kingdom or any British possession or foreign country, except under licence granted by the Treasury. In practice such

licences are not granted. But there has previously been nothing to prevent the export of current U.K. coins for melting down and it is not yet an offence to melt down demonetised coins. The Government's intention in imposing control on the export of silver coins minted before 1947 and in seeking powers to prohibit the melting down in the U.K. of demonetised coins is to ensure that the value of silver in the current coinage would be recovered by the Royal Mint and would accrue to the Exchequer.

The new export control does not apply to coins which are more than 100 years old at the date of exportation. These are covered by the control on the export of antiques (i.e. articles over 100 years old) which has been in operation for many years.

Another Book Reviewed

by Jerry Remick

"The Coinage of Switzerland 1950 To Date". by Robert Clarke.

"The Coinage of Switzerland 1850 To Date" is a priced-date catalogue with mintage figures for all coins of Switzerland including gold coins and the Shooting Festival Coins. The Swiss Shooting Festival coins start with the first issue of 1942.

The catalogue follows the standard format of all modern catalogues on a single country by listing each denomination separately, beginning with the lowest and ending with the gold coins. All type coins are illustrated and the type coins are numbered separately for each denomination making it easy for a type collector to follow. Metallic composition, weight, diameter, mint or mints, location of mint mark and their symbol, designer, and engraver are given below the photograph for each type coin.

The photographs of all the Swiss Shooting Festival Coins are included. The coins are so attractive that the reader may feel inclined to undertake this series.

This catalogue gives the complete coinage of Switzerland since the modern coinage starts in 1850.

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SOUTH AFRICAN PROOF SETS

SHORT SETS (without gold)

619	1943	per set (104 minted)	R440.00
620	1944	per set (150 minted)	350.00
621	1945	per set (150 minted)	350.00
622	1946	per set (150 minted)	345.00
623	1947	per set (2,600 minted)	140.00
624	1948	per set (1,120 minted)	165.00
625	1949	per set (800 minted)	180.00
626	1950	per set (500 minted)	235.00
627	1951	per set (2,000 minted)	55.00
628	1952	per set (3,500 minted)	35.00
629	1953	per set (2,000 minted)	50.00
630	1954	per set (2,275 minted)	65.00
631	1955	per set (2,250 minted)	65.00
632	1956	per set (1,350 minted)	105.00
633	1957	per set (750 minted)	165.00
634	1958	per set (625 minted)	175.00
635	1959	per set (560 minted)	220.00
636	1960	per set (1,860 minted)	75.00
637	1961	per set (4,391 minted)	30.00
638	1962	per set (2,300 minted)	60.00
639	1963	per set (2,525 minted)	45.00
640	1964	per set (13,000 minted)	25.00
641	1965	per set (20,000 minted)	20.00
642	1965	V.I.P. per set (120 minted)	250.00
643	1966	per set (15,000 minted)	15.00
644	1967	per set (15,000 minted)	15.00

LONG SETS (with gold)

645	1952	per set (12,000 minted)	70.00
646	1953	per set (3,000 minted)	110.00
647	1954	per set (875 minted)	160.00
648	1955	per set (600 minted)	180.00
649	1956	per set (350 minted)	360.00
650	1957	per set (380 minted)	350.00
651	1958	per set (360 minted)	360.00
652	1959	per set (390 minted)	435.00
653	1960	per set (1,500 minted)	150.00
654	1961	per set (3,139 minted)	97.50
655	1962	per set (1,544 minted)	110.00
656	1963	per set (1,500 minted)	95.00

657	1964	per set (3,000 minted)	65.00
658	1965	per set (5,000 minted)	65.00
659	1966	per set (10,000 minted)	40.00
660	1967	per set (10,000 minted)	45.00

SOUTH AFRICAN PROOF-LIKE CROWNS

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661	1953	each (8,000 minted)	25.00
662	1954	each (3,890 minted)	50.00
663	1955	each (2,230 minted)	33.00
664	1959	each (2,200 minted)	R150.00
665	1960	each (22,367 minted)	12.00
666	1961	each (19,956 minted)	19.00
667	1962	each (6,024 minted)	28.00
668	1963	each (10,227 minted)	12.00
669	1964	each (25,000 minted)	7.00
670	1965	E each (25,000 minted)	8.00

SOUTH AFRICAN UNCIRCULATED CROWNS

671	1947	each (305,600 minted)	6.00
672	1948	each (781,992 minted)	8.00
673	1949	each (537,821 minted)	10.00
674	1958	each (235,952 minted)	8.50
675	1960	each (421,624)minted)	4.50
676	1962	each (24,378 minted)	14.00
677	1963	each (157,717 minted)	3.50
678	1964	each (126,664 minted)	3.00
679	1966	ENGLISH or AFRIKAANS 1 Rand each (± 3,000,000)	1.25
680	1967	ENGLISH or AFRIKAANS 1 Rand each (± 3,000,000)	1.25

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692	1924	VG	0.75
693	1926	VF	1.75
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695	1928	F	0.75
696	1930	VF+	2.50
697	1933	F+	0.75
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699	1935	VF+	2.00
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714	1923	EF	19.00
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719	1926	VG	1.95
720	1938	F	4.50
721	1930	F+	9.00
722	1939	F	4.75
723	1944	VF	4.25
724	1945	VF	4.25
725	1940	VF	1.50

726	1943	EF	2.75
727	1954	UNC	2.50
HALF CROWNS			
728	1925	F	5.00
729	1926	F+	6.00
730	1927	F+	R 3.25
731	1928	VF	3.25
732	1934	VF+	7.75
733	1937	VF+	6.75
734	1939	VF+	6.00
735	1941	EF	3.25
736	1942	EF	2.60
737	1943	EF	3.20
738	1945	VF	5.25
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