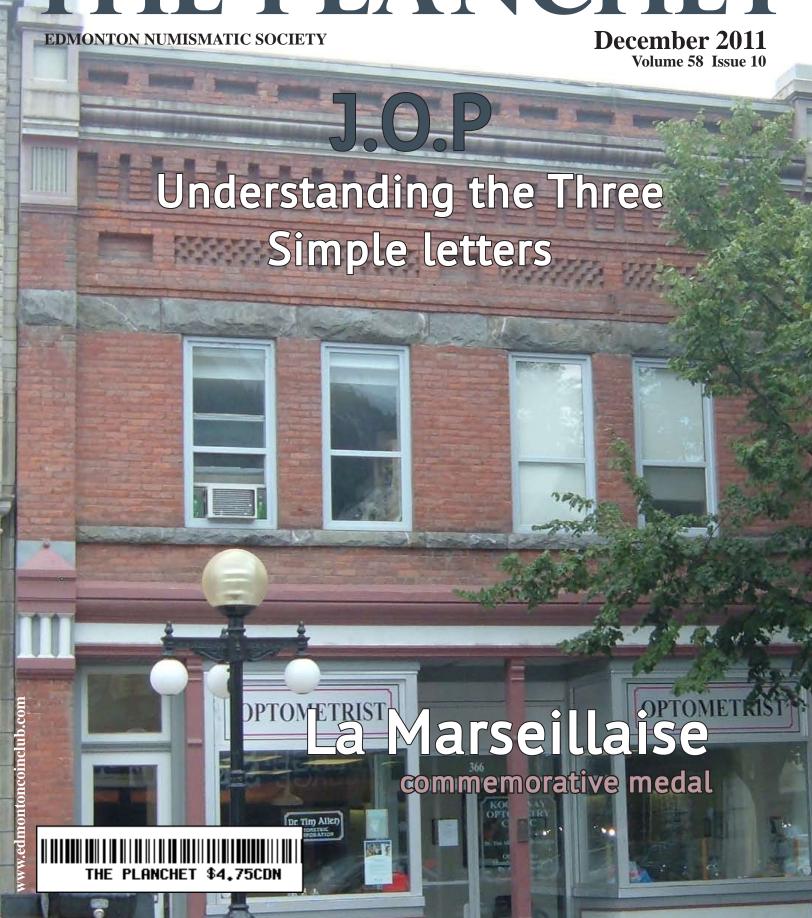
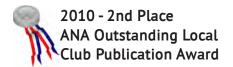
THE PLANCHET





THE PLANCHET



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 Submission Form

The Planchet Team:

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ON THE COVER:

Photo of 366 Baker Street in Nelson, B.C. where Joseph Oliva Patenaude ran all of his many trades from. It is very likely that many, or most J.O.P countermarked coins were 'minted' here. Photo by author.

Disclaimer: The opinions herein are those of the individual authors and are not necessarily those of the Edmonton Numismatic Society.

The editors, at their sole discretion, reserve the right to

The editors, at their sole discretion, reserve the right to accept or refuse any material submitted for publication.

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by Pierre Driessen



Message from the **President**

David Peter 2011-12



Happy New Year to everyone. 2012 is upon us, and it looks to be another exciting and successful year for the Edmonton Numismatic Society.

December's meeting was very eventful. I would like to congratulate all winners of the "Go for the Gold" prizes for volunteers and newsletter contributors. Also I would like to congratulate our club for having a record charity auction at the December meeting. We gave over \$1400 to the Salvation Army. I would like to thank the generosity of the members who either donated or bid at this annual charity event, once again supporting a worthy community organization.

This year's elections are being held at the February meeting. Those who wish to add their names to the ballot, please contact Terry Cheesman. As a person with several years on the executive, I find volunteering for club positions a very rewarding experience and encourage everyone to consider running in these elections. All positions are of great importance to our non-profit organization.

Our next show is in two months. We will have tickets and posters available at our next meeting. I hope to see you all there.

Thanks,

David

@ The Next Meeting

Wednesday, January 11, 2012



Royal Alberta Museum, 12845 - 102 Avenue Meeting Start Time 7:15pm

- Club matters:
- final call for candidates for board and executive positions for elections
- nomination of audit committee
- March 2012 Show matters:
 - volunteer sign-up
 - final preparations
 - poster distribution
- presentation: by Terence Cheesman "From dictatorship to principate - Coinage of the Roman state from 49 B.C. to 37 A.D."
- silent auction
- door prize draws

For more information regarding these events, or to add an item to the agenda please send an email to editor_ens@yahoo.ca

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About Your Society

December 14, 2011 meeting.

7:25 the meeting was opened by David Peter, President - a total of 49 members were in attendance. He thanked all members for attending the 2nd annual Go For The Gold awards night and charity auction. He reminded attendees that memberships are now due for the 2012 year. Marc Bink informed members that they could pay for club dues at the meeting, by mail or through PayPal on ENS website. Members were encouraged to renew soon so they would continue to receive all benefits of being a club member. Membership is still a low price of \$15.00 for a calendar year.

Pierre Driessen informed the membership that we have been approved to keep our meetings at the Royal Alberta Museum for the 2012 calendar year. He thanked the Museum for continuing to allow us the privilege of using their facilities.

David showed the recent "Canadian Coin Digest" from Krause Publications. He wanted to point out another reason why members should submit articles to The Planchet or the Canadian Numismatic Journal. In this edition Roger Grove, the Editor-In-Chief of The Planchet, was referenced for an article on J.O.P dollars he had published in the CNJ. David also mentioned the December CNJ, commenting that it was great to see so many contributions in this month's issue from the ENS. He encouraged members to keep writing, and if anyone has an idea but doesn't know how to start, the editing team of The Planchet will be happy to help you get started.

Roger Grove gave an update on the partnership with the Ottawa

Numismatic Society (formally called the Ottawa Coin Club). He informed members that anyone who had signed up for the ONS over the last two years would receive a complementary membership in the ONS for 2012. He also informed members that the ENS would be doing the same thing for any ONS members who had paid to be a member of the ENS. Members were reminded that if they wanted to sign up at the discounted rate to let Roger know and he would facilitate it for them.

Dan Gosling presented an Allstate case to the club, donated from the wife of Lorne Kroetch (Doris).

The upcoming elections were briefly discussed and the election committee was established, with Terry Cheesman as the chair.

David opened the Go For The Gold awards by thanking all the volunteers. Without them the club would not survive. After the presentations the gold sovereign draws were held, with Zoltan Miholy winning for the General Volunteer category and Roger Grove winning for *The Planchet* category.

Pat indicated that if any members desire some desiccant to help keep moisture away from their collections, he has access to large amounts and would be happy to bring some to the January meeting for everyone.

The annual charity auction was held, and the members voted on the Salvation Army as the charity to receive all proceeds from the ENS member donated auction. A total of 44 lots were auctioned off, bringing in \$1,417.00.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm.

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Past President

Marc Bink - Vice President Pierre Driessen - Treasurer

Roger Grove - Secretary

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Howard Gilbey
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Webmaster:

Markus Molenda

Librarian: Mitch Goudreau

Show Chair: David Peter

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Pierre Driessen

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A Word in Edge-Wise



By Marc Bink

This is a tale of two books, both on the same subject matter but completely different. One can lead you into an unwanted voyage of self-discovery and despair, while the other can be used to discover things and pique curiosity.

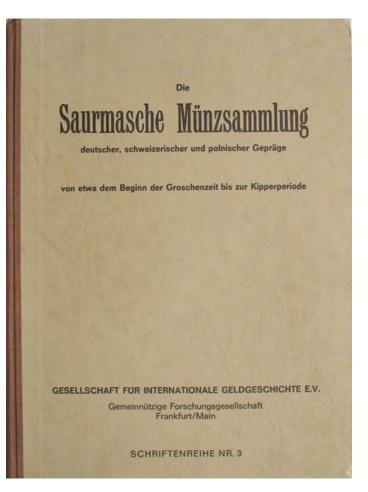
Collecting German coins can be a lot of fun. However, with the huge proliferation of states, duchies, counties and free cities that made up what is now called Germany, collecting coins from them can be very confusing. Germany as a single entity is younger than Canada. Prior to 1871, what is now called Germany consisted of anywhere up to 500 little counties, states, and free cities that couldn't get along but shared a common language. Well, that isn't entirely true either. There are quite a few linguistic differences in Germany, so much so that a person brought up in the south would have difficulty understanding someone brought up in East Friesland in the north. So it is safe to assume that sorting this entire complex mess out and making a credible catalog of its coins is a huge undertaking.

The Problem...

When I started collecting German coins about 30 years ago, there wasn't much out there in the way of decent catalogs. There were a few, but they mostly dealt with the post-1871 era. As such, there was next to nothing about coins issued in the Muenzverein era or from the Holy Roman Empire. When I started reading about German history, it soon dawned on me why there was so little material available. The whole topic is a huge and very complicated mess. It seems that every state or city right down to the most insignificant rural counties had permission to issue their own money. There were so many standards, currencies and funny denominations that when taken in their entirety would boggle the mind. I soon began to understand why it took the Germans over 1000 years to get their country together, and why even today, there are regional animosities and differences in a country that is barely the size of southern Alberta.

The Holy Roman Empire was founded by Charlemagne (Karl der Grosse in German) in Aachen back in 800 AD. Right after his death in 814 things started to fall apart. The empire was split between his two sons, and with that started a long tradition of splitting properties and inheritances. The western half (the Franks)

became the French empire, and the eastern half retained the "Roman Empire" designation but eventually evolved into what is today known as Germany. The initial Frankish system of currencies existed until the Imperial government started to lose influence and become more of a figurehead. This occurred in around the 12th century. By then the emperor presided over a very loose conglomeration of nominally loyal states. Where in England and eventually in France the lesser nobility was soon curbed and cowed to a higher authority, this process never took root in Germany.



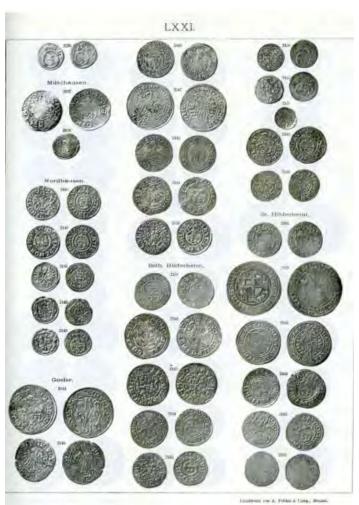
Cover for the Saurma. This copy is a reprint from about 1977. Obviously still very true to the original, nothing at all was changed in the reprint.

So there was a huge proliferation of minor dukes, counts, princes and electors who all felt they were better than one another. Each of these little states was constantly at war with one another, vying for another square foot or so of property or prestige. Add to this the numerous inheritances which were splitting apart larger states into ever smaller ones, and one has the perfect recipe for anarchy. The only time they ever got along was whenever an emperor died, they'd all get together long enough to elect a new one, and as was the case with just about every succession, a new round of wars would start. Trade among these warring states was difficult but mitigated by the fact that there wasn't much to trade around anyway. Germany was considered to be a back-water and with no real sea ports to call its own, everything had to go overland. This was usually too much trouble, so the whole area wound up being avoided. The other problem was currency. With each town minting

Bisthen Speier, Tel. XXXIV. Grafichaft Spanheim. Tal. XXXIII. Matthias v. Hammingen 1004-78. Johann Graf v. Sp. Bolauden 1238-83. Johann V. Graf v. Sp. Starkenburg 1413-37. Ladwig v. Helmstalt 1478-1164. | 1019 Graschen, Gruzzach, St. Petras 1036GS - a, J. a, M. | GOP9GS - DG - SPZREMT | R. Decipata mit Wapper - 19028172 - 1007E - URV | GURZOGE. Philipp L c. Romatery 1504-13. Gence v. d. Phile 1503-29. Philipp v. Flerilein 1536-52. Wild a Rheingrafen v. Salm. Taf. XXXIII, XXXIV a.Cil. Redelf v. Frankrustoin 1552-60. 0tte in Kyrburg 1548-1607. 2087 1620 3 Kerneer, Wappen. Re Reichandler u. 3 c. J. † 2006 1623 . 3 Wapp. i. Kloublatt. Re Reicho 7 Narquard v. Hamsein 1550-81. 2530 | 1041 % Bataen, Wappen. He: Belcheniller et. 2 6.3 2222 1042 Plennig to Wappen, N . 2223 adler m. 3. 1022 + 3(2,1)Wapp. Re Seichnadt u. 5 97 1023 v. Balare, Wappen. Ste Strichnapfel m. z 1563 c. M. 93 1024 Permiy to Wappen, O B Stadt Speier, Tat. XXXIV. Yarmundacheft in Grunbach. % Theler, Wappea. 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Wappen | 1617 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | 1618 | Study Ingelheim, Tat. XXXV. 2056 1057 Goldgulden, St. Johann. Str. Decipner a.J. a. m. Brichenyfel.

Typical listings in the Saurma. Just about every state is covered here, but in order to properly make sense of the listing, one needs to be able to understand German and a lot of German history. What is really lacking is a table of abbreviations, even modern German speakers find these listings tough to decipher.

its own coinage, how could anyone be able to keep any kind of accounts? One can only imagine what any French or English merchant would have thought when he tried to cut a deal with one of those states, only to find out that no one outside of that town accepted its currency, and it was the only thing they could pay for goods with. There were no recognized "foreign exchange" markets in the Middle Ages like we have today. Silver and gold were traded on a basis of weight and purity, and depending on the impoverishment of the state in question. Coming out of a deal with anything of any value could be difficult. This started a round of treaties and currency unions and standards, and yet more wars. When by the middle of the 20th century Allied leaders were wondering why Germans were so militaristic and brutal, all they needed to do was read some German history, and they would have discovered why Germans like fancy uniforms and marching to drums. It had



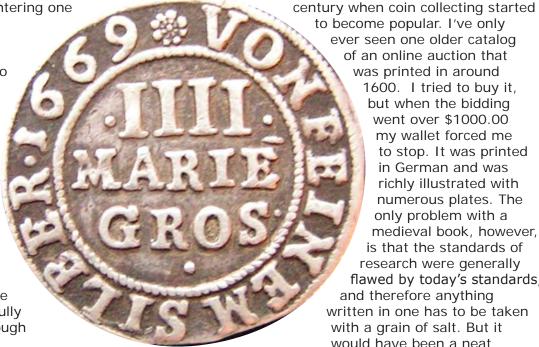
Here is a picture from one of the plates of the Saurma. The photography is great by 19th century standards, but not so anymore. When this book was printed, printing photos in books had only been "perfected" a year or two before. This book must have cost von Saurma-Jeltsch a fortune to publish.

been ingrained into their culture by a thousand years of slaughtering one

another.

Not a great solution... For the coin collector who didn't want to read all of this history but liked medieval coins there wasn't much material that made sense of all the German states. There were books like the "Saurma", which was first published in 1892. This book exemplifies everything German. It looks like a great idea, it's on topic, full of bombast and sense of purpose, but it's woefully lacking in the follow through and leaves one with a bad taste in the mouth at the end. "Saurma" is short for Die Saurmasche Muenzensammlung, written by Hugo Freiherr von Sarma-Jeltsch in 1892. In this book von Saurma-Jeltsch attempted to catalog the lesser denominations of German, Swiss and Polish coinage from about 1250 to about 1640. Although it is over 100 years, old it still is the only real reference book anyone has done on low denomination Germanic coinage of that period. One constantly finds references to it in modern auction catalogs. Thalers were already well covered, as von Saurma-Jeltsch claims in his short but flatulent introduction, and therefore none were included in this book.

Later John Davenport made a lovely series of catalogs on thalers and crowns, but there was nothing that tied together the minor issues except for auction catalogs and a few obscure German language



This is one coin I haven't been able to find anywhere. The obverse is older than the reverse. It should be from Brunswick-Luneburg-Calenburg, but no listing exists for this particular coin. It looks like it is made from good silver, so it may not be a counterfeit. However, it could be a mule...does anyone have any ideas, or can anyone conclusively prove where this came from?

to stop. It was printed in German and was richly illustrated with numerous plates. The only problem with a medieval book, however, is that the standards of research were generally flawed by today's standards, and therefore anything written in one has to be taken with a grain of salt. But it would have been a neat addition to my library and would have no doubt fostered the creation of many an interesting article.

books that were printed in the late 19th

was printed in around

1600. I tried to buy it,

but when the bidding

went over \$1000.00

my wallet forced me

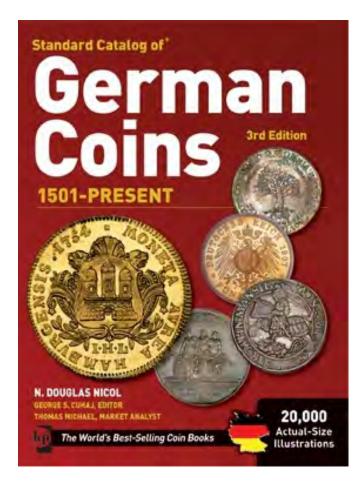
The "Saurma" does not lend itself to any interesting articles, unless one is contemplating writing one on how homicide can be justifiable. It's incredibly difficult to use, and the descriptions are barely adequate. One needs a fairly good working knowledge of German history and the German language to be able to use it. Even then, it's pretty much a crap shoot as to

whether the listing is even correct. Basically one has to start with a clear coin and hope that the picture in the book is clear enough to make out any detail. The photography is at a very high standard for the 19th century; it was one of the first books printed with photographs in it. Unfortunately, the science behind printing photos was still in its infancy at that time, and as such, the photos appear grainy and indistinct. Then once the coin

has been located, the reader has to

go back into the printed section and try to decipher the reference which usually is abbreviated. There is no guide to the abbreviations. I guess the author, with typical Teutonic arrogance, just assumed everyone knew what he was talking about. If the coin you're looking for is a variety, then you're hooped. Your guess is as good as anyone else's is. Considering that it has been reprinted numerous times since its initial printing in 1892, one would have thought that someone would have added a section explaining how to use that book. But no, it's still a pain to use. If you ever have to use one, pour yourself a strong drink, put on some calming classical music and prepare to lose yourself to the world for a few hours. By the end of a session with the "Saurma", one usually winds up totally frustrated or slightly unhinged, possibly with a new appreciation for Wagner and "Gotterdammerung" or just raving drunk.

Copies of the "Saurma" are available at various places online, but they tend to get snapped up fairly quickly and go for a good dollar to buy. I would imagine it's probably due for a reprint soon. At one point, someone had loaded the whole thing to a site online. I used that until I finally



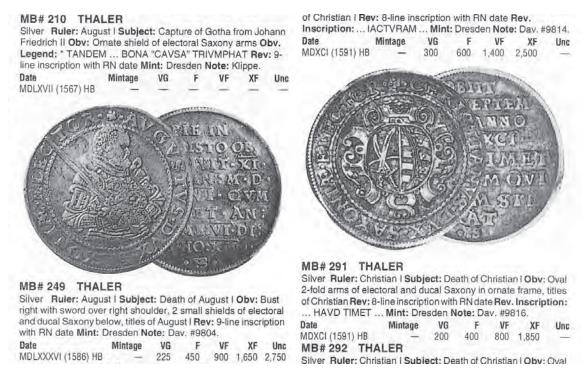
Cover of the latest edition of the "Standard Catalog of German Coins", Krause Publications, 2011.

got a printed copy. The online version was even more difficult to use because one always had to remember what page the description was on to correlate it to a plate. Normally I'd provide the hyperlink, but that particular domain must have expired because there's a porn site on it now (and not a very good one either). As for printed copies, try to avoid the ones published in the former GDR (Leipzig, 1953-85). They were printed on good Socialist paper which smudges and disintegrates on contact. This is not good when the tears of frustration set in. The photo-plates look like they were done with an early Gestettner machine that suffered from the usual Socialist shortcomings (ink would have been nice to have I guess, but it must have been seemingly impossible to get when they printed the copy I saw). Most copies I've seen tend to be pretty beaten up with pages torn, things spilled on them or taped together, which is probably not unusual, considering the thought has also occurred to me numerous times to do horrible things to that book, while cursing and wishing ill on the author who is now hopefully in a very warm and terrible place. Ten minutes with the "Saurma" is enough to reduce even the most stoic coin collector to his knees, pulling his hair out, begging for a decent, one stop catalog that is easy to use or is at least in an easily recognizable format that is familiar to most collectors.

Finally, the Answer...

Krause Publication's latest *Standard Catalog of German Coins* has done just that. Here finally is a book that goes back to 1501, whereas their previous catalogs and others only go back to 1600. This book is huge, consisting of 1488 pages of coins and values. It was compiled by N. Douglas Nichol and edited by George S. Cuhaj. Thomas Michael was the market analyst and is also featured as an author.

Each state is listed in alphabetical order. Denominations range from the lowest to the highest. Currency reforms and regime changes are dealt with in a chronological fashion. Each section features a small blurb about the state or city and lists (where known) the names of the mints and mint-masters. The numbering system is typical to the Krause catalog series; each coin series is assigned a KM number and features a picture in actual size. The book has 20,000 actual size illustrations, which shows just how big the subject matter is. This takes a lot of the guesswork out of determining just which coin one has. The photography is second to none; however it is all still black-and-white. Each coin series features a listing of its metallic composition, weight, size and the legends it may have. The price scale runs from VG to Uncirculated, with 3 grades in between. The



Typical set of listings in the new Krause catalog. Those that are familiar with this series of catalogs will notice no real differences from the earlier editions. However, the listings and the coin numbers (KM #) have been updated from the previous editions.

price listings are fairly comprehensive, but there are a few grades missing prices only because there aren't any examples of the coin known. Mintage figures (where known) are also provided. All in all, this is the "one-stop" catalog that a lot of us German coin collectors have been eagerly waiting for.

Besides the coin listings, the book also contains an extensive introduction detailing the terminology used and how to use the book. Also included is a short history of coinage in Germany. This history is well written and encompasses the high points of German coinage history without going into too much detail. The reader will come away with a basic understanding of how money worked in pre-unification Germany, and for some, I would imagine that the history will kindle a desire to read more on the subject. There is also a flow chart listing the various currency unions and their denominations which also takes some of the mystery out of why this coin was called what. There is also a short paragraph of history preceding each state or county listing, just enough to understand who the rulers were, why they came about and the geographical location. There isn't enough space to include why people fought, sued and killed each other over the succession of the tiny flyspeck of Lippe-Detmold in the late 19th century, or why a county the size of Schaumberg-Lippe (131 sq. miles) with a capital city of less than 20,000 people was important enough to mint its own coinage. Nor is there any explanation as

to why every duke, lord or count in the Reuss family had to be called Heinrich, which I'm sure would have given visiting dignitaries and diplomats conniptions trying to keep the Roman numerals straight, and it would have made family reunions very interesting.

The only thing missing in this book that was in previous editions is the "Quick Identifier" in the front introduction and the glossary of inscriptions in the back along with an index. The "Quick Identifier" was a very useful tool in the previous edition. It featured pictures of some of the more common symbols and heraldry used on most coinage along with the name of the issuing state below. The introductory literature indicates that this section should be present, however in my copy it is not. One can only assume that this is an oversight that will be corrected with a subsequent printing, or the editors chose not to add it in this edition due to space and forgot to delete the reference to it in the introduction. The glossary of inscriptions or interpretation of legends was also useful in determining where the coin was issued and by whom, if the reverse heraldry didn't make sense. It was also useful for determining mules and varieties that are not listed. As with any undertaking of this size, it would be foolish to assume this catalog is "complete". Since in the past record keeping and literacy were well below modern standards, it is safe to assume there are a lot of varieties that exist but were never listed. (I have a lovely 4 Mariengroschen from 1669 which

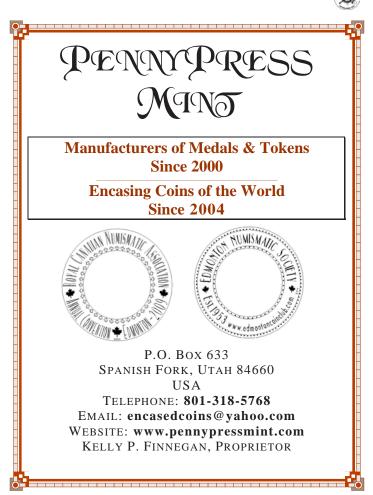
has a much earlier obverse that I haven't been able to find or explain.) The catalog itself alludes to this by stating in each listing if varieties exist or are known. However, while the lack of these two crucial sections detracts little from an otherwise excellent catalog, one can only hope that future print runs or editions will include these sections which would make this book the last word on German coinage from the late medieval period.

But not the whole answer ...yet

While this book is great for the subject matter it covers, there still is a lot more that can be done. I'm hoping that Krause takes this series and goes further back, say to 1379 which is considered to be the start of the Wendische Muenzverein, or the first real money union. True, coins were issued prior to 1379, but the number of issues is huge, and the quality is crude. This would be the point where most coinages in the German sphere of influence went to a more modern "look"; they were struck on both sides and featured complex designs, unlike the previous issues which were generally uni-face and crude. For those early issues, there is quite a bit of literature around, but most of it is 100 plus years old and mostly in German. As well there has to be a "cut-off" line that is agreeable to most everyone. Including the coinage from 1379-1500 would probably add another 500-600 pages to the listings in this book. This might make it very cumbersome to use. It is already bad enough that this 3rd edition is almost double as thick as the previous edition. The only change from the 2nd edition to this one is the addition of 100 years of more coins. This shows just how many issues there were in that stretch of time. The period of 1379-1500 would probably also have just as many or more issues, considering that the number of states remained relatively the same. The only wild-card would be the effect of the plague on the ruling classes, which necessitated coinage changes whenever they died. Also in this same period was an explosion of new denominations and fractions as more silver came into the country, and inflation took root. In one particular area that I collect, the Free City of Luebeck, there were 3 new denominations and about 5 ruler changes in this period alone. So inclusion of this material could make the catalog a bit unwieldy. But I'd still love to see it and hope that the editors someday do go that route and add at least another 100 years.

As long as I've been a coin collector, I've always hunted for good resource material to be able to organize and catalog my coins. (It must be some sort of inherent German thing, this perverse sense of order, referred to by Germans as "ordnung".) So when I saw this new catalog I knew I just had to have it. For those who like things modern,

it is available on CD as well. I personally prefer the book form because I can at least read it by candle light when the power goes out. And being a bit of a bibliophile, I can't get enough of books anyway. If I couldn't own it, I'd one day write it. It has always been a dream of mine to spend my retirement researching and writing that particular last medieval section. I've always found medieval coinage interesting, and the huge amount of German material would mean I could never work myself out of a job. I'd be able to crank off book after book that no one will probably ever read. I had dreams of loafing around Germany, visiting drafty old castles and museums in search of obscure coin cabinets, and then being able to write about what I had found while sitting in the shadow of some old church at some outdoor café somewhere. But, alas, the dream was nice while it lasted. Recent changes in my domestic situation, and the fact that all of my financial planners have seemingly lied to me when they said my pension would actually make money, have precluded any dreams of retirement. So it looks like I'm going to hope and wait until Krause publishes it for me. In the meantime, I can only hope that using that dreadful "Saurma" doesn't cost me any more pulled or grey hair or more broken glassware.







ENS Awards Night 2011



By Roger Grove

The 2nd annual "Go For The Gold" volunteer recognition awards were handed out at the December 2011 ENS meeting. A total of 45 silver Maple Leafs were presented for the General Volunteer category with another 11 presented for *The Planchet* category. The third category saw the ENS executive receive another Maple Leaf for their service to the club.

The winners of the gold coin draws were (British gold sovereign):

General Volunteer: Zoltan Miholy

• The Planchet: Roger Grove

Members who were not present can pick up their Maple Leaf at any upcoming meeting.

The meeting was capped with the traditional Christmas auction where all items are donated by ENS members, with all proceeds going to charity. The charity chosen this year was the Salvation Army. Members generously donated a total of 44 lots donated, raising an amazing amount of \$1,417.00 for the charity.



ENS President, David Peter, awarding Lance Casagrande with his silver Maple Leaf for Lance's participation in the General Volunteer category.

Mirko Dumanovic receiving his award for participation in the General Volunteer category.



Roger Grove, Editor-In-Chief and ENS Secretary, presenting Howard Gilbey with his silver Maple Leaf for volunteering with The Planchet.



One of the 44 lots in the annual ENS charity auction. Ray Neiman auctioneer and Howard Gilbey running lots.

Marc Bink, ENS Vice-President, presenting Zoltan Miholy with the gold sovereign for winning the Go For The Gold draw for General Volunteer category.



RICH as KROISOS



By Terence Cheesman

Kroisos was the King of Lydia who ruled from circa 560 to circa 547 B.C. He was an aggressive monarch who waged war on the Greek cities which were on the coast of what is now Turkey. The subject of numerous stories, one of the most famous involves the early misuse of intelligence. The Oracle of Delphi was one of the most important sites where people came to try to discover their futures. One of these was Kroisos. He wanted to know the outcome of a war that he was planning to fight with the Persian Empire. Told by the oracle that should he fight this war "a mighty kingdom will fall", he did and, the oracle was correct. A kingdom did fall, his.

He is generally given credit for being the first to create coinage made up of gold and silver coins. Previously coins were made from electrum, a naturally



lion seems to be on the verge of success. There has been some speculation that this image may be a reference to competing pagan religions, but this also seems very

occurring amalgam of gold and silver. By refining the metal he created a much higher value currency as he replaced the 14.2 gram electrum stater with a gold stater which weighed 10.9 grams. The silver coin or stater which weighed about the same was also minted. Fractions of both gold and silver coins were struck in some numbers. Sometime later this coinage was replaced by a light gold stater of 8.7 grams and a half stater or siglos which weighed about 5.4 grams and was tariffed at one twentieth of the gold stater. This coinage system was maintained by the Persians who eventually replaced the images found on these coins with ones of their own.

unlikely. Most likely, at least this time, the lion, which seems to be the symbol of the Kings of Lydia, is seen successfully attacking his enemies.

The image of the forepart of a lion attacking the forepart of a bull appears in both gold and silver and on all denominations of the coins. The lion was a popular symbol on ancient coins and was used frequently on coins minted by the kings of Lydia. However this motif of a lion attacking a bull is the first time this image shows up on coins, though the scene is a popular one in ancient near eastern art. Unfortunately there is no real consensus on the symbolism of this image. Though often a symbol of power, lions can represent chaos whose defeat by kings and later by Roman Emperors represents the triumph of order over chaos, civilization over barbarism and good over evil. However on these coins the lion seems to be in the dominate position of attacking the bull, and in later coin images the

The reverses are made up of one or more punches. On the siglos there are two, one slightly larger than the other. They seem to have been applied at the same time as there does not seem to be any flattening or other deformation which would be seen on the obverse had they been applied in sequence. As noted above the Persians maintained this coinage until about 500 B.C. when the first of their types was created. The weight standard was retained until sometime around 485 B.C. when the silver coinage had its weight increased to about 5.6 grams. The reasons for this are unknown. Usually when vast military expenditures are made the weight and fineness of the coins are reduced.

The origins of coinage are surrounded with more questions than answers. Many of the answers are really the most likely scenarios. However, even at this stage of development these primitive coins have features that are recognizable to us in our daily use of coins. They have a standardized image, weight and, within certain bounds, value. One thing that can be said for certain about coins is that for over 2500 years they have been a very useful and interesting invention.

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J.O.P - The Joseph Oliva Patenaude Story By Roger Grove



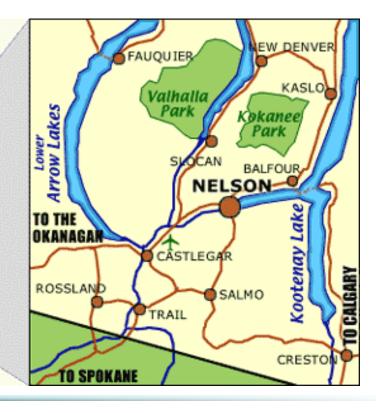
J.O. Pdollars have piqued the interest of the numismatic world for decades. It was not until October of 1959 that Larry Gingras unmasked the true identity of J.O.P – Joseph Oliva Patenaude. (Gingras, 1959) Gingras' article was the unearthing of the mystery behind the three simple letters countermarked into Canadian silver dollars which no one outside of Nelson, B.C. seemed to know. Why did this deliberate defacing of a coin become important to Canadian collectors when there had been many other noted countermarked coins from Canada?

Since 1935, select Canadian silver dollars would appear with this strange countermark. Collectors were puzzled by it, intrigued by it and some even disgusted by it. Its news spread quickly, and suddenly more people wanted to own one of these oddities. Eventually more countermarked coins started to turn up, on different years of coins and bearing different J.O.P countermarks, thus fueling the fire among collectors even further. Once Gingras put a name, a face and a reason to the J.O.P coin mystery, they became accepted as something legitimate to collect. Since Gingras' groundbreaking research of 1959, a lot has been written on Patenaude and his J.O.P dollars, but there remains much that we don't know about Patenaude and his coins. So I decided, after a half-century, that it was time to take the lead of Mr. Gingras and make a trip to the place where

all the countermarking occurred - Nelson, British Columbia.

Nelson is a small city located on the Kootenay River, in The West Kootenays of southwestern British Columbia. It is nestled in a mineral rich deposit in the in the Selkirk Mountains which contains countless elements including gold, silver, and molybdenum. When I arrived, I realized why Patenaude fell in love with the area, decided to set up his shop and call it home for 60 years. He had never intended to stay in Nelson, but while en route to the Alaska gold rush to earn his fortune, he found himself standing at a mountain station in early September, "watching the sun cast a ribbon on Kootenay Lake", and he knew this would be his final stop. (Riesterer, *Memories*, 1985)





After his arrival in Nelson. Patenaude set up his trade as a watchmaker and optician in the McKillop Block on West Baker Street under the name of Patenaude Bros. (1898 BC Gazeteer & *Directory*), this locale being his one and only business address until he retired in 1950.1 He added the title of "Jeweler" to his repertoire and completed all this from his same location. It was these jewelry talents that other authors have identified as most likely giving him the skills to successfully countermark coins without damaging them.

(Boyer, 2009) I had the luxury of seeing a few samples of his work at the Nelson and District Museum and was awestruck at the detail, complexity and skill of Patenaude's work. It became immediately apparent to me how easy it would have been for him to create a countermark and not damage the rest of the coin.

Patenaude was an entrepreneur, always looking for another way to cash-in. Knowing that Nelson was in a mining belt, he multiplied his skills, adding repair of surveying and mathematical instruments to his business. In the 1920's, there was an opportunity for him to financially back a man named Andrew French, who claimed to have invented a new method of smelting ore from zinc. This would revolutionize silver mining, thereby creating a huge boost to the local economy. This new method ended up not being new, and after a long battle with Cominco (Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co.), Patenaude eventually lost the battle when the Privy Council in England ruled that this smelting process had already been used successfully in other countries. (Lamb, 2005) The effects of the long litigation took a financial toll on Patenaude, and in 1930, he found himself exiting the jewelry business by selling to Ernest Collinson. Patenaude would work strictly as an optician until he retired in 1950 and sold his practice to Dr. Desmond T. Littlewood. (Riesterer, The Prospector, 1956)

1 Today the address of his location is 366 Baker Street. Various years of BC Directories have him located in as many as three different locations (125, 316 and 366 Baker Street). In questioning the archivist at the Nelson and District Museum, I discovered this was common in the founding years of the city. As the population grew it was necessary to add/change addresses to accommodate.

Despite his unsuccessful litigation, Patenaude remained an advocate

for silver, so he continued lobbying for a silver dollar in Canada. (Heritage,

1991) Small change was common, but when it came to low denomination bills, there simply were not any available in the Nelson area. The US silver dollar was a very common coin to see in financial transactions, and Patenaude wanted to see a Canadian version.

Besides being an entrepreneur, Patenaude was also a very staunch Roman Catholic who devoted his life to the church. He was a pillar of the Nelson parish of the Cathedral of

the Mary Immaculate and was a prime benefactor of St. Joseph's Elementary School and St. Joseph's High School. He later became actively involved in the construction of Mount St. Francis Infirmary and



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Notre Dame College of Nelson (currently Selkirk College in Nelson). It was in part because of his work and support for these projects that Patenaude Hall was named after him at the College. (Riesterer, The Prospector, 1956) His religious contributions did not go unnoticed; in August 1947, Pope Pius XII conferred on Patenaude the medal Pro

Ecclesiae et Pontiface for his services to the Catholic Church.

The J.O.P Countermark

After selling his jewelry business, Patenaude slimmed down his operations and concentrated on optical work; it was during that time that he began to

Patenaude outside his store in 1897.

countermark silver dollars. 2 According to Larry Gingras, he countermarked silver dollars as a celebration and tribute to his role in lobbying the Canadian Government to produce silver dollars. (Gingras, 1959) This has been the accepted theory of why Patenaude countermarked the coins, but why J.O.P? The easy explanation is that they are his initials, but further research indicates it may have been a marketing plan and not done in celebration as mentioned by previous authors. The Patenaude Bros. used the J.O.P. monogram over the years as the manufacturing stamp on their silver-work, but it was also used on other items they produced. Local residents recall Patenaude Bros. glasses cases, upon which the initials J.O.P were clearly printed in gold lettering.

Considering Patenaude used "J.O.P" on other pieces of his work, it may be that his countermarking of silver dollars was another method of advertising his business, not just a token to mark his success in getting silver dollar coinage. Gregory Brunk believes that this is also the case with Patenaude's J.O.P countermarking; that Patenaude used it for local publicity and not as a testament to his efforts with the silver dollar. (Brunk, 2003) At the time of publication I am still trying to locate some other artifacts from Patenaude Bros. with the J.O.P insignia but am finding it difficult. The items are scarce, such as the glasses cases, which were not normally collected and retained through the generations.

So how much hype was really surrounding the issue of the new Photo courtesy of Nelson and District Museum and Archives

2 I refer to Patenaude Bros. as "he" because as the legend goes, when he started Patenaude Bros. he had a brother with him. Shortly after beginning operations the brother left. I was unable to locate any documents that referenced Patenaude's brother and his role in the operations.

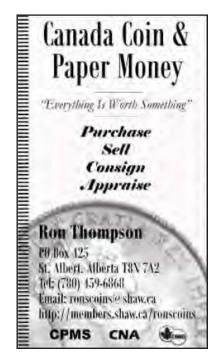


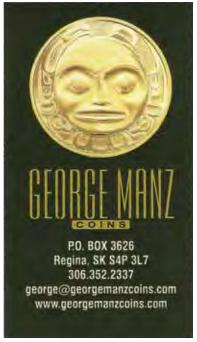
silver dollar in the Kootenays? Adds appeared in the *Nelson Daily News* from 1935 to inform the public: "First of New Canadian Silver Dollars are Received in City". A total of 600 silver dollars were received, with 100 going to the Imperial Bank and another 500 to the Royal Bank. Other banks were eagerly waiting for their shipments of the coins. By the time news of the

coins broke, citizens of Nelson could already be seen displaying the coins to acquaintances. An advertisement from the same May 2, 1935 Nelson Daily News shows that The Bay was taking advantage of the hype by giving away five new silver dollars free to lucky coupon holders. With the excitement of the new coins, how could an entrepreneur like Patenaude not find opportunity?



Patenaude inside his store in 1897.





Exactly how many J.O.P countermarked coins exist will never be known, but based on information reported by Larry Gingras, Patenaude ordered 1000 1935 silver dollars when they became available and stamped them all. I suspect, based on the number of 1935 countermarked J.O.P dollars that have been certified, that only a small portion were stamped.³ Also, knowing the initial volume of

^{3 2008} ICCS Population Report indicates only 44 JOP 1935 silver dollars have been certified in all grades.



600 silver dollars that were shipped to Nelson for the entire community, I doubt that he did actually receive all 1000 coins. This may mean that the number of 1935 J.O.P dollars is significantly lower than originally thought.

My travels to Nelson brought me into contact with George Coletti, a former coin collector who may be the last living person who not only personally knew Patenaude but also knew of his countermarking story. He informed me that Patenaude only punched 1935 and 1936 coins for regular distribution. Any other years of coins stamped by Patenaude were done as one-offs, as special requests by friends and citizens in Nelson.

Patenaude would spend his countermarked coins during his shopping trips around town. He dispersed them very sparingly and always included one in his payment to a business, but never more than one or two at a time. George Coletti recalls one instance of when Pat⁴ came into his parents' grocery store. When he purchased his groceries, he paid with a couple of brand-new 1935 J.O.P silver dollars and the remaining \$8.00 in bills. Even before the coins could make their way into the cash register, Mr. Coletti's mother put the coins aside and saved them. At one time he recalls having three or four of Patenaude's J.O.P dollars that his mother saved from their store on Baker Street and today still owns one beautiful

uncirculated 1935 sample.

Mr. Coletti also informed me that contrary to popular theory, the first stamp used by Patenaude was the Cross` Small Initials Type 2, and it eventually ended up getting lost. Patenaude manufactured a new stamp, the Type 1, and used it in his elderly years after his original stamp disappeared. This second stamp was used much less frequently; therefore, coins with it might be rarer than Type 2 coins. Chris Boyer has a wonderful picture of a Type 1 J.O.P stamped coin that does not fit this "perfectionist's label" that Patenaude had been given by Gingras. It clearly shows the J.O.P stamp rotated at about a 40 degree angle counter-clockwise. (Boyer, 2009) One might immediately label this coin as suspect, but in a discussion with Mr. Coletti, he indicated that Patenaude was having difficulties in stamping coins in his later years due to his age (poor eyesight and dexterity was showing in his work). There are apparently other examples of poorly stamped J.O.P coins in existence, and they should be considered as a rare variation of the norm; Pat was only doing them on special occasions for his closest friends.

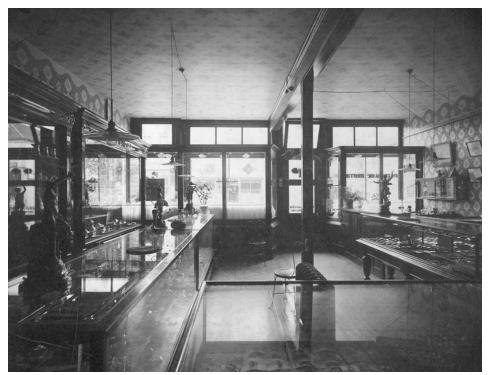
Of the body of work available on J.O.P dollars, the following years have known J.O.P countermarks: 1935 – 39, 1946, 1947 BL7, 1947 ML, and 1949 – 1954, including both 1952 WL and NWL. Early articles by Starr Gilmore indicate that there

⁴ His friends and the residents of Nelson called Patenaude "Pat".



Inside Patenaude's store in 1907. Top: view from the door.

Bottow: view from the counter.



existed also at least one 1948 J.O.P countermarked example, but he was not able to confirm this. (Gilmore, 1960, 1961) Gilmore even alludes to one 1948 dollar that was purchased with the J.O.P mark and was returned as defaced. The dealer subsequently told the customer the mark could be filled in with

silver as had been done on other examples. Little did he know what a rarity he had. If period dealers were filling some J.O.P countermarks in, then this will have reduced the already low numbers of available coins.

Mr. Coletti was able to confirm to me that he personally had

witnessed at least two examples of 1948 J.O.P dollars; in fact, he had them in his possession at one time. The only reason these two coins came into existence is because a good friend of Patenaude, Mr. Poulin, had attempted to collect four complete sets of J.O.P dollars in order to pass one set on to each of his children. ⁵ After Patenaude's retirement, Mr. Poulin obtained the remaining coins he required to complete the sets, including the four examples of the 1948 dollar, which proved to be a challenge, since they were already a rarity in the 1950s. Mr. Poulin took the remaining coins, including the 1948s, to Patenaude and had them all countermarked, leading to at least (and maybe at the most) only four complete sets of J.O.P stamped dollars (not including any varieties). The possibility exists that these four 1948 dollars may be the only ones ever countermarked by Patenaude. Mr. Coletti claims to have held one 1948 example with a beautiful J.O.P countermark on it. The location of these coins, should they still exist, remains to be discovered; apparently Mr. Poulin disposed of three sets decades ago. I was fortunate enough to purchase the last remaining set, which did not contain a 1948 dollar. The history of what occurred with this missing 1948 is unknown.

While in Nelson, one of my goals was to locate the punches, if they still existed, and to determine whether Cross' Type 3 and Type 4 were actually used by Patenaude. Chris Boyer indicates in his article that he spoke with Edward Doane, who claims to have purchased a Type 3 directly from Patenaude's housekeeper, thus validating its authenticity. I was hoping to support this

5 Mr. Poulin became a friend of Patenaude through Mr. Poulin's wife who worked for Patenaude in his jewelry manufacturing business.



The house that Patenaude lived in while in Nelson until his death.

claim. Preliminary research led me to believe that Desmond Littlewood, who purchased Patenaude's optometry business, received all Patenaude's punches. My attempts to follow up with Dr. Littlewood led to the discovery that he had passed away on January 21, 2008. (Nelson Daily News, 2008) In speaking with one of his sons, I was able to confirm that Patenaude did not leave anything non-optometry related to his father other than a series of four stoned-coloured lithograph WWI battle scenes, which Patenaude cherished.6 The Littlewoods unfortunately never had the punches, nor did they have anything to do with Patenaude's coin stamping. The fact that Patenaude was still countermarking coins for friends after retirement also supports the claim that the Littlewoods never had the punches.

My goal was to add to the body of research that already exists on Patenaude and J.O.P. dollars, so I hope that some of the outstanding questions that lingered now have an answer. Patenaude held the punches after he retired and was actively countermarking coins, but only for select individuals. This leads me to believe that

6 Pat was also a great lover of fine art, and he proudly hung these four stone lithographs in his office in his optometry shop for decades.

the "mintage" of some J.O.P. coins is fewer than previously thought. In addition to Patenaude's select countermarking, his attention to detail was lacking, and some coins do not fit his perfectionist label, possibly being rarer than anyone had thought. It is also apparent that there are more J.O.P. coins to be "discovered", including the four missing 1948 dollars, so keep watching and asking. Never underestimate a connection. After all, it may lead you to a once in a life-time purchase.

Afterword

The final piece of my J.O.P adventure was to find Patenaude himself, at least where he was laid to rest, and thank him for providing me with an outstanding adventure. The cemetery was exactly as I imaged it and the perfect place for Patenaude; a gorgeous scene overlooking the entire city of Nelson and the surrounding mountains. I don't think he would have wanted it any other way, and I would not ask for anything different in my adventure either... Thanks, Pat.

More Facts About Pat:

Born in Iberville, Quebec on October 23, 1871.

- He was a lover of water sports, especially speed boat racing, so much that he created the Patenaude Launch Trophy in 1908, the Kootenay Lake speed boating championship. Each year he would create a plaque for the winner and add it to the trophy. The trophy is now housed in the Nelson and District Museum.
- He was one of the first Canadians to receive a diploma in optometry.
- He owned a theater in Penticton, B.C.
- He was the Dean of City Businessmen.
- He served on the Nelson City Council in 1920.
- He was a member of the Board of Trade.
- He never married but brought up four homeless children who were entrusted to him before WWI.

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The Patenaude Launch Trophy just prior to its retirement. The trophy is now housed in the Nelson and District Museum.

LA MARSEILLAISE a brief history



By Pierre Driessen

Few national anthems are as moving and emblematic as that of France. It celebrates her citizens' struggle for dignity and continues to call them to arms to defend their rights against tyranny. Its origins are fascinating, and its adoption as a national song was anything but assured.

It was early April 1792 the National Convention, France's revolutionary government, had just declared war on the monarchies of Europe. The French armies prepared to cross France's frontiers to bring their revolution to all of Europe. At the same time, the monarchies of Europe had mobilized their troops. Prussian, Austrian, Hessian and émigré forces - a motley collection of adventurers, French aristocrats, individuals fleeing the purges of the Revolutionary governments in Paris and those loyal to the Ancien Regime - under the command of the Duke of Brunswick, were poised to strike at Alsace-Lorraine, France's frontier with the Holy Roman Empire.¹

During the night of 25 - 26 April 1792, in a state of revolutionary excitement, Claude Joseph Rouget de Lisle, a captain of engineers with the French Army of the Rhine stationed in the Alsace frontier city of Strasbourg, wrote a patriotic song.² Originally called *'Chant de guerre pour l'Armée du Rhin'*, it was dedicated to the army's commander Count Nicolas Luckner.³

De Lisle's music for the song was derived from the 'Variazioni sulla Margesiliese per violino e orchestra' by the Italian composer Giovanni Battista Viotti.4 Although originally intended to be the 'War Song of the Army of the Rhine', it quickly became the rallying cry for the French Revolution. In rapid fashion, it was widely distributed. Having been played at a patriotic banquet in the southern French city of Marseilles, it was adopted by the revolutionary volunteer forces of that city when they marched towards Paris. Upon entering Paris, the Marseilles volunteers were singing the song. When these same Marseilles volunteers marched upon and then stormed the Tuileries Palace on 10 August 1792, they did so accompanied by this very song.6,7

As a consequence, in the popular imagination, it became known as *la Marseillaise*. The National Convention officially adopted *la Marseillaise* as the French National anthem

on 14 July 1795 - Bastille Day. It remained so until the First Republic came to an end in 1804. During the reigns of Napoléon I (1804 - 1814/15), Louis XVIII (1814/15 - 1824) and Charles X (1824 - 1830) *la Marseillaise* was banned.⁸

Following the July Revolution of 1830, it was briefly reinstated. Around this time the famous French composer Hector Berlioz orchestrated the anthem's music and dedicated the composition to de Lisle.9

During the reign of Napoléon III (1852 - 1870), it was again banned. Not until 1879 was it officially restored to its prominence as France's national anthem, a place of honor it has retained to this day. There were many versions however. It was



Obverse: bust of Claude Joseph Rouget de Lisle. Legend: ROUGET DE LISLE AUTEUR DE LA MARSEILLAISE (Rouget de Lisle author of the Marseillaise)

not until 1887, that a commission of professional musicians settled upon the official version, having reworked both the music and lyrics.¹¹

La Marseillaise

composer Claude Joseph Rouget de Lisle's did not gain the prominence nor acclaim his creation did. He was swept up in the maelstrom of the period called the Terror (1793 - 4), the time when Madame de Guillotine reigned supreme. Denounced and cashiered, he was thrown into prison in 1793. He was a moderate, who perhaps favored a constitutional monarchy; as such it is believed he refused to swear allegiance to

it is believed he refused to swear allegiance to the new Revolutionary Constitution following Louis XVI's decapitation. De Lisle narrowly escaped the guillotine himself and was freed following the end of the Terror. 12

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Reverse: the lyrics of the Marseillaise, with symbols of the French Republic - the fascia and Phrygian hat. Copper bronzed, 41mm, by Rogat, 1855.

He was born on 10 May 1760 in the town Lons-le-Saunier in the département of Jura near the Swiss border and died on 26 June 1836 in the town of Choisy-le-Roi in the former département of Seine-et-Oise near Paris, in obscurity. In his lifetime he wrote several little known operas and romances.¹³

It was not until 14 July 1915, Bastille Day, that he was officially recognized by the French nation for his contribution. His ashes were transferred from Choisy-le-Roi to *les Invalides* in Paris.¹⁴

Today, *Ia Marseillaise* is one of the most recognizable national anthems in the world. Having graduated from a revolutionary battle song and survived official repression, it perseveres. It embodies the revolutionary spirit and captures the popular imagination, extolling French men and women to great sacrifices in the name of their nation and freedom. It recalls the fierce and bloody struggle, which accompanied the foundation of the modern French state and the beginnings of the transformation of the European continent from feudal and absolute monarchies to modern democracies.



Lyrics of the Marseillaise (1887 version): 5

Arise you children of our Motherland! Oh now is here our glorious day! Over us the bloodstained banner, Of tyranny holds sway! (repeat) Oh do you hear there in our fields The roar of those fierce fighting men? Who came right here into our midst To slaughter sons, wives and kin

refrain: To arms, oh citizens!

Form up in serried ranks! March on, march on! And drench our fields With their tainted blood!

What do they want this horde of slaves, Of traitors and conspiratorial kings? For whom these vile chains, These long-prepared irons? (repeat) Frenchmen, for us, ah! What outrage! What methods must be taken; It is we they dare plan

To return to the old slavery!

What! These foreign cohorts
They would make laws in our courts!
What! These mercenary phalanxes
Would cut down our warrior sons! (repeat)
Good Lord! By chained hands!
Our brow would yield under the yoke!
The vile despots would have themselves be
The masters of destiny!

Tremble, tyrants and traitors,
The shame of all good men!
Tremble! Your parricidal schemes
Will receive their just reward. (repeat)
Against you we are all soldiers.
If they fall, our young heros,
France will bear new ones
Ready to join the fight against you.

Frenchmen, as magnanimous warriors
Bear or hold back your wounds!
Spare these sad victims,
That they regret taking up arms against us! (repeat)
But not these bloody despots!
These accomplices of Bouillé!
All these tigers who pitilessly
Ripped out their mothers' wombs!

Supreme devotion to our Motherland,
Guides and sustains avenging hands
Liberty, oh dearest Liberty,
Come fight with your shielding bands. (repeat)
Beneath our banner come, oh Victory,
Run at your soul-stirring cry.
Oh come, come see your foes now die,
Witness your pride and our glory.











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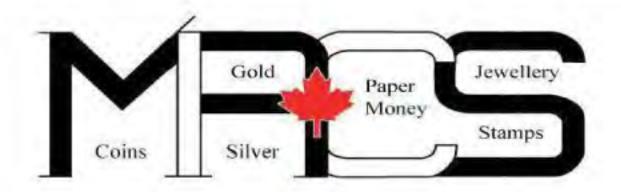
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