

Edmonton Numismatic Society's

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REGAL HALF-
PENNIES

Next Meeting:
December 9, 2009



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Message from the President

We have had another successful show thanks to all the hard work of our dedicated volunteers. As this is our third show this year, many were unsure of how well this show would be. We have once again shown the Canadian numismatic community that Edmonton has the support and dedication of its local members. I would like to thank all that helped out, both the faces that we've come to rely on and some new volunteers.

Once again, I would like to remind all members that there will be a donation auction at the December meeting. The proceeds will benefit some well deserving local community organizations.

David Peter, Vice-President ENS 

Edmonton Numismatic Society

P.O Box 75024, Ritchie P.O.

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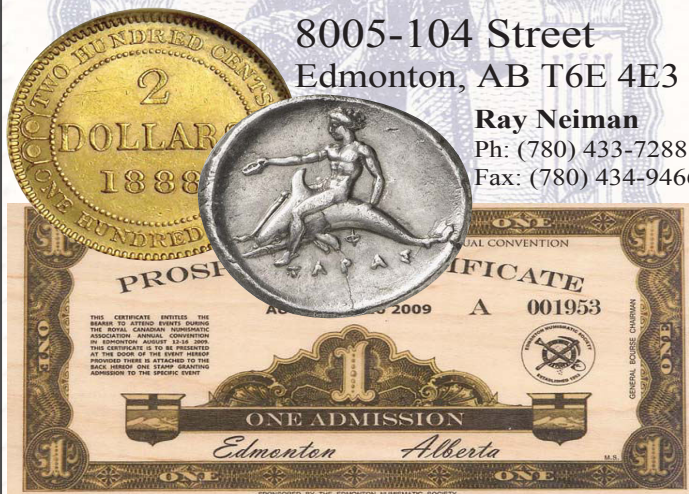
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About Your Society

The October club meeting began with opening comments and welcome from Vice-President David Peter.

The members were reminded about the Edmonton Money Show coming in a couple of short weeks. At this point we were expecting strong dealer and public turnout.

Another thank you went out to the volunteers who helped to make the RCNA convention a success. To show appreciation for all their efforts, the ENS and the RCNA were taking all volunteers and their spouses out to dinner at Ernst's restaurant at NAIT's culinary school.

A request went out to the membership from the executive for a new editor for The Planchet. Matt, the previous editor, made a personal decision to leave the ENS. The executive thanked him for his service to the club and for taking The Planchet from good to great.

Door prizes were presented and a silent auction was conducted of member's items. The meeting adjourned and several members made their way over to Boston Pizza on 124 street.

The dinner at Ernst's was well attended with about 45 members and spouses. The attendees were treated to a wonderful experience by the NAIT culinary school and the ENS wishes to extend their gratitude for making a pleasant evening for all. After dinner, ENS Secretary Mark Bink and Vice-President David Peter presented certificates of appreciation as well as limited edition personalized medals to all volunteers.



The November meeting was started when Vice-president, David Peter opened up welcoming members.

The new Editor-In-Chief of The Planchet, Roger Grove, was announced. It was also announced that The Planchet would be undergoing some improved formatting changes, including a redesigned cover and a desire to have more articles. The Planchet is always looking for members to submit articles, stories, letters to the editor, etc., as long as submissions have a tie into numismatics. Submissions can be done in any format and sent to the editor_ens@yahoo.ca e-mail. We welcome any topics and would really like to see some more Canadian content. Reminder that classified ads are free to members. The ENS will re-apply to the RCNA for newsletter of the year; we want your feedback on The Planchet. Comment: the addition of Dean Silver's, dts Average, is a great addition as well as the articles. If members get the on-line version it comes in full colour.

Special thanks went out to Terry Cheesman and Bill Demontigny for all the work they did with the displays at the recent show. Members were reminded that anyone can complete a display – if you need assistance talk to an ENS executive or director for more information. The RCNA conference had a lot of displays which had a link to numismatics and some may not have originally thought of topics in those areas. It showed that you can be very creative for displays and is a great way to show off some of your favourite items.

A very fitting movie from the Canadian Forces about military medals was shown on this being Remembrance Day. It included history of many medals, how they were made and awarded.

After the movie, a show and tell was done where a few members discussed some of their new treasures found at the Edmonton Money Show. Door prizes were drawn and the member silent auction was completed. This meeting saw one of the largest silent auctions within the last year. The meeting was adjourned and members proceeded to the Boston Pizza on 124 street to further discuss numismatics and socialize.




Message From The Editor

The Benefit of Society Meetings Extended To Non-Attending Members as "Member's Minute"

There are many obvious reasons to attend the Edmonton Numismatic Society's monthly meetings: education, comradery, show-and-tell, silent auctions, and presentations, only to name a few reasons. Unfortunately, not all members always have the ability to attend in person and they in essence are missing out on one of the major benefits of being a member. Conversely, members who can not attend do not get their voice heard, they do not get to bring their treasures and show everyone, nor do they have the opportunity to have questions answered about numismatics.

Understanding that the non-attending members accounts for about 90% of the membership, the ENS needs to hear from them too. To do this, we have created a new column titled Member's Minute. This column is dedicated to the distance members and

we hope it provides them with an avenue to ask their numismatic questions or provides them with an opportunity to have their say on ENS issues.

We need and want to hear from you all. If we can't answer your question, chances are that someone else will and we hope they write in the answer for us all. Now put your pen to paper or fingers to keyboard and I hope to hear from you all soon. 

Roger Grove
Editor-In-Chief, The Planchet

About the Edmonton Numismatic Society:
The Edmonton Numismatic Society is western Canada's premier and most diverse numismatic collector club. Founded in 1953 to bring together those individuals interested in collecting and studying Canadian Coins and Paper Money, US Coins and Paper Money, Ancient Coins, Mediaeval Coins, World Coins and Paper Money, Medals, Exonumia and any other related subject area.

Next Club Meeting

December 2009

Wednesday, 9 December, 2009

Royal Alberta Museum 12845 - 102 Avenue

Doors open at 7:00 pm Meeting starts 7:30pm



Please join us this December
and meet fellow collectors from
the Edmonton area.

- *preparation for February 2010 annual elections
- *Refreshments
- *door prizes draw
- *talk: "Coins of the Balkans"
by: Mirko Dumanovic
& MORE!

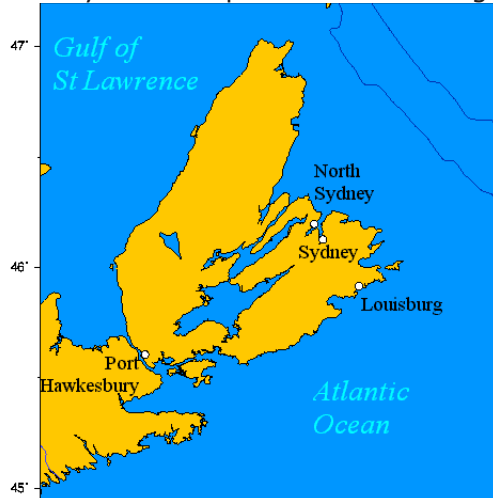
Please bring any items for a silent auction. All proceeds will be donated to a charity to be decided upon at the meeting.

For more information regarding these events, please send an email to editor_ens@yahoo.ca

1895 Society of Colonial Wars Relic Medal

By M. Goudreau

As those of you who know me can attest, I collect numismatic items from across a wide spectrum of fields, I am however always looking for items with Canadian connections. One item that sparked my interest, although issued in the United States in 1895 by *The Society of Colonial Wars*, was the War Relic Medal. What turned out to be its *raison d'être* is the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the capture of Louisbourg in 1745.

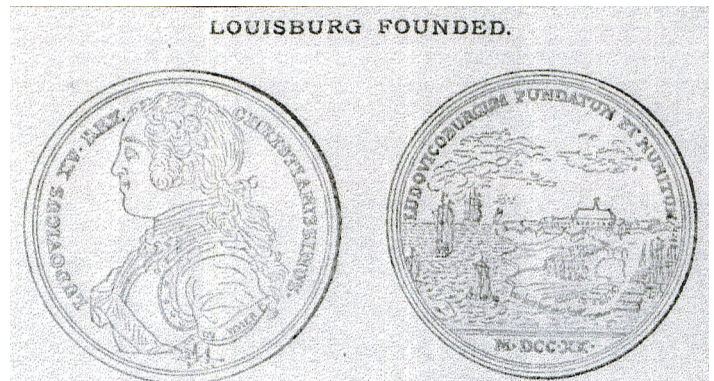


Map courtesy of Wikipedia.

The *Society of Colonial Wars* was incorporated in New York on Oct 7, 1892. A General Society was founded in 1893 and now consists of 32 state societies. It's a hereditary organization consisting of men that trace their lineage to an ancestor who assisted in the establishment, defense, and preservation of the American Colonies. As indicated in *The Preamble of the Articles of Incorporation of the General Society* they "seek to collect and preserve manuscripts, rolls, relics, and records; to hold suitable commemorations, and to erect memorials relating to the American Colonial period".

Louisbourg is located on Nova Scotia's Cape Breton Island which was known as Isle Royale during the French Regime. The French settled there in 1713 after ceding Acadia and Newfoundland to the British in accordance with the Treaty of Utrecht, while retaining Isle Royale and Isle Saint Jean (now Prince Edward Island) in today's Maritime Provinces. France began construction of the fortified town in 1719, and in 1720 King Louis XV issued a series of "Louisbourg Founded" medals in gold, silver and copper to commemorate this

event. The reverse on all these are the same, which is a view of the fortress of Louisbourg, along with wharfs, warehouses and ships in the harbour. Most European powers were participants in the War of Austrian Succession which was fought from 1740 – 1748. The campaign in North America, known as King George's War was contested between France and Great Britain in 1744 – 1748. This was the third of four French and Indian Wars. As New England was preparing for war in late 1744



American Colonial History Illustrated by Contemporary Medals (1894) by the late C. Wyllys Betts,

and early 1745, William Shirley the Governor of Massachusetts campaigned to convince the British colonies that an attack on Louisbourg was feasible. Economical and political concerns, promises of loot, and claims of weak defenses convinced the Massachusetts House of Representatives on February 5, 1745 to approve the attack. William Pepperrell, a merchant and soldier from Kittery, Maine which was then part of Massachusetts, was appointed commander-in-chief of the expedition. He was supported by a British naval squadron commanded by Peter Warren, a Royal Navy officer from Ireland.

A land force of four thousand men from Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and New York embarked on the invasion fleet in early May. A naval blockade was set up outside Louisbourg, as the force assembled sixty miles away at the New England seasonal fisheries outpost of Canso on the eastern tip of Nova Scotia's mainland. While waiting for the spring ice to clear their intended anchorage site at Gabarus Bay near Louisbourg, the force helped rebuild Canso's defenses which was captured and destroyed by the French in 1744.

The fleet entered Gabarus Bay on May 11, 1745 and after a brief skirmish, had men holding positions ashore within three miles of the fort. In the days and weeks following the landings, the invading force gradually established several batteries to bombard the French and moved into positions closer and closer to the fort. The New Englanders faced some difficulties with disease such as dysentery and a devastating failed attack on the defender's Island Battery on June 6. Overall, the siege went very well and by mid June the attackers were in a great position to launch a final combined land and naval assault on the battered fort. Louis du Pont Duchambon, the French commander, surrendered Louisbourg on June 17 after securing favourable terms. The garrison was able to march out with the honours of war and all personnel were repatriated to France with their personal property. This angered the invaders who were promised the captured booty when they initially joined the invasion force.

Louisbourg's capture was the American colonies most important military achievement prior to the American Revolution. Jubilation greeted the news of Louisbourg's capture in New England and the

British government in London was elated. William Pepperrell was awarded a baronet and Peter Warren a knighthood. To the dismay of the colonists, Louisbourg was given back to the French in 1748 under the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle which caused great resentment towards Great Britain. A second siege would be required in 1758 to permanently drive out the French.

The Society of Colonial Wars 150th Anniversary commemorative medal has a diameter of 2 inches (50.8mm) and is made from bronze. The most interesting thing, however is that the metal used to strike these medals came from cannons recovered from a French ship sunk in Louisbourg harbour on July 21 during the siege of 1758. In a June 16, 1895 *New York Times* article the ship was identified as the *Célèbre*. The accuracy of this is questionable because the *Célèbre*'s location in Louisbourg harbour was only positively identified by Parks Canada in the 20th century. It's possible that the cannons could also have come from the *Entreprenant* or the *Capricieux* because all three ships were destroyed as they drifted across the harbour in an enormous fire ignited by the *Célèbre* after being hit by British cannons. The large



The obverse has the profiles of Warren and Pepperrell along with their names. There are two small medallions bearing the figures of a North American Indian and a Colonial Soldier. The lettering around the medal is inscribed: SOCIETY OF COLONIAL WARS. NIL DESPERANDUM CHRISTO DUCE (Despair of nothing while Christ leads) IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 150th ANNIVERSARY OF THE CAPTURE JUNE 17 1745.

The reverse is a reproduction of the Louisbourg Founded medal issued by France in 1720: LUDOVICOBURGUM FUNDATUM ET MUNITUM (Louisbourg founded and fortified). The exergue has the date: M.DCC.XX. (1720)

amount of wrecks from the siege makes underwater identification complicated.

The general idea of the medal was the suggestion of Howard Pell, the Chairman of the Louisbourg Memorial Committee of the General Society of Colonial Wars. The medal was designed by James H. Whitehouse of the world famous Tiffany & Co in New York City which also struck the medals. As an aside, collectors of currency may be surprised to learn that in 1885 Tiffany's revised the Great Seal of the United States and this design still adorns the one dollar bill.



Pictures courtesy of author. Louisbourg in 2002.

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A Penny's Worth

By Marc Bink

16th and early 17th centuries; milling starting in around 1650 or so.

And now the history lesson; In the Beginning...

From Thalers to Dollars

In a previous article, I wrote about an early Saxon Thaler that I found at one of our semi-annual Money Shows. We rarely see these huge, expensive silver coins here, and I have always wanted to build a collection of them. At the last RCNA Convention that was held in Edmonton I was able to increase my collection of them without bankrupting myself. So I've decided to do a series of articles on these coins, it should work out to 4 parts in all. For starters, I wanted to write a brief history of the Thaler, giving the reader a basic background as to how the coin came about and briefly trace its evolution into our dollar of today. I hope that this will establish a frame of reference for the remaining articles. However, since the topic is so large, a lot of the background history detailing the politics and economics of Europe will have to be omitted. Primarily out of fear of boring the reader to death, but mostly because this isn't the proper forum for it. (It is fascinating stuff though!) So I would implore you to put away the ropes and bear with me for a while.

So what is a Thaler?

The Thaler was a large sized silver coin used in Europe for about 400 years; it provided a benchmark upon which many local small currencies were based. It gave Europe a standard unit of trade, and its size and purity was surprisingly strictly regulated in order to facilitate trade between the thousands of tiny city-states, duchies, provinces, and kingdoms that made up the Holy Roman Empire. In many cities and states, it was the largest general circulating coin and would probably be worth, in its heyday, about a week's wages for a skilled labourer. In its most common form, around the middle of the 17th century, its weight and purity was established to be 29.1 grams, and a purity of no less than .889 silver. Actual diameters vary; some are thin and large, others are thicker and about the same size as a modern silver dollar. Most were hammered in the



Joachims thaler; Czech government copy, 1967.

The Holy Roman Empire was a very loose confederation of kingdoms, duchies, and city-states that existed from around 800 AD to its ultimate disintegration in 1815. It consisted of the areas in Europe that are now called Germany, Austria, the Czech Republic, and Italy; at various times parts of France, the Low Countries and Poland were included. A Holy Roman Emperor, elected from one of the participating states by a group of Electors, nominally ruled this sprawling mass. In the day and age of the Thaler, the Hapsburg family was the dominant ruling family of Europe. They had embarked on a course that would see them holding lands from Spain through the Low Countries into Germany and Austria proper. During the 1500's the Hapsburgs were engaged in constant wars to try and gain control of all of Europe, and they just about succeeded too. The Hapsburgs had managed to sway Electors and Dukes to support them, those that didn't were subject to threats, economic sanctions, and outright war. The

Hapsburg attempt at hegemony in all of Europe ended with the 30 Years war of 1618-48. So in a nutshell, the Holy Roman Empire was nothing but a bunch of warring factions that could barely get along with each other, and when they did, they needed a standard unit of currency with which to trade. This is where the Thaler came in. It more or less became Europe's first "Euro". The Hapsburg's attempts at domination may have left the Holy Roman Empire's economy in a shambles, devaluing the Thaler, but it remained the prime unit of exchange throughout the next 200 years.

As a result of always being at war, much of Europe's coinage was of pretty poor quality by the end of the fifteenth century. There were literally hundreds of different types of currency, as every city-state, duchy, or kingdom had its own unit of currency. There was no standard between any of them, due to many factors, the primary one being the state's financial situation. Some were tied to a similar value system, like the North German

Schilling of the Hanseatic League, but in most cases it was conceivable that two towns 5 miles apart could be using two different currencies. In order to finance the constant battles and keep armies in the field, rulers were forced to debase and re-evaluate whatever silver coinage they had access to. As a result, there was a lot of theft and pillaging going on as these rulers sought to keep themselves solvent. A lot of precious silver and gold also wound up heading east in the silk and spice trade. It got so bad that some groschen style coins were debased to the point of only having 5 % silver content, rendering them essentially worthless. At the end of the 15th century, some large silver deposits were being discovered, and mines were beginning to open up. In 1484, Archduke Sigismund of Tirol issued the first Halb-Guldengroschen, of roughly 15 grams. These coins are incredibly rare, and it seems it was a trial strike, but it set a standard. It wasn't until the big silver mine at Schwaz opened up that a true Thaler sized coin made its appearance 2 years later, also minted by Sigismund at Hall. This coin was double the size of the previous coin, and was called the Guldengroschen, or "guildiner". It was soon adopted by other states that had access to the required amounts of silver. Since this was the early Renaissance, coin engravers began making elaborate and beautiful designs featuring and emphasizing the heraldry and shields of the rulers they were working for. Also popular at the time was to depict the ruler as realistic as possible, and as a result there were some pretty unflattering portraits made that have provided amusement for generations. Take a look at Krause's 1600-1700 catalog in the Saxony section and you'll see what I mean.

Finally; a real Thaler!

The first "real" Thaler came from an area in what is now the Czech Republic called Bohemia. The silver for this issue came from an area called Joachimsthal, named after the father of the Virgin Mary. (The name "Joachim", and "thal" in German means "Joachim's valley") St. Joachim is depicted on the reverse of the coin, and the Bohemian Lion is on the obverse; minting began in around 1518. These coins, as well as others minted from silver mined in adjacent areas were

soon referred to as "Thalers", meaning "from the valley", and soon the name stuck and they soon became the accepted standard for coinage. As a result Bohemia got rich selling silver. Saxony was an early trading powerhouse that went exclusively over to the Thaler standard, and was prominent in setting the standards for this denomination. These early Thalers circulated alongside the guildiner, and eventually became more prominent as the guildiner was devalued. The Thaler could be called Europe's first "Euro", as it became the standard freely convertible denomination throughout Europe. In a 1566 Saxon Money Edict, the guildiner was eliminated as a denomination, and was fully replaced by a Thaler.



Bavarian Thaler, Munich mint 1694. Check out Max's wild hair-do!

Standards for the purity and weight of these coins were set at various conferences and summits throughout the 17th through 19th centuries. The last one was the Vienna Monetary Contract of 1857, which finally took the Thaler off the old 12th century Cologne Mark standard. The new rate at which the Thaler was to be set at was deemed to be 900 silver, weighing 18.5 grams. This new coin, the "Vereinsthaler", was supposed to set a uniform standard between the North and South German customs zones, and the Hapsburg Empire. This "Vereinsthaler" remained in various forms until 1931, when the last examples were finally demonetized. This final Thaler incarnation in Germany was the 3 Reichsmark coin, which in colloquial German was still referred to as a "Thaler". The funny thing though, was that the new 5 Mark coin issued starting in 1871 was exactly the same size as the pre-1850's Thalers that preceded it, yet it was never referred to as a Thaler.

Thalers, Thalers everywhere...

Coins of the same size and similar specifications were minted in other countries outside of the Holy Roman Empire as well. In Scandinavia the Thaler was called Taler, or Daler, in Denmark it was referred to as "rigsdaler", and in Sweden it was called the "riksdaler". These coins were circulated until around 1873, when the Danish Krone, and the Swedish Krona replaced them. In the Netherlands, the Thaler was called the "Rijksdaalder", or "leeuwendaalder". The later coin also circulated extensively in North America until

the British assumed control of the Dutch colony of New Amsterdam. As an aside, Dutch "Lion Dollars" circulated in Romania and Moldova, contributing its name to their national currencies, the "Leu".



German 3 Marks, or a "Vereinsthaler". Luebeck, 1911, (Berlin Mint). Colloquially these coins were referred to as "Thalers" by the public.

In Britain, a Thaler sized coin was made starting in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, it was referred to as a "Crown". These silver coins were minted alongside gold versions of the same denomination, and were initially not very popular. This soon changed as England slowly slid into civil war. The silver crown became a standard, becoming more popular than the gold coin it replaced by the reign of Charles I. The Crown issues of Charles I were crude when compared to their continental counterparts, a sure

indication of just how far standards slide during a war. Most were made on irregular planchets, and the striking quality was poor. The example that exists in my collection is indicative of the type, and almost embarrassingly ugly. However, by the time of the Restoration, England had improved the quality of its mint by replacing the hammers and switching over to a milled process, and soon the English Crown was as pretty and well made as anything on the continent. It was set at 5 shillings, with 4 Crowns making a Pound, or a Sovereign. It was referred to colloquially as a Dollar, an Anglicization of the German "Thaler" due to its convertibility to a continental Thaler. Half Crowns were referred to as "Half Dollars", and these coins also circulated in North America throughout the British Colonies.

And finally, the Dollar comes into being



In North America, Spanish coins circulated along with British and Dutch issues. The English coinage that the colonies were supposed to be using was usually in short supply, so anything of a similar fineness and weight was used and an exchange rate was established between them in English pounds. These Spanish 8 Reales pieces were

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1900 PCGS MS65RB	\$3000.00+	\$2000.00		1887 ICCS AU50 Cl.	\$3500.00	\$2800.00
1916 ICCS MS65RD	\$650.00	\$550.00		1912 PCGS MS63	\$1750.00	\$1350.00
Five Cent				Fifty Cent		
1875H LD PCGS VF30	\$1200.00	\$1100.00		1872H PCGS MS62	\$9000.00	\$7800.00
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1897 N8/W8 PCGS AU55	\$550.00	\$475.00		1890H PCGS EF45	\$12600.00	\$10520.00
1899 PCGS MS64	\$1100.00	\$800.00		1914 PCGS MS63	\$15000.00	\$12000.00
1925 ICCS EF45	\$550.00	\$450.00		1947 MLCR ICCS EF40		\$5200.00
Ten Cent				One Dollar		
1872H ICCS AU50	\$1350.00	\$1050.00		1938 PCGS MS64	\$825.00	\$675.00
1875H PCGS AU53	\$5400.00	\$4000.00		1945 ICCS MS63	\$900.00	\$750.00
1884 PCGS EF45	\$3875.00	\$3000.00		1946 PCGS MS64	\$1600.00	\$1350.00
1889 PCGS VF25	\$3750.00	\$3300.00		1948 MS60	\$1900.00	\$1750.00
1893RT ICCS VF20	\$4000.00	\$3850.00		1950 PCGS MS66	\$1500.00	\$1200.00
Currency				1912 DC-21c F	\$1200.00	\$1150.00
1870 Commercial Bank \$5.00 F&B PF	\$1900.00	\$1400.00		1935 BC-3 \$2.00 EF++	\$1250.00	\$1000.00
1870 Commercial Bank \$10.00 F&B PF	\$1900.00	\$1400.00		1935 BC-9b PCGS VF20	\$2200.00	\$1890.00
1872 Molsons Bank \$4.00 F&B PF	\$2500.00	\$1950.00		1935 BC-11 F+	\$4800.00	\$4600.00
1878 DC-8e-iii-o \$1.00 F-15	\$1325.00	\$1100.00		1937 BC-27b \$100 Unc. +	\$1150.00	\$975.00
1887 DC-11 \$2.00 F	\$2400.00	\$1900.00		1954 BC-34a \$50.00 CUnc.	\$1650.00	\$1450.00
1897 DC-14b Abt. VF	\$1750.00	\$1400.00				

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referred to as "Pieces of 8", or "Dollars". Some were countermarked or holed, called "Holey-dollars". These coins circulated until after the introduction of the American Dollar in 1793. The Americans called their new currency "Dollar", no doubt because there were so many Spanish and Dutch "dalers" floating around and because they didn't want a currency associated with the British Crown. Weights for the new US Dollar were based on the English Crown and the German Thalers, and all other types of coinage were rendered irrelevant. However, the proliferation of foreign coinage was continued in British Canada, and it wasn't until 1854 when the Halifax standard established that a British Crown would be convertible to 1 local Dollar. The first Province of Canada issues were also set to this tariff, so 1 Dollar Canadian became equivalent to 1 British Crown, or 5 shillings.



An early English Crown, Charles I under Parliament, 1642. The English Civil war was well underway, and the coinage suffered. This Coin is typical of what was made then, crude and irregular and softly struck.

Collecting the Thaler

Throughout the 17th century, most of the states in the Holy Roman Empire minted Thalers, and Thaler multiples. The larger coins are very rare and expensive to obtain today. The proliferation of Thalers minted by all the various states of the

Holy Roman Empire would fill a book the size of a phone book. John S. Davenport's book "Standard Price Guide to World Crowns & Talers 1484-1968" provides a standard catalog for these issues. Most are very beautiful examples of Renaissance Art, with intricate engraving and portraiture. Some of these coins will be detailed in future articles. The Saxon, Austrian, Bavarian and Brunswick series of Thalers are probably the most well known today, and probably the most sought after by modern collectors. For the more "advanced" collector, there were a number of Hungarian, Italian, and Czech based Thalers that were very beautiful, and highly sought after. The lesser German city-states are also avidly collected today. The mintage figures (when known) for any set of Thalers are low. Values for any of these coins could hardly be described as cheap. German Thalers were really "hot" in the mid-eighties and early nineties, and have



English Crown, (Thaler sized) William III, 1696. This one is quite worn, but it shows that British Coins had improved a great deal since the earlier issues of Charles I.



Free Hanseatic City of Luebeck, Thaler of 48 Schilling, 1752. Johann Justus Jaster, Mintmaster in Luebeck.

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been in a bit of slump since. Earlier coins from the 16th and 17th centuries are far more expensive than those from the 18th and 19th centuries. The "cheapest" set would be some of the Saxon states, and they typically are found at auctions or shows starting at around \$200.00 and can very easily get into the thousands. There are a number of factors that contribute to the price; - rarity being the largest factor, and then beauty, followed by monarch or ruler.

Collectors should be aware that most of the surviving coins have been cleaned and usually were mounted into jewelry at some point, so the key would be to find one that has the most eye appeal and proper weight when buying one. An original "survivor" with mild cabinet marks, natural toning, and that has never been mounted are probably the most sought after by collectors, and are by far the most expensive. Problem coins are far more common and they have a nasty habit of turning up with huge price tags affixed to them at dealers who don't really have a good knowledge base of these coins. These coins are very popular in Europe, and not as avidly collected here in North America. The coins I bought would be considered "problem"



The Three Brothers Thaler, Saxony, Chemnitz Mint, 1598. Hans Biener, mintmaster. A must have in any collection of German Thalers!

coins over in Europe, but here they're considered acceptable, since they're so seldom seen. The best thing the new North American collector can do is to educate himself in what he wants to collect and not buy the first coin he sees. Most books, with the exception of the Krause series of catalogs, tend to price these coins with European standards of grading, which means that what we consider EF is actually VF or even F in a European catalog. European EF is closer to our AU. As a result, many dealers here in North America tend to over-grade these coins and do straight conversions on European pricing, not taking into account that there is virtually no market for these coins here. The best place to look for these coins is on-line with European dealers. There are a number of on-line shops that deal in good quality Thalers, with pricing to match. Recently, there have been quite a few high-end coins offered at auctions, either on-line or at shows or conventions, and some third party grading services have started "slabbing" these coins. So it would appear that interest in Thalers is beginning to pick up again. So with that in mind, Stay tuned for the next part of this series, where I explore one of the more popular German Thalers on the market. So which one is it? Take a wild guess!



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The dts Average

By Dean Silver

The dts Average is a statistical average of the retail price of coins listed in different publications and magazines. The split grade prices are also included in the dts average making it a handy guide when buying split-grades at a show or store. If you have any questions about the dts average, you can contact the author Dean Silver through the web site: www.thenewcoinrealm.com.

1 CENT

Victoria 1¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 8 5 8	56.76	101.84	148.58	170.28	191.99	242.07	292.15	392.32	676.13	2,588
1 8 5 9	2.92	4.84	6.51	7.60	8.68	11.19	13.69	28.38	83.47	367.28
1 8 5 9 > 9 over 8	26.71	51.75	73.46	95.99	118.53	146.91	175.29	275.46	534.22	2,671
1 8 5 9 > 9 over 9	46.74	84.10	115.69	142.30	168.91	202.78	236.64	344.32	654.42	3,005
1 8 7 6 H	2.67	4.67	6.68	7.68	8.68	12.02	15.36	36.73	80.13	383.97
1 8 8 1 H	3.34	7.18	11.35	14.94	18.53	24.37	30.22	58.43	142.74	475.79
1 8 8 2 H	2.84	5.84	7.85	9.68	11.52	16.36	21.20	38.40	79.30	400.67
1 8 8 4	2.92	5.01	7.35	9.52	11.69	15.36	19.03	40.07	115.19	509.18
1 8 8 6	3.92	7.85	11.69	15.53	19.37	27.21	35.06	71.79	166.94	692.82
1 8 8 7	2.92	5.34	7.68	9.68	11.69	17.70	23.71	45.08	106.84	434.06
1 8 8 8	2.34	4.67	7.01	7.85	8.68	11.35	14.02	26.71	66.78	267.11
1 8 9 0 H	5.34	11.35	17.03	21.04	25.04	35.06	45.08	90.23	193.66	584.31
1 8 9 1 > LL LD	5.34	10.68	16.03	23.54	31.05	44.74	58.43	110.18	225.38	734.56
1 8 9 1 > SL SD	40.07	71.79	95.16	116.03	136.89	193.66	250.42	333.89	467.45	1,519
1 8 9 1 > LL SD	56.76	100.17	143.57	167.78	191.99	254.59	317.20	592.65	1,235	5,175
1 8 9 2	4.51	9.02	15.04	18.80	22.56	25.47	28.38	61.77	111.85	450.75
1 8 9 3	2.50	4.67	6.51	7.60	8.68	11.85	15.03	30.05	73.46	292.15
1 8 9 4	8.18	16.36	21.37	25.71	30.05	39.23	48.41	88.48	158.60	509.18
1 8 9 5	4.01	8.01	13.02	16.53	20.03	25.04	30.05	61.77	106.84	417.36
1 8 9 6	2.76	5.01	6.34	7.85	9.35	11.85	14.36	26.71	66.78	283.81
1 8 9 7	2.76	5.01	6.68	8.51	10.35	12.69	15.03	33.39	80.13	342.24
1 8 9 8 H	5.18	10.02	15.36	19.20	23.04	28.21	33.39	65.11	141.90	475.79
1 8 9 9	2.67	4.67	5.68	6.84	8.01	10.85	13.69	30.05	68.45	208.68
1 9 0 0 H	2.34	4.34	5.34	6.84	8.35	10.68	13.02	25.04	50.08	133.56
1 9 0 0	5.84	11.69	17.36	22.04	26.71	35.06	43.41	88.48	191.99	826.38
1 9 0 1	2.34	4.34	5.34	6.51	7.68	9.85	12.02	25.04	51.75	161.94
Edward 1¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 9 0 2	1.42	2.84	3.84	4.42	5.01	7.68	10.35	14.36	33.39	95.16
1 9 0 3	1.42	2.84	3.84	4.42	5.01	7.68	10.35	16.03	40.07	113.52
1 9 0 4	1.84	3.51	4.67	5.84	7.01	9.52	12.02	22.37	56.76	156.93
1 9 0 5	2.84	5.34	7.35	8.68	10.02	12.69	15.36	28.38	68.45	217.03
1 9 0 6	1.59	3.17	4.17	4.92	5.68	7.68	9.68	22.37	51.75	258.76
1 9 0 7	1.84	3.51	4.67	5.84	7.01	9.68	12.35	25.71	51.75	283.81
1 9 0 7 H	7.85	15.36	24.37	32.22	40.07	51.75	63.44	115.29	247.08	784.64
1 9 0 8	2.00	3.84	5.01	6.34	7.68	10.35	13.02	23.37	53.42	161.94
1 9 0 9	1.30	2.42	3.59	4.13	4.67	7.51	10.35	18.36	38.40	138.56
1 9 1 0	1.25	2.34	3.26	3.80	4.34	5.69	7.04	16.03	41.74	136.89

George V 1¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 9 1 1	0.92	1.84	2.67	3.34	4.01	5.68	7.35	15.03	31.72	88.48
1 9 1 2	0.83	1.59	2.34	3.01	3.67	5.01	6.34	15.03	33.39	101.84
1 9 1 3	0.83	1.59	2.19	2.68	3.17	4.59	6.02	15.03	35.06	131.89
1 9 1 4	0.95	1.84	2.67	3.34	4.01	5.51	7.01	17.70	45.08	170.28
1 9 1 5	0.87	1.59	2.34	2.84	3.34	4.67	6.01	15.36	35.06	136.89
1 9 1 6	0.73	1.34	1.84	2.25	2.67	3.67	4.67	10.02	25.04	95.16
1 9 1 7	0.57	1.00	1.34	1.54	1.75	2.38	3.01	8.18	18.03	83.47

George V 1¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 9 1 8	0.57	1.00	1.34	1.54	1.75	2.38	3.01	8.18	18.03	83.47
1 9 1 9	0.57	1.00	1.34	1.54	1.75	2.38	3.01	8.18	18.03	85.14
1 9 2 0 > Large	0.57	1.00	1.50	1.79	2.09	2.88	3.67	11.19	26.71	146.91
1 9 2 0 > Small	0.28	0.58	1.17	1.59	2.00	3.17	4.34	8.01	18.70	66.78
1 9 2 1	0.42	0.83	1.50	2.09	2.67	5.09	7.51	15.03	53.42	333.89
1 9 2 2	9.85	17.70	23.04	29.06	35.09	47.62	60.15	130.22	300.50	1,853
1 9 2 3	18.86	35.06	41.74	46.74	51.75	65.98	80.20	183.64	409.02	3,005
1 9 2 4	4.17	7.68	9.68	11.85	14.02	20.37	26.71	65.16	170.28	1,369
1 9 2 5	16.36	31.05	35.73	40.40	45.08	53.42	61.77	116.86	300.50	1,836
1 9 2 6	2.67	5.01	6.01	7.68	9.35	14.36	19.37	58.43	141.90	934.89
1 9 2 7	0.88	1.84	2.67	3.51	4.34	7.18	10.02	25.04	65.11	333.89
1 9 2 8	0.25	0.55	1.01	1.67	2.34	3.09	3.84	10.02	25.04	141.90
1 9 2 9	0.25	0.55	1.01	1.67	2.34	3.09	3.84	10.02	25.04	136.89
1 9 3 0	1.42	2.67	3.67	4.76	5.84	8.93	12.02	30.05	73.46	325.54
1 9 3 1	0.67	1.17	1.84	2.84	3.84	5.93	8.01	25.06	65.11	283.81
1 9 3 2	0.33	0.58	1.19	1.80	2.42	3.38	4.34	7.68	20.03	96.83
1 9 3 3	0.33	0.58	1.22	1.82	2.42	3.38	4.34	7.68	20.03	85.14
1 9 3 4	0.25	0.55	1.01	1.38	1.75	2.55	3.34	7.01	20.05	90.23
1 9 3 5	0.25	0.55	1.01	1.38	1.75	2.55	3.34	7.01	20.05	75.19
1 9 3 6	0.25	0.55	1.01	1.38	1.75	2.55	3.34	7.01	20.05	62.66
1 9 3 6 > dot	31.33	68.92	125.63	172.46	219.30	318.33	417.36	876.46	2,506	7,832

George VI 1¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 9 3 7	0.25	0.48	0.78	1.19	1.59	2.04	2.50	3.92	6.02	18.59
1 9 3 8	0.16	0.30	0.53	0.87	1.21	1.76	2.32	3.75	5.63	17.96
1 9 3 9	0.16	0.30	0.53	0.87	1.21	1.73	2.25	3.88	5.63	12.52
1 9 4 0	0.13	0.25	0.45	0.69	0.93	1.37	1.81	2.75	4.88	11.14
1 9 4 1	0.16	0.30	0.57	0.81	1.05	1.70	2.35	5.01	13.36	73.46
1 9 4 2	0.13	0.25	0.46	0.76	1.05	1.67	2.29	4.26	11.45	71.46
1 9 4 3	0.13	0.25	0.46	0.76	1.05	1.64	2.23	3.75	8.14	43.41
1 9 4 4	0.16	0.30	0.51	0.83	1.15	1.76	2.38	4.94	18.52	115.83
1 9 4 5	0.14	0.26	0.46	0.71	0.95	1.60	2.25	3.57	8.32	30.05
1 9 4 6	0.13	0.25	0.45	0.68	0.91	1.33	1.75	2.75	6.32	18.36
1 9 4 7	0.13	0.25	0.45	0.68	0.91	1.33	1.75	2.82	5.19	12.77
1 9 4 7 > ML pointed 7	0.14	0.26	0.46	0.71	0.95	1.38	1.81	3.57	6.26	28.22
1 9 4 7 > ML blunt 7	0.15	0.28	0.49	0.75	1.01	1.68	2.34	4.59	8.01	45.49
1 9 4 8 > A to denticle	0.15	0.28	0.51	0.76	1.00	1.50	2.00	3.50	6.88	50.00
1 9 4 8 > A off denticle	0.17	0.32	0.62	0.92	1.22	1.78	2.34	4.34	8.18	80.98
1 9 4 9 > A off denticle	0.13	0.25	0.46	0.70	0.94	1.41	1.88	2.82	4.76	13.20
1 9 4 9 > A to denticle	4.37	8.73	16.11	20.53	24.96	34.39	43.82	62.85	104.17	351.42
1 9 5 0	0.13	0.25	0.46	0.82	1.17	1.75	2.34	3.42	4.51	13.02
1 9 5 1	0.13	0.25	0.46	0.82	1.17	1.75	2.34	3.42	5.13	15.27
1 9 5 2	0.13	0.25	0.46	0.82	1.17	1.75	2.34	3.42	4.88	11.51

5 CENTS

Victoria 5¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 8 5 8 > Sml date	13.95	26.71	43.41	57.60	71.79	91.82	111.85	190.48	383.97	934.89
1 8 5 8 > Lrg date	106.84	200.33	308.85	404.84	500.83	726.61	952.38	1,302	2,337	5,175
1 8 7 0	12.02	25.04	41.74	55.93	70.12	91.82	113.52	200.50	392.32	1,085
1 8 7 1	12.69	25.04	41.74	55.88	70.03	92.61	115.19	191.99	400.67	1,002
1 8 7 2 H	9.68	20.03	31.72	41.74	51.75	77.32	102.88	233.72	550.92	1,786
1 8 7 4 H > Lrg date	13.02	27.38	58.43	83.78	109.14	173.62	238.10	401.00	834.72	2,003
1 8 7 4 H > Sml date	15.33	36.73	71.79	114.84	157.89	204.16	250.42	375.63	717.86	1,720

The dts Average

By Dean Silver

Victoria 5¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 8 7 5 H > Sml date	110.18	217.03	342.24	454.92	567.61	718.72	869.84	1,365	3,255	9,516
1 8 7 5 H > Lrg date	217.03	400.67	651.09	809.68	968.28	1,361	1,753	3,172	6,015	14,060
1 8 8 0 H	6.01	12.35	22.70	35.56	48.41	72.62	96.83	217.03	463.08	1,085
1 8 8 1 H	6.70	13.69	28.38	40.07	51.75	79.30	106.84	233.72	534.22	1,135
1 8 8 2 H	8.35	18.21	30.72	45.41	60.10	88.48	116.86	250.42	584.31	1,185
1 8 8 3 H	16.19	35.89	66.78	104.34	141.90	225.38	308.85	651.09	1,369	4,386
1 8 8 4	100.17	180.30	292.15	413.19	534.22	826.38	1,119	2,671	5,764	15,038
1 8 8 5 > Sml 5	11.01	23.37	45.08	62.64	80.20	140.35	200.50	526.32	1,153	4,135
1 8 8 5 > Lrg 5	12.77	25.04	45.08	65.11	85.14	142.74	200.33	567.61	1,219	4,511
1 8 8 6 > Sml 6	7.68	15.69	27.71	37.23	46.74	75.13	103.51	258.76	634.39	1,836
1 8 8 6 > Lrg 6	9.35	19.37	31.72	45.93	60.15	98.52	136.89	292.15	667.78	2,003
1 8 8 7	15.58	38.61	63.44	79.30	95.16	151.92	208.68	375.63	701.17	1,703
1 8 8 8	5.51	11.14	22.03	29.38	36.73	57.21	77.69	133.56	283.81	692.82
1 8 8 9	17.83	38.40	65.11	95.99	126.88	176.08	225.28	442.40	818.03	2,254
1 8 9 0 H	6.34	12.35	25.04	35.89	46.74	72.62	98.50	175.29	358.93	734.56
1 8 9 1	5.34	10.02	16.03	22.20	28.38	42.57	56.76	108.51	267.11	734.56
1 8 9 2	6.01	12.02	20.70	32.05	43.41	68.45	93.49	191.99	509.18	1,235
1 8 9 3	5.34	10.02	14.36	21.87	29.38	42.24	55.09	118.53	300.50	734.56
1 8 9 4	14.02	28.38	53.42	74.29	95.16	143.57	191.99	333.89	684.47	1,940
1 8 9 6	5.34	9.68	15.03	21.70	28.38	43.41	58.43	116.86	317.20	667.78
1 8 9 7	5.34	10.02	15.69	22.87	30.05	48.41	66.78	126.88	308.85	684.47
1 8 9 8	10.02	20.70	31.72	50.95	70.18	110.28	150.38	288.22	576.44	1,503
1 8 9 9	4.67	8.68	13.02	18.20	23.37	35.06	46.74	95.24	208.68	517.53
1 9 0 0 > Sml date	4.67	9.02	12.02	16.86	21.70	36.73	51.75	100.25	217.03	617.70
1 9 0 0 > Lrg date	16.53	33.39	63.44	79.30	95.16	164.44	233.72	375.63	642.74	1,402
1 9 0 1	4.67	8.68	12.02	16.86	21.70	37.56	53.42	95.24	200.33	534.22

Edward 5¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 9 0 2	1.75	3.25	4.82	6.51	8.20	11.01	13.83	22.29	50.08	80.13
1 9 0 2 H > Lrg H	2.00	3.50	5.13	7.07	9.01	12.95	16.90	29.22	53.38	90.15
1 9 0 2 H > Sml H	6.45	12.02	20.03	29.22	38.40	53.42	68.45	100.25	156.93	275.69
1 9 0 3	3.17	6.88	13.02	20.70	28.38	44.24	60.10	131.89	267.11	528.16
1 9 0 3 H	1.84	3.88	8.14	12.08	16.02	24.22	32.42	75.13	158.60	459.10
1 9 0 4	2.00	4.13	7.13	11.51	15.89	25.48	35.06	95.16	267.11	784.64
1 9 0 5	1.67	3.44	5.57	8.54	11.51	18.27	25.03	58.43	150.25	337.92
1 9 0 6	1.67	2.25	4.34	6.51	8.68	13.66	18.65	50.08	135.23	409.02
1 9 0 7	1.67	3.01	4.34	6.18	8.01	11.99	15.96	36.73	90.15	200.33
1 9 0 8 > Small 8	4.26	10.01	17.02	26.05	35.09	50.13	65.16	100.25	150.38	250.63
1 9 0 8 > Large 8	22.56	47.62	90.82	120.24	149.67	219.95	290.24	425.53	751.25	1,503
1 9 0 9	3.01	5.34	9.35	14.02	18.70	31.89	45.08	110.18	317.20	852.13
1 9 1 0 > Round 0	2.00	3.67	5.51	7.68	9.85	12.68	15.52	30.08	75.19	150.38
1 9 1 0 > Flat 0	3.51	6.34	9.37	12.93	16.50	21.05	25.61	48.87	120.30	236.84

George V 5¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 9 1 1	1.50	3.01	6.68	8.68	10.68	15.03	19.37	45.08	101.84	166.94
1 9 1 2	2.00	4.01	6.34	8.10	9.85	12.44	15.03	35.09	83.47	250.42
1 9 1 3	1.67	3.17	4.51	5.93	7.35	9.68	12.02	20.03	40.07	98.50
1 9 1 4	1.67	3.34	4.67	6.68	8.68	11.02	13.36	35.06	80.20	242.07
1 9 1 5	8.18	17.54	26.71	34.22	41.74	60.93	80.13	200.50	400.67	852.13
1 9 1 6	2.67	5.01	9.35	12.19	15.04	23.38	31.72	77.69	150.38	350.88
1 9 1 7	1.42	2.67	4.34	5.01	5.68	8.51	11.35	26.71	51.75	125.21
1 9 1 8	1.42	2.67	4.34	5.01	5.68	8.18	10.68	21.70	46.74	108.51
1 9 1 9	1.42	2.67	4.34	5.18	6.01	8.35	10.68	21.70	45.11	100.25
1 9 2 0	1.42	2.67	4.34	5.18	6.01	7.85	9.68	20.05	40.07	85.21
1 9 2 1	3,172	5,509	6,845	7,638	8,431	9,558	10,684	14,357	18,698	30,050
1 9 2 2	0.90	1.75	3.26	4.51	5.76	9.39	13.02	32.58	70.18	150.25
1 9 2 3	0.95	1.88	3.76	5.47	7.18	14.37	21.55	62.66	162.91	463.66

George V 5¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 9 2 4	0.70	1.50	3.26	4.64	6.02	11.28	16.54	43.41	125.31	363.41
1 9 2 5	45.08	97.74	120.30	144.11	167.92	259.40	350.88	802.01	2,003	6,010
1 9 2 6 > Near 6	9.65	20.93	25.76	30.86	35.96	61.84	87.72	250.42	601.50	2,087
1 9 2 6 > Far 6	91.82	173.62	250.42	325.54	400.67	588.81	776.94	1,303	2,671	7,268
1 9 2 7	0.90	1.75	3.26	4.72	6.18	11.44	16.69	40.10	95.24	225.56
1 9 2 8	0.90	1.75	3.26	5.55	7.85	13.94	20.03	40.07	85.21	150.38
1 9 2 9	0.70	1.50	2.67	3.92	5.18	10.60	16.03	40.10	100.25	250.63
1 9 3 0	0.70	1.50	2.67	4.09	5.51	12.03	18.55	55.14	140.23	350.58
1 9 3 1	0.70	1.50	2.67	4.26	5.84	15.45	25.06	85.21	225.38	802.01
1 9 3 2	0.70	1.50	2.67	4.26	5.84	13.95	22.06	67.67	191.99	634.39
1 9 3 3	1.00	2.00	3.76	5.64	7.52	18.80	30.08	105.26	358.93	1,003
1 9 3 4	0.70	1.50	3.26	4.64	6.02	14.04	22.06	70.18	191.99	667.78
1 9 3 5	0.70	1.50	3.26	4.64	6.02	13.02	20.03	62.66	155.39	450.75
1 9 3 6 > Long 9	0.70	1.50	2.67	4.22	5.76	10.40	15.04	35.06	75.19	183.64
1 9 3 6 > Short 9	15.03	32.20	57.24	90.39	123.53	222.89	322.26	751.30	1,611	3,935

George VI 5¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 9 3 7	0.28	0.56	1.00	1.82	2.63	3.57	4.51	6.51	15.03	30.05
1 9 3 8	0.61	1.21	2.63	3.90	5.18	10.11	15.04	46.74	96.83	225.47
1 9 3 9	0.48	0.93	1.88	2.53	3.17	5.84	8.51	26.71	63.44	106.84
1 9 4 0	0.28	0.56	1.00	1.50	2.00	3.26	4.51	10.02	28.38	66.78
1 9 4 1	0.27	0.54	1.00	1.50	2.00	3.51	5.01	12.35	37.59	90.15
1 9 4 2 > Nickel	0.28	0.56	1.00	1.50	2.00	3.26	4.51	10.02	28.38	60.10
1 9 4 2 > Tombac	0.34	0.67	1.09	1.54	2.00	2.67	3.34	5.13	7.88	21.70
1 9 4 3	0.32	0.64	0.98	1.30	1.61	2.43	3.26	5.51	8.07	18.36
1 9 4 4	0.23	0.44	0.88	1.11	1.34	1.79	2.25	4.01	6.26	11.76
1 9 4 5	0.23	0.44	0.88	1.11	1.34	1.79	2.25	4.01	7.51	16.02
1 9 4 6	0.28	0.49	0.98	1.47	1.96	2.94	3.92	8.68	16.46	50.00
1 9 4 7	0.26	0.50	1.00	1.50	2.01	3.01	4.01	7.35	14.54	36.36
1 9 4 7 > M L	0.26	0.50	1.00	1.50	2.01	3.01	4.01	7.01	13.02	33.79
1 9 4 7 > dot	8.14	16.28	24.21	32.97	41.74	65.94	90.15	200.33	283.81	496.25
1 9 4 8	1.63	3.26	4.85	6.60	8.36	13.20	18.05	40.11	56.82	99.35
1 9 4 9	0.23	0.44	0.88	1.32	1.75	2.63	3.51	7.02	10.60	23.37
1 9 5 0	0.23	0.44	0.88	1.32	1.75	2.63	3.51	7.02	10.18	19.37
1 9 5 1 > Nickel	0.23	0.44	0.88	1.25	1.63	1.94	2.25	4.51	7.35	14.08
1 9 5 1 > Steel	0.23	0.44	0.88	1.32	1.75	2.63	3.51	6.52	9.35	14.02
1 9 5 2	0.23	0.44	0.88	1.25	1.63	2.51	3.38	6.39	8.35	13.11

10 CENTS

Victoria 10¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 8 5 8	15.89	31.72	55.09	82.68	110.28	149.12	187.97	288.22	513.78	1,235
1 8 7 0	15.39	30.54	61.08	91.97	122.87	164.02	205.18	310.35	632.04	1,738
1 8 7 1	22.37	45.08	80.20	127.75	175.29	254.59	333.89	542.57	1,002	3,339
1 8 7 1 H	25.04	50.08	88.48	125.00	161.51	239.35	317.20	550.92	1,002	3,172
1 8 7 2 H	100.17	207.01	317.20	438.23	559.27	730.38	901.50	1,486	2,771	6,010
1 8 7 4 H	13.69	24.04	40.07	63.44	86.81	136.06	185.31	300.50	550.92	1,669
1 8 7 5 H	275.46	501.25	868.11	1,160	1,452	2,167	2,882	4,762	9,524	23,810
1 8 8 0 H	15.03	30.08	53.42	76.79	100.17	154.42	208.68	342.24	626.04	1,820
1 8 8 1 H	15.69	31.72	58.43	84.31	110.18	184.47	258.76	425.71	784.64	2,005
1 8 8 2 H	15.69	31.72	53.42	80.97	108.51	166.94	225.38	375.63	801.34	2,371
1 8 8 3 H	50.08	100.17	183.64	296.33	409.02	550.92	692.82	1,102	1,920	4,341
1 8 8 4	208.68	438.60	801.34	1,106	1,411	2,083	2,755	5,008	11,028	30,075
1 8 8 5	54.82	108.89	219.02	314.02	409.02	621.87	834.72	1,880	3,509	10,526
1 8 8 6 > Sml 6	23.37	48.41	93.49	146.91	200.33	325.73	451.13	1,003	2,130	5,263
1 8 8 6 > Lrg Knb 6	33.39	66.78	121.87	183.74	245.61	381.57	517.53	1,203	2,331	6,015

The dts Average

By Dean Silver

10 CENTS (con't)

Victoria 10¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 8 8 7	48.41	100.17	166.94	254.59	342.24	546.74	751.25	1,252	2,922	6,010
1 8 8 8	12.03	23.37	45.08	66.40	87.72	139.10	190.48	308.85	617.70	1,503
1 8 8 9	626.57	1,002	2,003	2,554	3,105	4,373	5,641	10,526	20,033	48,414
1 8 9 0 H	18.70	36.73	66.78	101.84	136.89	214.52	292.15	450.56	834.72	1,853
1 8 9 1 > 21 Lvs	18.70	35.06	71.79	111.02	150.25	229.55	308.85	484.14	851.42	2,087
1 8 9 1 > 22 Lvs	18.70	35.06	68.45	105.18	141.90	217.03	292.15	434.06	784.64	2,005
1 8 9 2 > Sml 9	15.03	35.06	58.43	88.11	117.79	171.59	225.38	375.63	717.86	1,920
1 8 9 2 > Lrg 9	200.50	300.75	451.13	701.75	952.38	1,429	1,905	3,015	4,762	10,050
1 8 9 3 > Flat top 3	33.39	66.78	118.53	174.46	230.38	340.76	451.13	776.94	1,554	3,759
1 8 9 3 > Rnd top 3	676.13	1,085	2,237	3,038	3,840	5,175	6,511	11,529	18,546	46,366
1 8 9 4	28.55	59.27	101.84	151.09	200.33	258.76	317.20	567.61	876.46	2,654
1 8 9 6	12.69	24.04	41.74	60.10	78.46	116.03	153.59	288.22	500.83	1,278
1 8 9 8	11.53	24.04	41.74	60.97	80.20	117.79	155.39	288.22	500.83	1,185
1 8 9 9 > Sml 99	9.68	20.03	36.73	51.75	66.78	95.99	125.21	200.33	367.28	1,135
1 8 9 9 > Lrg 99	19.03	38.40	65.11	92.65	120.20	176.96	233.72	381.73	707.13	1,629
1 9 0 0	9.35	16.69	33.39	49.25	65.11	96.83	128.55	175.29	333.89	834.72
1 9 0 1	9.35	15.03	30.05	42.57	55.09	83.47	111.85	166.94	333.89	1,018
Edward 10¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 9 0 2 H	3.84	8.01	14.27	21.65	29.04	45.85	62.66	91.82	166.94	367.28
1 9 0 2	5.01	10.68	25.04	39.23	53.42	93.13	132.83	238.10	517.53	1,419
1 9 0 3 H	5.01	10.02	21.70	36.73	51.75	79.30	106.84	185.46	401.00	926.16
1 9 0 3	10.02	21.70	50.13	83.96	117.79	228.07	338.35	726.82	1,402	3,759
1 9 0 4	7.68	15.36	32.39	51.25	70.12	112.75	155.39	263.16	463.66	1,068
1 9 0 5	6.18	12.35	34.06	60.52	86.98	129.47	171.95	342.24	701.17	1,669
1 9 0 6	4.57	9.18	19.37	29.72	40.07	69.28	98.50	176.96	367.28	1,153
1 9 0 7	4.01	8.02	15.36	23.54	31.72	53.42	75.13	125.21	325.81	751.88
1 9 0 8	8.10	16.28	33.04	54.92	76.79	114.36	151.92	205.34	342.24	717.86
1 9 0 9 > Vic Lvs	5.19	10.18	28.38	45.08	61.77	101.84	141.90	258.76	601.00	1,503
1 9 0 9 > Brd Lvs	7.51	15.04	35.06	55.09	75.13	122.78	170.43	388.47	868.11	1,727
1 9 1 0	3.67	7.35	14.54	21.05	27.57	42.61	57.64	85.81	176.96	451.13

MARITIME COPPER

New Brunswick 1/2¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 8 6 1	115.19	183.64	283.81	327.21	370.62	431.55	492.49	692.82	993.32	2,053
Nova Scotia 1/2¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 8 6 1	3.84	7.18	10.68	13.02	15.36	21.04	26.71	65.11	131.89	567.61
1 8 6 4	3.84	7.18	10.68	13.02	15.36	20.20	25.04	56.76	115.19	417.36
New Brunswick 1¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 8 6 1	3.01	6.68	9.35	12.69	16.03	22.20	28.38	71.79	208.68	567.61
1 8 6 4 > Short 6	3.34	6.34	9.68	12.35	15.03	23.37	31.72	80.13	250.42	767.95
1 8 6 4 > Long 6	4.01	7.01	11.69	14.69	17.70	27.21	36.73	95.16	275.69	1,103
Nova Scotia 1¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 8 6 1 > LRG RB	2.67	4.84	7.18	9.43	11.69	17.03	22.37	60.15	166.94	634.39
1 8 6 1 > SML RB	2.76	5.01	7.51	10.10	12.69	20.53	28.38	71.79	191.99	751.88
1 8 6 2	45.08	78.46	130.22	186.14	242.07	363.11	484.14	968.28	1,937	5,275
1 8 6 4	2.67	4.84	7.35	9.85	12.35	19.53	26.71	66.78	200.50	834.72
P.E.I. 1¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 8 7 1	2.17	3.67	5.51	8.76	12.02	18.53	25.04	58.43	128.55	283.81
Newfoundland 1¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 8 6 5	2.84	5.68	9.02	13.78	18.55	32.65	46.74	120.20	317.20	1,352
1 8 7 2 H	2.75	4.84	7.01	10.85	14.69	25.71	36.73	81.80	155.39	417.36
1 8 7 3	3.34	6.68	10.35	19.03	27.71	56.43	85.14	228.71	617.70	2,538
1 8 7 6 H	3.17	5.68	11.02	19.20	27.38	58.76	90.15	233.72	617.70	2,454
1 8 8 0 > Wide 0	2.84	4.84	8.01	13.36	18.70	40.40	62.10	113.52	242.07	934.89
1 8 8 0 > Narrow 0	123.54	225.38	400.67	517.53	634.39	818.03	1,002	1,686	2,838	7,563
1 8 8 5	26.71	44.61	97.74	124.06	150.38	221.26	292.15	550.92	1,169	4,073
1 8 8 8	25.88	50.13	100.25	134.09	167.92	246.73	325.54	734.56	1,503	6,728

Newfoundland 1¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 8 9 0	2.67	4.67	12.02	18.53	25.04	53.42	81.80	233.72	467.45	2,120
1 8 9 4	2.67	4.67	9.02	13.86	18.70	36.06	53.42	158.60	317.20	1,920
1 8 9 6	2.67	4.67	6.68	12.85	19.03	30.38	41.74	108.51	217.03	876.46
1 9 0 4 H	5.51	10.68	20.03	27.38	34.72	56.59	78.46	200.33	534.22	1,452
1 9 0 7	2.09	3.84	5.68	8.68	11.69	25.88	40.07	141.90	300.50	1,235
1 9 0 9	2.09	3.84	5.68	7.85	10.02	20.87	31.72	80.13	158.60	313.28
1 9 1 3	1.09	2.00	3.01	3.67	4.34	7.18	10.02	36.73	81.80	186.98
1 9 1 7 C	1.09	2.00	3.01	3.67	4.34	7.01	9.68	36.73	125.21	437.40
1 9 1 9 C	1.09	2.00	3.01	4.51	6.01	11.35	16.69	60.10	258.76	818.03
1 9 2 0 C	1.09	2.00	3.01	5.18	7.35	16.19	25.04	100.17	425.71	2,087
1 9 2 9	1.09	2.00	3.01	3.84	4.67	6.84	9.02	36.73	100.17	225.38
1 9 3 6	1.00	2.01	3.01	3.76	4.51	6.93	9.35	20.10	55.14	150.38
1 9 3 6 > bar	21.47	42.97	64.45	80.56	96.68	148.51	200.35	430.75	1,182	3,223
1 9 3 8	0.42	0.87	2.00	2.50	3.01	3.67	4.34	10.02	28.38	88.48
1 9 4 0	1.09	2.09	3.09	4.55	6.01	11.35	16.69	46.74	120.20	767.95
1 9 4 1 C	0.42	0.83	1.29	1.60	1.92	2.63	3.34	9.68	35.06	283.81
1 9 4 2	0.42	0.83	1.37	1.60	1.84	2.59	3.34	13.36	50.08	300.50
1 9 4 3 C	0.42	0.83	1.37	1.60	1.84	3.42	5.01	9.35	21.70	133.56
1 9 4 4 C	1.00	2.00	4.67	10.68	16.69	29.22	41.74	110.28	350.58	2,005
1 9 4 7 C	0.67	1.34	2.50	4.76	7.01	14.36	21.70	46.74	115.19	383.97

MARITIME 5 CENTS

New Brunswick 5¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 8 6 2	51.31	98.87	185.31	276.29	367.28	575.96	784.64	1,836	3,422	6,266
1 8 6 4 > Small 6	52.57	106.84	193.66	288.81	383.97	592.99	802.01	1,754	3,759	7,519
1 8 6 4 > Large 6	76.79	151.92	267.11	388.15	509.18	822.20	1,135	2,381	4,511	9,023
Newfoundland 5¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 8 6 5	30.05	58.10	100.17	162.77	225.38	329.72	434.06	902.26	1,905	4,887
1 8 7 0	55.14	100.25	200.50	300.75	401.00	617.86	834.72	1,504	2,907	5,013
1 8 7 2 H	30.88	60.10	100.17	150.25	200.33	308.85	417.36	767.95	1,303	2,932
1 8 7 3	100.17	200.33	350.58	525.88	701.17	1,202	1,703	3,509	7,268	17,043
1 8 7 3 H	814.54	1,454	2,237	2,808	3,379	4,862	6,344	11,529	20,050	37,594
1 8 7 6 H	103.51	217.03	333.89	450.75	567.61	767.95	968.28	1,504	2,506	4,336
1 8 8 0	41.74	77.69	125.21	183.64	242.07	388.15	534.22	1,135	2,506	4,336
1 8 8 1	38.40	75.13	125.21	196.16	267.11	442.40	617.70	1,336	2,755	4,912
1 8 8 2 H	20.70	40.73	76.79	111.85	146.91	248.75	350.58	868.11	1,786	3,122
1 8 8 5	133.56	233.72	383.97	492.49	601.00	968.28	1,336	2,404	4,386	7,769
1 8 8 8	40.07	76.79	158.60	246.24	333.89	542.88	751.88	1,554	3,509	7,769
1 8 9 0	9.02	17.36	33.39	54.26	75.13	130.27	185.42	642.74	1,736	3,108
1 8 9 4	7.35	14.94	28.38	48.02	67.67	116.44	165.21	617.70	1,720	4,010
1 8 9 6	4.17	7.35	15.03	25.38	35.73	69.62	103.51	434.06	1,503	4,341
1 9 0 3	3.75	7.51	15.04	23.79	32.54	57.17	81.80	250.42	734.56	2,204
1 9 0 4 H	2.75	4.88	9.51	18.93	28.35	45.99	63.64	141.90	250.42	459.10
1 9 0 8	2.50	4.63	8.14	12.77	17.40	32.91	48.41	128.55	294.12	826.03
1 9 1 2	1.25	2.50	4.17	7.60	11.02	21.37	31.72	78.85	141.90	333.89
1 9 1 7 C	1.17	2.34	4.51	8.10	11.69	25.04	38.40	141.90	417.36	1,202
1 9 1 9 C	3.67	7.51	10.68	20.37	30.05	85.98	141.90	550.92	1,419	3,756
1 9 2 9	1.17	2.34	3.84	4.92	6.01	13.02	20.03	73.46	200.33	484.14
1 9 3 8	1.25	2.51	3.51	4.01	4.51	8.14	11.76	39.11	112.64	295.49
1 9 4 0 C	1.25	2.76	3.51	3.91	4.32	7.29	10.26	35.06	108.51	346.68
1 9 4 1 C	1.25	2.51	3.01	3.42	3.84	5.36	6.88	12.02	26.71	52.57
1 9 4 2 C	1.25	2.76	3.51	4.01	4.51	5.76	7.01	14.02	35.06	60.10
1 9 4 3 C	1.25	2.51	2.84	3.42	4.01	5.34	6.68	12.02	25.04	54.69
1 9 4 4 C	1.25	2.76	3.76	4.14	4.51	7.60	10.68	26.28	77.60	200.25
1 9 4 5 C	1.25	2.51	2.84	3.42	4.01	5.68	7.35	13.02	30.05	51.21
1 9 4 6 C	225.56	401.00	534.22	584.31	634.39	776.29	918.20	1,665	2,588	3,139
1 9 4 7 C	2.76	5.01	8.01	10.01	12.02	18.53	25.04	51.75	123.54	283.81

The dts Average

By Dean Silver

MARITIME 10 CENTS

New Brunswick 10¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 8 6 2	51.75	103.51	186.98	268.78	350.58	542.57	734.56	1,503	2,504	4,841
1 8 6 2 > 2 over 2	81.80	155.26	303.84	452.42	601.00	909.85	1,219	2,671	4,511	12,531
1 8 6 4	56.76	111.85	178.63	256.26	333.89	517.53	701.17	1,596	3,840	10,025
Newfoundland 10¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 8 6 5	30.05	48.41	85.14	115.19	145.24	256.26	367.28	801.34	1,920	3,422
1 8 7 0	140.18	267.11	405.68	595.16	784.64	1,119	1,452	2,256	4,674	8,947
1 8 7 2 H	15.03	29.79	61.77	88.48	115.19	207.85	300.50	634.39	1,503	2,871
1 8 7 3	33.79	68.84	150.25	225.38	300.50	651.50	1,003	3,008	6,316	12,060
1 8 7 6 H	38.40	78.46	150.25	225.38	300.50	492.49	684.47	1,404	2,506	4,261
1 8 8 0	36.73	71.79	161.45	272.71	383.97	584.31	784.64	1,504	3,008	5,263
1 8 8 2 H	30.05	61.77	115.19	207.85	300.50	550.92	801.34	1,905	4,010	9,774
1 8 8 5	78.85	153.59	308.85	479.97	651.09	927.05	1,203	2,005	3,759	7,519

Newfoundland 10¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 63
1 8 8 5	78.85	153.59	308.85	479.97	651.09	927.05	1,203	2,005	3,759	7,519
1 8 8 8	26.28	65.11	125.21	229.55	333.89	851.42	1,369	3,008	7,018	12,060
1 8 9 0	7.18	15.03	30.05	45.08	60.10	130.22	200.33	834.72	2,256	5,514
1 8 9 4	7.63	16.90	26.29	44.87	63.44	131.89	200.33	651.09	2,005	5,013
1 8 9 6	6.51	13.02	20.03	33.39	46.74	107.68	168.61	626.57	2,005	5,514
1 9 0 3	5.32	13.02	35.06	70.95	106.84	195.33	283.81	776.94	2,005	6,015
1 9 0 4 H	3.25	6.01	15.03	28.38	41.74	75.13	108.51	187.73	362.95	700.88
1 9 1 2	1.63	2.88	7.51	11.43	15.36	36.06	56.76	158.60	267.11	500.63
1 9 1 7 C	1.38	2.63	5.51	10.27	15.03	35.89	56.76	243.11	601	1,865
1 9 1 9 C	2.00	4.76	10.02	19.20	28.38	57.60	86.81	175.29	300.50	500.13
1 9 3 8	1.38	2.76	3.67	5.09	6.51	10.77	15.03	50.08	166.94	534.22
1 9 4 0	1.38	2.76	3.67	5.01	6.34	10.68	15.03	48.41	150.25	509.18
1 9 4 1 C	1.38	2.76	3.67	4.84	6.01	7.39	8.76	23.03	61.33	181.97
1 9 4 2 C	1.38	2.76	3.67	4.65	5.63	7.83	10.03	26.71	76.79	275.34
1 9 4 3 C	1.38	2.76	3.67	4.84	6.01	8.35	10.68	30.04	100.17	394.24
1 9 4 4 C	1.38	2.76	4.51	7.35	10.18	20.95	31.72	91.82	375.63	1,352



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Robert Beaton
519-939-8577

The references to the price of gold rising to all-time record high levels are misleading. There has been significant inflation since gold peaked at \$850 in early 1980. Using the current government statistics on inflation, the price of gold would have to reach somewhere between \$2,100 and \$2,600 just to match the 1980 record of \$850. Apparently the U.S. government has changed the way it calculates the fluctuation in consumer prices. By this calculation, using the government's 1980 methodology, the price of gold would have to reach about \$6,500 to really represent a record high price.

When you realize that the price of gold, even at \$1,100, is still far below its inflation-adjusted past record high, you can more easily understand why the price of gold has a lot of potential for a major increase.

source material: Numismaster.com

The Edmonton Money Show

By Roger Grove

The November 7th and 8th show capped off the 2009 season in the City of Champions and it did not disappoint. Due to the excellent work of the volunteers - despite H1N1, the state of the economy and being an unusual year with three shows - the ENS Edmonton Money Show was again a great success. Buying was strong and the general consensus amongst the dealers and attendees was that they had a very good show.




As usual in Edmonton, a couple of "The Prince of Canadian Coins" made their appearance. Even if you have seen one before, it is always nice to walk by a table and take another gander at one of the most prized Canadian rarities - the 1921 5-cent piece.

For the past few shows, the Edmonton Numismatic Society held free public appraisals, and due to the popularity of them they again offered this service. As always this proved to be a great benefit to some collectors or those who inherited collections. It also helped out some dealers when the appraisers referred customers to them when they were looking for pieces to complete their collection. The appraisal table saw some interesting pieces this year and at times challenged the appraiser's skills.

The ENS also held their Kids On Coins table and I hardly remember a moment when there was not a young collector and their family sitting with the volunteers.

The ENS wishes to extend many thanks to the volunteers and their families for helping to make another successful Edmonton Money Show. We apologize if we missed anyone.

Bob Fillman	Marv Berger
Pat Eriksson	Randy Ash
Marc Bink	Roger Grove
Don Griffith	Greg Wichman
David Peter	Kim Peter
Ermin Chow	Jim Vanderleest
Jules Rach	Howard Gilbey
John Callaghan	Larry Priestnall
Terence Cheesman	Bill Demontigny
Gillian Budd	Andy Vanderleest
Pierre Driessen	Mitch Goudreau
Seymour Newmann	Chris Hale
Tony Peter	Bob Eriksson
James Horkulak	

We are looking forward to seeing you all at the next show in spring 2010. 



Morris and Kathy Kosowan from Classic Cash, Sylvan Lake, AB.



The Edmonton Money Show



Charles Moore from Moore Numismatic Auction, Inc., Walnut Creek CA.



Marc from The Canadian Numismatic Company, Quebec City, QC.



George Manz from George Manz Coins and a young collector.



Michael Riedel from MRCS, Edmonton.



RCNA President, Dan Gosling with Lynn P. Balmer from Balmoral Coins & Stamps

Edmonton's Money Shows are Western Canada's largest semi-annual collector shows in terms of dealers, selection of material and visitors. For all those interested in coins, medals, tokens, paper money and anything related. They bring together enthusiasts, collectors and sellers from across North America.

Everyone of all ages welcome!

Member's Minute

Why does this dollar have a serial number of 1867-1967? Does this make it any more valuable?

This is a dollar bill issued to commemorate the centennial of Canada's confederation. It was issued as a collectable only and not intended for general circulation, hence no serial number. The general public did not know they could not be circulated and some started to enter circulation. They had a mintage of 12,000,000 and most were saved as collectables. They all have the Beattie/Rasminsky signatures and are worth about \$3.00 in uncirculated condition.



I have a coin that looks like it might have been struck on a wrong planchet. How do I check it out?

During the minting process, wrong blanks occasionally get fed into the coining press. A wrong blank/planchet may get stuck in a tote bin and then get dislodged when the next batch of blanks is put in the bin, or a worker might carelessly toss a wayward blank into the wrong bin. Coin blanks in the tote bins then get dumped automatically into the coining press feeding mechanism. Wrong blanks are always smaller in size than the denomination being minted. A larger blank would not fit in the feeding mechanism of the coining press.

To check if a coin was struck on a wrong blank, several easy tests can be done. First, check the date of the coin if it is visible. Detailed specifications for each year of manufacture can be found in Canadian coin catalogs. Now that you know what the specifications should be, you are ready to do some tests.

Check the color of the coin. Does it match with a Canadian coin of the same year? The coin should be checked to see if it will stick to a magnet (any fridge-magnet will do). For example, a cent struck on a 10¢ planchet will be silvery colored & magnetic. A cent plated with nickel (a fake error) would not be magnetic. Another good diagnostic is to accurately check the weight of the coin. Digital scales are fairly in-expensive – use one with

sensitivity of 1/100 of a gram if possible. Does the weight and magnetic properties match with another Canadian denomination of that year? Just to complicate things, the Winnipeg Mint also makes coins for other countries. It can be fun challenge to match an off-metal coin to the country the blank was intended for. There are some internet sources to check specifications for other countries. The Krause manuals are also helpful sources for specification information, especially the pdf version on DVD. Finally, if you're still not sure about a coin and you want an expert opinion, there are third-party companies that will verify if a coin is an authentic off-metal error. If the planchet was intended for a foreign country they won't do a search to find the exact country – it will be labeled as authentic though. In Canada, error coins can be submitted to CCCS for authenticating and grading. Graders in the USA, such as PCGS and ANACS will also authenticate errors.

Dear Sirs,

I enjoy reading your publication. I find the articles very informative. In your October issue I was gratified to find reviews of numismatic books - excellent. This gives me the opportunity to read about a particular book and make an informed decision as to whether it is worthwhile to buy. I found the review of the Spink "Coins of England" informative and consequently I went out and bought it. Upon going through it, I can say that I agree with most of what your reviewer stated. There are however a few additional points I would like to have see mentioned.

Overall it is a beautiful volume. The pictures are great. There are several shortcomings: it doesn't give the diameters, weights nor the silver or gold content of the coins. The addition of this information would be helpful for collectors to determine the authenticity of coins, especially with all the fakes being made in China these days.

Keep up your good work.

Sincerely,


JPD.

(continued on page 23)

ANCIENT GIFT WARE?

Probus was one of those short lived emperors that occupied the throne during the later half of the third century. One of the leading generals of the Empire he overthrew Florian in 276 A.D. He was successful as an Emperor but was murdered in 282 A.D. A coin minted circa 281 A.D. at the mint of Ticinium which is modern day Pavia is the subject of this article

The coin is an Aurelianus the standard silver washed coin minted in vast numbers during this time. On the obverse Probus is depicted in armour carrying a shield in his left hand and a spear over his right shoulder. On his head is a helmet which is both crested and radiate. The Aurelianus is a double denomination and the radiate crown is used to identify this coin as a double denomination. The obverse legend reads VIRTVS PROBI INVICTI AVG. Roughly translated this means Valorous Probus the Invincible Emperor. The reverse features the figure of Providence standing holding a globe and a transverse sceptre. The reverse legend reads PROVIDENT AVG the foresight of the Emperor. Below is the mark SXXI the S stands for the second officina or mint workshop and the XXI is to note that there is 5% silver in the coin and thus 20 of these coins would be the value of one silver coin of this weight.

The mark in the left field the letter Q is perhaps the most puzzling feature of this coin. For reasons that are unknown, the mint of Ticinium used a series of letters one each for each of the six officina of that mint. While this is not unusual, the subsidiary letters spell out the word EQVITI the Roman word for cavalry. In order to spell out the word, one would have to have one coin from each Officina from the mint of Ticinium. Ticinium was the headquarters for a powerful unit of Roman cavalry during this period. But is it also the first evidence of mint products? 



Member's Minute

(continued from page 22)

Thank you for the kind words, we are glad you found this review helpful. The editing team is hoping to see book reviews as a regular addition to The Planchet. If anyone else has read, or just wants to know about a numismatic book, please send us your comments and we will publish them in an upcoming issue. Thanks for taking the time to write.

The Planchet Editing Team

I keep hearing about "change-over notes". What does this mean and do they have any value? Should I be looking for them?

A changeover note is when the signature changes during any given prefix run. It doesn't necessarily

occur precisely in the middle of the run, rendering one side of the change scarcer than the other, but neither would be the full 9,999,999 note run. A good early example is the 1937 \$10 note prefix Z/D. Usually this prefix has the Coyne/Towers signature making the Gordon/Towers much scarcer. This would indicate the prefix changed early in the run.



Members can send questions or comments to editor_ens@yahoo.ca. where they would like clarification or information on numismatic or ENS items. The Planchet will do its best to publish answers to all questions it receives. Please include scans or pictures when applicable.

Everyday Money By Joe Kennedy

A W G D L Y O Z S Y G I Y M U C R
 Z E W J E A M B T Z Q P Q O I E K
 A Y R C R T W I I S P O I N T S Q
 I M C P H R R M O N E Y O R D E R
 P E K E T A B A N K D R A F T H K
 Y I I X H D R O U E T B A C Z Y P
 F T V C P E I G I C R E D I T C U
 D C Z H P T P F E A A Y O E N Q W
 T F S A A D I L L N N A C A R D W
 Z A P N Y T E L O V S C T O K E N
 C S O G R U O P R C F D E B I T Z
 R D U E Q D U F O R E I G N X N P
 G W C E B O N U S S R S Z A R K S
 I G H K C P L A S T I C K E T L F
 Y C I P T M J O V I R T U A L T W
 W G T F X S A V A J W W W I N A L
 O A W V T L E C M N M N B O E H U

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Change	Dollar	Paper (money)	Virtual (money)
Charge (card)	Donation	Pay	Win
Charity	Electronic	Plastic	

Accidental Strike Used in Newfoundland

By Alan Herbert, World Coin News
 November 10, 2009

Weren't the New Brunswick half cents of 1861 minted by accident?

They were accidentally struck by the British Royal Mint and were nearly identical to the 1861 Nova Scotia half cents. More than 222,800 were melted down. The survivors were mixed with Nova Scotia half cents and shipped to Halifax. Technically, they were not a legal coin. They were sent to New Brunswick, but they were unwanted and returned to London. Later they were shipped to Newfoundland and circulated there.



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Pro Diligo Exonumia

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English and British regal base metal coinage *part III*

By the second half of the 18th century the problems caused by the lack of a proper regal copper coinage became acute. Counterfeiting became more and more widespread, workers were being paid in worthless 'coin' and merchants would only accept copper at a discount or refused to accept it outright. It made life for merchants, tradesmen and the common people in Britain very difficult. Exacerbating this was the fact that, in addition to little regal copper being issued, except between 1770 - 75, there was also very little regal silver struck. This was, despite the enormous growth of Britain's economy, colonial empire, increasing urbanization and a growing wage labour force.

Private Mints:

In violation of Charles II's 1672 statute, outlawing the issuance and use of private tokens, merchants took matters into their own hands to deal with this intolerable situation. The periods 1787 - 95 and 1811 - 15 saw an explosion in the quantity and variety of private mint token issues.¹ Struck for private institutions and enterprises by independent private mints, their use was quickly adopted and became widespread. In many areas even government officials resolved to accept these over what had been circulating as regal copper coins. Contrary to Gresham's Law, these private issues in the areas where available, actually drove out bad money.²

Businessmen did not go through this trouble for altruistic reasons. Rather they sought to alleviate the shortage of good quality small change, which was hampering trade, the functioning and growth of their businesses.



Half-penny copper 'Druids' tradesman token issued by the Parys Copper Mines Company in Anglesey - dies by John Hancock

The case of Thomas Williams, owner of the Parys Copper mines in Anglesey, is illustrative of the difficulties faced by business people. Unable to obtain enough copper coins to pay his workers and not wanting to cheat them by paying with inferior and in all likelihood counterfeit coin, he set up his own mints. He struck a total of 300 tons of penny and half-penny copper "Druid" tokens.³

Other issuers, instead of establishing their own mints, outsourced. A total of 20 different private mints have been identified, which collectively struck over 600 tons of tradesman's tokens for hundreds of issuers between 1787 and 1797.⁴ Most of these mints were concentrated in Birmingham and environs. This city had a long tradition of craftsmanship and was the centre of the button making industry; an industry which employed many of the same techniques, machinery and skills as those needed for coining.

Tokens varied from 32 to 48 half-pence per pound weight of copper, depending upon the issuer, and were of high quality.⁵ These issues were true tokens. They did not have an intrinsic, but rather a fiduciary value. Their acceptance was backed by the good faith and credit of the issuing merchant or private institution. Each issuer guaranteed their issues and offered to redeem them for standard regal silver or gold coin. This one fact gives us the clue for the reason why the private mints took such care when striking tokens for their customers.

Government and Royal Mint reaction:

The Royal Mint, which looked upon base metal coinage as "base in virtue and dishonourable"⁶, did not offer to convert its copper coinage and thus did not have a financial risk in its quality and soundness. As usual, the cost resulting from counterfeit regal copper coins was borne by the general public.

Merchant issuers on the other hand did not have this luxury. If their tokens were easily counterfeited, they would be bankrupted. Simple capitalism thus forced private mints to do everything they could to ensure the integrity of the tokens they struck for their customers. To add to this necessity was the fact that tokens, being private issues, were not protected by counterfeiting laws.

The government and Royal Mint did not object to these private issues. It appears, from their lack of action, that both viewed it as an expedient way to solve their dilemmas. By allowing these private tokens, the government sought to alleviate the small change shortage, while avoiding the expense of issuing its own. Since they couldn't make any money on copper coins, the government of the day, in its wisdom delegated its responsibility.

The Royal Mint, despite the fact that technically private mint tokens infringed upon its prerogative,

avoided having to strike unprofitable coins. In addition, it also passed on the problems of counterfeiting to the private issuers. As long as private mints limited themselves to base metal issues, it seemed the perfect solution.

Counterfeiting - how profitable?

Small denomination base metal coins are really tokens. They do not have an intrinsic - metal content - value relative to their face value. The government, through its authority sets and gives them value. This makes them perfect candidates for counterfeiting. Coins and tokens in this regard should be looked upon as manufactured goods. As long as the total cost of production - labour and the innate metal content value - are below the face value and allow for a reasonable profit, it is economically worthwhile to counterfeit.

The solution, besides draconian laws, is to raise the cost of production so that it is no longer profitable to counterfeit. The cost of production can be raised in several ways: 1) increase the cost of labour, 2) raise the coin's intrinsic value so that this equals its face value or 3) a combination of 1 and 2.

Counterfeiters exploited the unwillingness of the government and Royal Mint to seriously address these issues to make a profit. So what did private mints do which the government and the Royal Mint would or could not do?

The Private Mint and Merchant Solutions:

Merchants of course could not afford to issue tokens which had an intrinsic value, the expense being prohibitive. Private mints, unlike the Royal Mint, were private enterprises not monopolies protected by law. Thus the forces of economy, competition and free enterprise served to create a compromise which resulted in the tradesman token. The secret to their success was the discipline which the guarantee of convertibility forced upon both the striker and issuer.

Private mints employed the best craftsmen, techniques and materials available at the time to achieve this:

1) **engravers and die sinkers**⁷: the best were employed and actively competed for, often brought from outside Britain. Famous artisans such as Jean-Pierre Droz, Rambert Dumarest and Noël-Alexandre Ponthon, former Paris Mint employees, were hired at great expense. The Royal Mint generally did not recruit from outside its own establishment. To protect their monopoly interests, Mint employees demonstrated a general prejudice against outsiders and especially foreigners. Illustrative of this is the story of the Frenchman Eloye Mestrelle (*ably told by Marc Bink in the October 2009 issue*)⁸ who while trying to bring innovation to the Mint fell victim to Mint employee intrigue and sabotage. This attitude deprived the Mint of the best talent available.



Half-penny merchant token obverse states the merchant's guarantee payable at W. Crooms on High Street in Dundee. The reverse advertises the merchant's wholesale business in wool and linen.



Half-penny merchant token issued by a lace manufacturer dated 1794.



Reverse and obverse of a George III regal copper half-penny dated 1775.

The examples above clearly demonstrate the difference between regal copper coinage and tradesman tokens. The superior and more detailed design and execution of the top two examples contrasts markedly against those of the bottom coin.

reasons: the superior skills of such craftsmen in creating intricate, deep, detailed designs and dies made tokens difficult to imitate.

2) **cast or crucible steel**⁹: this type of steel, invented in Sheffield during the mid-1740's, is free of silicon particles found in the traditional blister steel used by the Mint. This greater purity makes crucible steel harder and more uniform, allowing it to withstand greater pressures.

reasons: greater force could be applied when striking. This made it possible to make dies with greater depth and detail, which in turn allowed for tokens with better and higher relief. It also meant longer-life working dies, created by the hubbing process from one master die. Although a more

expensive steel, for the private minters its use was more economical. Cost savings were realized through more strikings per die and less reworking of the working dies. For issuers it meant a better quality and more uniform striking. The Royal Mint did not begin to use crucible steel until the 1830's.¹⁰

3) **edge treatment:** private mints generally gave their copper tokens edge designs - incuse lettering or milling. This forestalled the cheapest counterfeiting method - casting - as the molten copper would enter the edge design from the mould. The Royal Mint only bothered to do this with its silver and gold coinage.¹¹


4) **in collar striking:** the use of a collar gave tokens a uniform shape by controlling the spread of the metal as it was struck by the dies. This prevented the creation of cheap, underweight and unevenly shaped imitations.

All of these measures served to make counterfeit detection by the issuer and general public easier. They also greatly increased the cost of counterfeiting for the false moneyer. Although tradesman's tokens were counterfeited, from the evidence gathered it appears that in general the rate was very low, because of the measures above.

In addition, the issuers generally had an effective program to replace worn tokens - thus keeping the quality of what was in circulation high and reinforcing the above security measures. The Royal Mint, even if at times it employed some of these measures, undermined its efforts by not calling in and replacing worn copper coinage. This caused the quality of what had been issued to keep deteriorating and made the work of the counterfeiter easier as time went by.

You may think - if private mints and the issuers of tradesman's tokens took all these measures and their tokens were readily and widely accepted - that it was the solution to Britain's small change problem - however, it was not. The reasons are simple. None of the merchants and private enterprises, had the resources, reputation and credit with a national reach. The vast majority of merchants, manufacturers and traders were local, their reputation had a limited area, their


credit and ability to issue tokens was limited. The needs, purpose and interests of these private token issuers were local and immediate. They wanted to promote their businesses - it does not appear that any had aspirations to solve the small change crisis for all of Britain.¹²

The only institution which had the resources, credit, reputation and additionally the legal resources to do so on a national basis was the British government - it however lacked the political will. It continually balked at the cost. The Royal Mint did not see the need to act. It was a monopoly protected by law and the government. It did not realize that its reputation and position were being undermined by the problems arising from the lack of a proper regal base metal small coinage. In addition the problems caused by bimetallism - the relative position of gold vs silver in the coinage system - were causing problems with regal silver. From the 1780's on, the Mint's problems would be further complicated by the actions of Matthew Boulton. This astute and politically well connected entrepreneur's proposed solution, unlike that of the issuers of tradesman's tokens, was national in scope. It would shake the very foundations of the Mint and call its existence into question. Yet would his idea prove to be able to solve the problem once and for all? Stay tuned. 

Pierre Driessen

1) "Coins of England & The United Kingdom", 44th edition Standard Catalogue of British Coins, Spink, 2009, P.387; 2) "The Birmingham Coiners, 1770 - 1816", History Today, July 1993, p.52; 3) "Steam, hot air, and small change: Matthew Boulton and the reform of Britain's coinage." by George Selgin, Economic History Review, LVI, 3 (2003), p.482; 4) Ibid, p.479; 5) Ibid, p.480; 6) "The Birmingham Coiners", p.51; 7) "Steam, hot air, and small change: Matthew Boulton and the reform of Britain's coinage.", p.492; 8) The Planchet, October 2009 volume 56, issue 9, pgs. 4 - 8; 9) "Steam, hot air, and small change: Matthew Boulton and the reform of Britain's coinage.", pgs493-4; 10) Ibid; 11) Ibid; 12) Perhaps the only company with the resources to do something like this would have been the British East India Company, it however was focused upon international trade, not domestic issues. It too had tokens struck, but these were for use in its overseas commercial empire.

Bibliography: "The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers - Economic Change and Military Conflict from 1500 to 2000", Paul Kennedy, 1987; "A New History of The Royal Mint", C.E. Challis, 1992; "Coins of England & The United Kingdom", 44th edition, Spink, 2009; "Coincraft's Standard Catalogue of English and UK Coins, 1066 to date", 2000; "The Birmingham Coiners, 1770 - 1816", History Today, July 1993.



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1965 Pennies Explained (part 1)

by Marc Bink, with Photos and research by Dean Silver

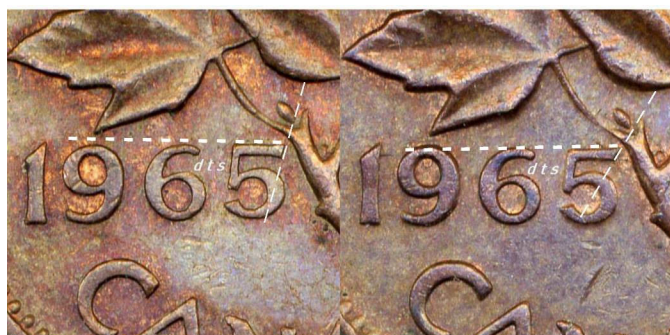
The 1965 run of Canadian pennies has always been one of the most confusing to beginning collectors. It usually takes a long time for the beginning collector to determine whether or not the "5" is blunt or pointed. Dean Silver, who does the "dts Average" for the Planchet, was asked about the subtle differences between the two types. He writes, "An individual from South Dakota asked me how do you tell the differences between the 1965 1 cent, the blunt and pointed fives". So he composed a few words on the subject and complimented them with some pictures, after which they no longer had any problems differentiating between the two. He writes:


"The differences in the fives is considered to be at the top. It has been my observation that both types of 5 are usually pointed, just that one is less pointed than the other."



"The considered to be **blunt 5** appears to be wider at the top and the 5 itself appears to be tipped forward"

"The considered to be **pointed 5** appears to be narrow at the top and the 5 itself appears to be straight".



The pictures provide a good illustration of the differences, note the angles and where the dashed lines point to. The quickest way to see the differences at a quick glance is to look at the five itself, if the pointed part sticks out past the rounded part, then it's pointed. On the blunt five the pointed tip of the 5 lines up pretty much with the rounded portion of the 5 and does not stick out past it. 



Not All Sellers Are Created Equal

This is an actual conversation an ENS member had with a seller on E-Bay, the enquiry was about a George III gold guinea.

Dear Seller, Good Evening. Please tell me what are the diameter and weight of this coin? Thank you.

Answer: The coin is not perfectly round. It measures between 25 and 26 cm.

I put it on my bathroom scale and nothing happened. Let me ask around at work today to see if someone has a better scale and I will get back to you.

New Members

November 2009

New Membership Applications

Willi Whiston, junior member #637
Zoltan Mihaly #638
Fred Hildebrandt #639
David McBride #640
Roger Lacombe #641
Richard L Banyard #642
David Papp #643

These individuals have applied for membership into the Edmonton Numismatic Society. Pending any objections from the membership at large, these individuals will be accepted as "Members in Good Standing", effective this publishing date. Any objections to the aforementioned applications must be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the Edmonton Numismatic Society, and will be evaluated by the Executive Committee on a case-by-case basis.

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COMING EVENTS

Spring 2010

Edmonton's Money (Coin) Show

date: March 6 & 7, 2010 (Saturday and Sunday)

times: Saturday 10:00 - 17:30 hrs, Sunday 10:00 - 16:30 hrs

location: Mayfield Inn and Suites, Grande Ballroom

16615 - 109 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

parking: free

admission: \$5.00 (under 16 years of age free)

info: www.edmontoncoinclub.com or info_ens@yahoo.ca

dealers wishing to attend please call: (780) 270-6312

Fall / Winter 2010

Edmonton's Money (Coin) Show

date: November 6 & 7, 2010 (Saturday and Sunday)

times: Saturday 10:00 - 17:30 hrs, Sunday 10:00 - 16:30 hrs

location: Mayfield Inn and Suites, Grande Ballroom

16615 - 109 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

parking: free

admission: \$5.00 (under 16 years of age free)

info: www.edmontoncoinclub.com or info_ens@yahoo.ca

dealers wishing to attend please call: (780) 270-6312

Email your events to editor_ens@yahoo.ca

BUYING/WANTED

Wanted early French medals dating from 1642-1821. Contact Pierre pierre@nancykbrown.com

Buying all period Napoleonic memorabilia & Militaria. Contact Bill wjdy2k@hotmail.com

Looking to buy early English or German hammered coins. Contact Marc mbink@shaw.ca

Wanted BU Original Rolls of Canadian Cents from 1950 & 1952
Bob 780-980-1324

WANTED Recylable used plastic coin fl ips. Any Qty. Bring to next club meeting. See Howard.
taneri9@netscape.ca

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josephkennedy@shaw.ca

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Large collection of certified & raw coins & banknotes, some up to 50% off cat. Inc. Errors. Call John 780-455-8375

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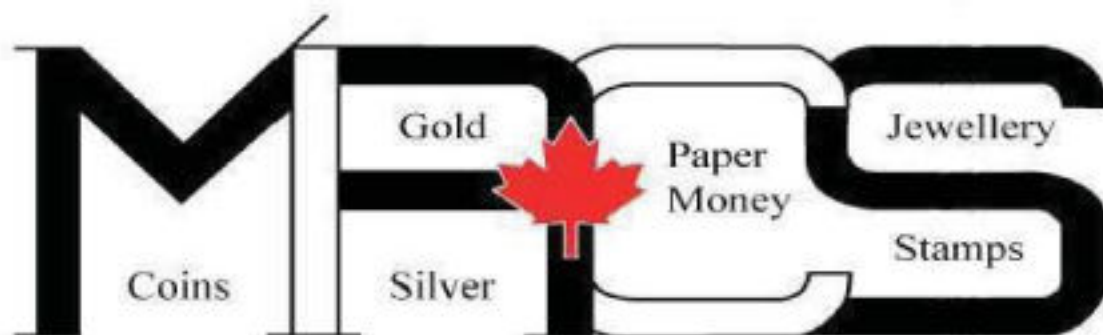
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