



EDMONTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY



APRIL 1997

JOIN "THE TRAIL OF '98" IN EDMONTON AT THE 1998 CNA

Volume 43 Issue 4

1997/98 EXECUTIVE

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The ENS is a member of:

Canadian Numismatic Association

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Canadian Paper Money Society

Classical & Medieval
Numismatic Society

MEETING NOTICE

DATE : SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 1997

TIME : 8:30 A.M., BREAKFAST SERVED AT 9:00 A.M. SHARP!

**PLACE: CONVENTION INN, 4404 CALGARY TRAIL, EDMONTON
(LOOK FOR EVENTS BOARD FOR ROOM LOCATION)**

**PROGRAM : BREAKFAST MEETING WITH GUEST SPEAKERS
STAN WRIGHT, ALBERN COINS, TALKING ON THE 1911
DOLLAR, AND LUB WOJTIW ON CANADIAN PAPER ODDITIES**

APRIL MEETING AGENDA

The April meeting has been re-scheduled from the Museum, to the location of our Spring Coin & Stamp Show at the Convention Inn. This breakfast meeting will be held at 8:30 a.m. Saturday April 12, in the Edmonton Room, which is upstairs on the 2nd floor of the Hotel. The breakfast will be served at 9:00 a.m. sharp, in order to get our 2 guest speakers in before the bourse opens. Our first guest speaker will be Stan Wright, Albern Coins, Calgary, who will speak on the 'King of Canadian Coins', the 1911 Pattern Silver Dollar. There is a possibility the coin will be brought up for our show, but confirmation will follow this publication. Our second speaker will be Lub Wojtiw, who will talk on Canadian no Serial number notes. Examples will be brought for the members to view and guess which are real and which are man made! Cost for the breakfast will be \$10.00, which is the club cost for the meal. Please RSVP to Mike at 450-0155 by the end of day, Thursday, April 10th. Members and Guests welcome! Members are encouraged to bring a friend or guest to the breakfast or to the bourse. See you all there !

***Don't forget to bring
your sold & un-sold
admission tickets to the
show. All tickets are to
be returned by noon
Saturday !***

MARCH MEETING MINUTES

Twenty - two (22) members and guests were in attendance at March's meeting. Joe announced the spring show a success, as we have 19 coin & stamp dealers in 24 spots at the show. Only 4 spots are left: 2 single tables and 2 doubles. We are hoping for a few more stamp dealers, and hope to sign them up at the upcoming Stamp show in Edmonton. Joe also requested members help in manning the admission table for the weekend. Help is requested in 2-3 hour shifts for both Sat. & Sunday. Members are requested to call Joe at 435-3294 with your preferred times. Also, displays are needed for the show. Thanks to the 2 members who volunteered at the meeting. Also, we will be having a display at the Wild Rose Antique and Collectibles show on April 19 & 20. Members will also be requested to man this show for the weekend. Please contact Mike at 450-0155 with your support. The club has 2 free passes for the show for members helping out. Our Guest speaker for the evening was Reinhard Hermesh, who gave a presentation and display on Cameo Coins. Handouts were given with definitions and rarity lists provided. Reinhard reviewed his collecting interests and how he got into Cameo coins. He provided an informative and lively presentation which included population reports, reference books and coins for comparison. The presentation was very well received and concluded with several questions from the members. Dan provided a short talk on the '98 Medal Design contest, and encouraged members who have

MARCH MEETING MINUTES CON'T

not yet submitted a design, to do so. In addition, we had member Jim Kindrake provide an interesting talk on his recent Cuba trip. Jim found many unlisted coins on this trip and many of their coins are hard to find. Our door prize of a 1 oz. silver Mexico Libertad, was won by Carl Ozadetz.

APRIL SHOW TICKETS DUE

Members are reminded to return all sold and unsold tickets and money to the Coin show by noon Saturday. Money is to be turned over to Joe, Mike or John. If you are not able to go to the show and have tickets and money to turn in, please call Joe at 435-3294 to arrange them to be picked up before the weekend. Members are encouraged to sell as many tickets as they can prior to the show, as attendees will have to pay \$2.00 at the door. Also, remember, the 11th ticket in the pack goes to the seller for the draws. If you have already sold your tickets, please call Joe and return them as soon as possible.

APRIL SHOW VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers to man the admission table are needed at the April show. In addition, some members are needed to guide dealers to their tables and possibly help bring in their supplies. Members who are able to help out are urged to contact Mike as soon as possible, and a schedule will be made up to accommodate all volunteers. If you are going to be at the show and can stay a few additional hours, your help would be appreciated. As we have a breakfast meeting going on the same time as dealer setup, we need people to help with the breakfast as well. If you have not done this sort of thing before, please consider offering your support. The experience will be well worth it! Please call today with your support! MS

CALL FOR DISPLAYS - APRIL SHOW

The ENS has a limited number of openings for displays for our April Show. Members wishing to display are asked to contact Mike with the type of display and number of cases. (Max. of 2 per display) The displays must be set up before 10:00 a.m. on Saturday April 12. Cases will be provided which are 18" x 30" inside dimensions. You are required to provide your own background sheet or cloth.

WILD ROSE ANTIQUE SHOW DISPLAY

The ENS has been approved to provide a display at the April 19th and 20th Antique and Collectibles Show. Display material is required from members as well as volunteers to man the table. We have room for 2 cases of coins as well as printed material. Members who have old posters from shows in the 60's and 70's are to advise the club. Members who are able to man the table for a few hours are to contact Mike with preferred times. As this event has an attendance in the thousands, the exposure for the Club will be huge. Your support for this event would be appreciated. Members who have excess foreign coinage are urged to donate it to the club, who will allow children attending the show to pick out a free coin. Please contact Mike if you can help out. MS

CNA '98 UPDATE

'98 MEDAL DESIGNS DUE BY APRIL SHOW

The club has received several proposals for our '98 medal design, and have extended the deadline to the April Show. Members are encouraged to submit a design or several. Some topics that could be used are: Klondike events, Historical events in the Edmonton area, Historical items such as trains, bridges, buildings that are 25, 50, 75 or 100 years from 1998. Refer to your November 1996 newsletter for rules and sample outline.

MEETING WITH TOM KENNEDY OF CNA HELD

On March 20th, I was in London on family business, and had arranged to meet Tom Kennedy, 2nd Vice-President of the CNA. We went over the Bourse layouts we had developed, as well as Bourse requirements and security. Several designs have been proposed and with Tom's suggestions, additional proposals will be worked out. A report of our executive committee has been forwarded to Ken Prophet for inclusion in their end of April meeting, outlining discussions and decisions made to date.

HOTEL

A meeting was held on March 31st with the Convention Inn, to go over some of the details for our April show, as well as review requirements for the '98 show. Dan, Joe and Mike met to discuss layouts and security, as well as confirm access /egress to the Bourse area. Table layouts and types were discussed and options presented by the hotel. Details to finalize the layouts will be presented to the executive in May.

PRICES REALIZED - MARCH AUCTION

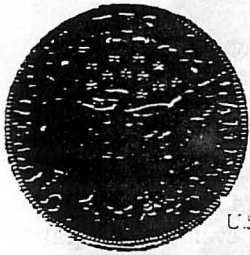
LOT	SOLD	LOT	SOLD	LOT	SOLD
1.	\$4.00	2.	\$16.00	3.	\$4.00
4.	\$15.00	5.	\$8.00	6.	\$3.00
7.	\$4.00	8.	\$8.00	9.	\$7.00
10.	\$2.50	11.	\$6.00	12.	\$26.00
13.	\$13.00	14.	\$4.00	15.	\$5.00
16.	\$10.00	17.	\$6.00	18.	\$2.00
19.	\$4.00	20.	\$12.00	21.	\$4.00
22.	\$2.00	23.	\$3.00	24.	\$1.00
25.	\$12.50	26.	\$2.00	27.	\$1.50
28.	\$3.00	29.	\$10.00	30.	\$6.00

(Bold indicates Mail bid received)

Clarifications- Lot 2- 1985; Lot 8 - 1 1/4 oz sil.; Lot 26 - 1994.

1997 CNA CONVENTION

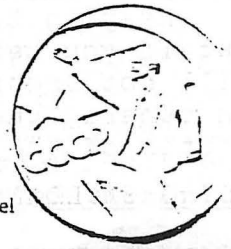
Planning to go to the '97 convention in Moncton! If you are, let the ENS executive know and we can arrange to keep in contact with other members attending. The Convention is being held from July 23 to 27, at the Keddy's Brunswick Hotel in Moncton. Information on the Convention can be obtained from the Moncton Coin Club, P.O. Box 54, Moncton, NB, E1C 8R9. If you want a great vacation, a lot of lobster and a new experience in coin collecting, make your plans today!



U.S. gold "eagle," 1797

The power of money

Written by
JOE CRIBB



USSR cupro-nickel
ruble, 1967

It has been said that the love of money is the root of all evil, and it certainly seems to be for some people; misers love their own money and thieves love other people's! Money has tempted many people into crime, but curiously, money also has the reputation of bringing luck. There are many curious beliefs about the power of money. Since ancient times, coins have been used to drive off demons, to ensure a safe journey after death, to cure the plague, to protect in battle, and to guarantee everlasting love.

Perhaps the most famous story of greed is the legend of King Midas, who asked the gods to give him the ability to turn all he touched into gold. It was not a kind gift, as he soon discovered. His pleasure soon turned to pain as food, drink, and finally his favourite daughter also turned to gold!

The root of all evil

Money itself is surely not evil; it is nothing more than a necessary part of everyday life. However, some people are so deperate for money that they rob, cheat, and kill--where there is crime there is often money.

COIN CLIPPINGS



Before the invention of coinmaking machines, coins were not perfectly round. It was easy to trim a little off the edge of silver coins without anyone noticing, and the coins could still be spent. Coins like these, clipped from English coins.

(late 17th century), were melted down. In London during William III's reign (1689-1702), people were executed for this crime.

BEWARE...PIRATES!

Spanish treasure fleets shipping silver "pieces of eight" and gold doubloons from Mexico to Europe were the main target of pirates. Since the pirates had few opportunities to spend their loot, they often buried their treasure, saving it for their "retirement fund".

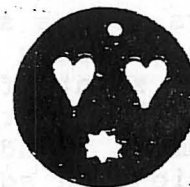
LOVE TOKENS AND KEEPSAKES

In Britain and America, it used to be the custom for engaged couples to exchange coins as pledges of their love. Tokens were also made as keepsakes of dead loved ones and transported convicts as well as to celebrate a birth.



Keepsake of child
who died aged
18 months

Hearts and doves
symbolizing love



THIRTY PIECES OF SILVER

One of the world's most famous crimes, the betrayal of Jesus by one of his followers. Judas, had its cash reward: 30 pieces of silver shekels from the Phoenician city of Tyre. Tyrian shekels were the only silver coins available in quantity in 1st-century Palestine.

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ARE YOU A MISER??

Keeping track of your money is a good idea, but if you become so obsessed with it that you will not spend any of it either on yourself or on others, then you have undoubtedly become a victim of the power of money.



HEALING SWORD AND COINS



A demon-dispelling Chinese coin sword was hung above the bed of a sick person to ward off evil spirits. Sometimes a coin-shaped exorcism charm was used instead. In Britain monarchs gave sick subjects a gold coin to help cure them. In Germany silver medals were thought to protect a person from the plague.

.... Silver Medal

Gold Coin...



Money myth and magic

It is not difficult to see why money is considered a source of good fortune. Rich people seem to be blessed with plenty of good fortune because they can buy anything they need. However, many cultures believe money has a more magical, spiritual power. Some believe it can ward off evil spirits. The pictures and words on coins often add to their "power" to bring good luck.

"ANY FARES PLEASE"

According to mythology, the ancient Greeks put an "obol" a silver coin, into the mouth of a corpse to pay Charon the ferryman to take the corpse across the river Styx into Hades. A coin was found in the mouth of a Persian corpse.

HELL MONEY

The Chinese send money to their dead ancestors by regularly burning special banknotes like the one here.

This note claims to be an issue of the Bank of Hell.....

HOLY COINS

Travelers wore a silver coin to gain the protection of St. George, patrol saint of horsemen.

Indian Muslims carries the name of Mohammed, founder of the Islamic religion, on square silver rupees.

The image of the monkey god Hanuman on the silver rupee gave comfort to Hindus.



Corpse hands over his fare to Charon the ferryman



The monkey god Hanuman, guardian of those in need



One million dollars!

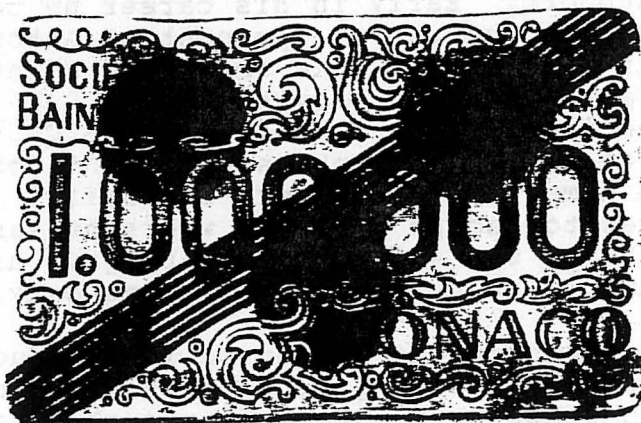


If you were suddenly to become a millionaire, what would you do with your newly acquired wealth? Would you rush out and spend it all right away? Would you plan carefully what you were going to do with it all--perhaps investing some and saving the rest for the future? Or would you save it all, never spending or giving any of it away? If you were to rush out to the stores to spend it, you might

find that it is more difficult than you imagined! Like many young millionaires, you could spend much of it on designer clothes, records, tapes, computers, stereos, and vacations, but you would still have a lot left.

RARE COINS

These three coins (actual size) are worth thousands of dollars each. The Roman gold coin, the English gold five-guinea coin of Queen Anne, and the ancient Greek silver 10-drachma coin are valuable because they are rare. However, you do not need to be a millionaire to collect coins.



MONTE CARLO MADNESS

Some people enjoy gambling with their money. For them, the excitement of playing games of chance to increase their fortune is often an addiction. Even if they lose, they still dream of winning a fortune. Monte Carlo, Monaco, a town in southeastern France, is perhaps the most famous gambling center for the rich. This gambling chip is for one million francs, and would have been used in the 1930s.

FINE WINE?



Buying old wine is a gamble not many people are willing to try. The wine of Chateau Lafite is famous, and a bottle of 1902 vintage like this would cost around \$600. at auction. However, there is a high risk that wine that old will be totally undrinkable, so most collectors prefer to leave the bottle unopened; it seems that they derive enough satisfaction from just looking at the bottle to justify such an expense!

STACKS OF MONEY

There are 10,000 one-hundred dollar bills in \$1 million. The Sultan of Brunei is believed to be the richest man in the world--his fortune is estimated at around \$25 billion.

GOIN, GOING, GONE!

People can spend a lot of money in an auction room--often much more than they intended to!

(REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION OF THE INGERSOLL COIN CLUB)



Herod the Great

by William Rodger

Though he was never an emperor, only tetrarch of a relatively minor province (Galilee), Herod was thought to be the richest and most influential man in the annals of Rome. Many believed he could have toppled the entire empire if he wished, and installed himself at its head. But he was too content with his position, living in a sort of heaven-on-earth paradise.

Herod was the second son of Antipater, born at Ascalon in Judea in 71 B.C. In 46 B.C. he was appointed by his father to the post of governor of Galilee. One of his first actions was to round up a band of thieves and crucify their leader. The Sanhedrin were ruffled at this, as Herod had not permitted the men a trial, but found themselves powerless to act against him as he had great public support. Early in his career he belonged to the party of Brutus and Cassius, and was an opponent of Antony. Following their deaths, he decided it was wise to make amends with Antony and won the appointment of tetrarch at his native province.

However, Judea did not prove the ideal place to be. In 40 B.C. the Parthian Greeks sent their armies into Judea and captured it. Antigonus was placed on the throne and all the Roman officials were summarily booted out or executed. Herod managed to escape to Rome, where he was free and alive but out of a job. Antony, who still had power, gave him the honorary title of King of the Jews. But he was king in name only, so long as the Parthians held Judea.

As soon as Herod gained this distinction, he wanted to invade Judea, retake it, and assume his role of king. Conferring with the Roman generals he used all sorts of arguments to tempt them into making such a campaign, all to no avail. Judea, in the opinion of most military men, was well fortified. But finally, in 38 B.C., a general named Sossius commanded a force which took the territory and Herod returned the following year.

Herod's career at Judea was not entirely one of peace and leisure. When a political murder occurred, Cleopatra summoned Herod to acquit himself before Antony. Making use of his wealth, Herod bribed himself out of the jam. Later Herod had his brother, Joseph, put to death for failing to carry out an order to murder Herod's wife, Marianne. Instead of doing his work, Joseph had warned Marianne that her life was in danger. When war broke out between the forces of Octavian and Antony, Herod allied himself with his old patron, Antony, which turned out to be the losing side. Actually, Herod is said to have hated them both.

Antony gave Herod an army and sent him into battle against the Arabians. Here he won a victory, but all was lost at the battle of Actium, in which Herod did not take part. When it was over, Herod declared his allegiance with Octavian and was spared. In a show of special favor, Octavian restored Herod to his position in Judea.

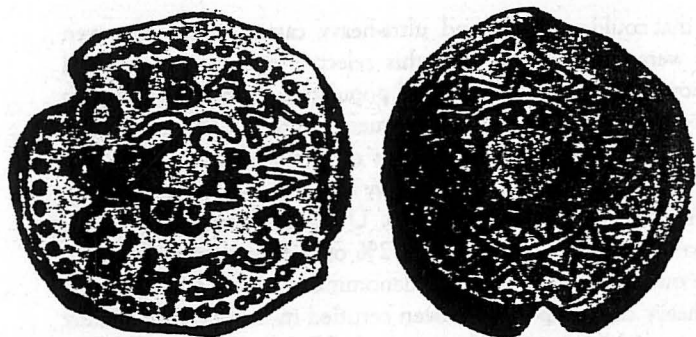
Herod shocked everyone, Jew and Roman, by his conduct in Judea. He closed the temples and imposed harsh Roman laws on the people. On the

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PERSONALITIES ON ANCIENT COINS (Cont'd)

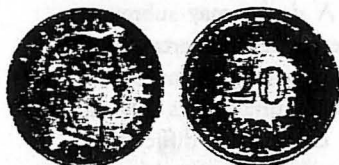
ruins of their buildings he constructed palaces, sports arenas, gardens, and a series of public buildings, all in the Roman manner. Very little of these structures remains today, but there is still hope of uncovering their ruins in archaeological work. Models have been built, based partly on archaeological work and partly on reports in literature, and serve to suggest their brilliance. None of Rome's palaces, not even those built by Nero, could approach them. Herod's villa was covered in pure gold, both inside and out, and stocked with the most valuable of Greek art works. In the center of the city, a columned colonnade was erected, stretching more than two miles in length, leading to a huge amphitheatre. Here Herod instituted his own "olympic games," which he ordered held in honor of Octavian. When the real olympic games--those in Asia Minor-- were in danger of disbanding for lack of funds, Herod gave fortunes in gold to support them. He also gave away money for many other causes.

Once during his term of office, Herod was the subject of an assassination plot, but the conspirators were found out and put to death. As the years passed, he increased the territories under his control and added to their splendor. In the year 4 B.C. he died of natural causes, after ruling 34 years.



A warrior's helmet on obverse and a Macedonian shield on reverse of this silver coin of Herod I, surnamed The Great, were an attempt to claim descent from the illustrious Macedonian kings.

DID YOU KNOW????

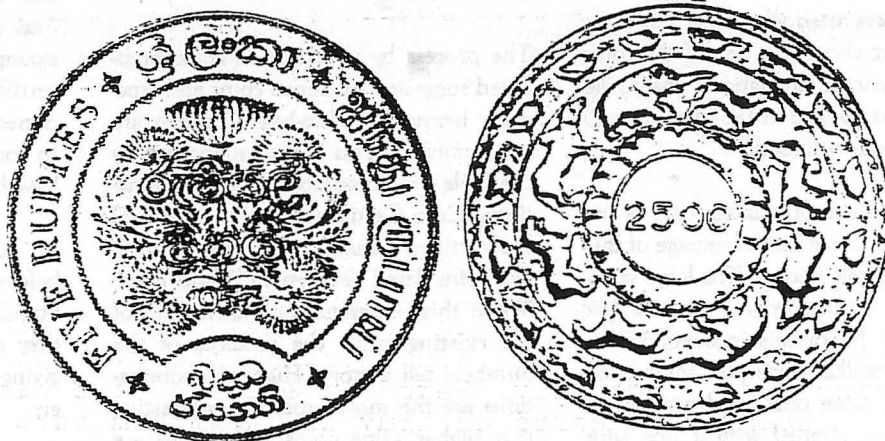


.....who issued the first nickel coin??

It was the 20 Rappen coin issued by Switzerland in 1881.

.....that a coin commemorating a 2500 anniversary was once struck??

It was struck by Ceylon in 1957 to honor the anniversary of Buddhism.



.....that much early banking consisted of burying one's money or stuffing it into a mattress? Even today many French people hide their gold coins in their mattresses. Play it safe members, the safest place for your coins and money is in the bank!

How Common are Cameo PL Coins?

Numbers of Proof-like Coins Graded by ICCS*

Cameo:	None	Cameo	Heavy	Ultra-	Totals
1 cent	221	135	72	1	429
5 cent	142	90	70	6	308
10 cent	107	294	195	26	622
25 cent	281	257	190	59	787
50 cent	319	358	453	26	1156
\$1	1094	887	547	20	2548
Total	2164	2021	1527	138	5850

* from ICCS Population Report June 1996

The era 1948 to 1968 represents the high point of Canadian economic optimism and opportunity. The country had just wound up on the winning side of WW2, in which it not only escaped intact, but suddenly found itself a major player on the world stage. Canada's coins were still made from silver and the dollar was good as gold, tied to the US dollar at \$35- an ounce. In 1948 the Royal Canadian Mint started to experiment with specially struck coins for sale to the general public. At first, only dollar coins were struck, later other denominations were included. By 1953, special complete mint sets were made available. The mint never acknowledged these coins as anything but uncirculated and felt that they were not equipped to strike full proof coins. However, coin collectors recognized that these sets were special, a cut above the run of the mint pieces for general circulation. The name proof-like was applied in 1954 by James E. Charlton and is still used.

The process which originated some of the beautiful and scarce cameo coinage of this era is not entirely known. The large variations in this coinage by year suggests that it was a very hit or miss process. When striking proof-like coins the mint used regular dies, often ones used previously. The dies were cleaned with a fine wire brush and sometimes pickled in a bath of dilute nitric acid. The brushing and acid

bath left a fragile 'bloom' that could easily be scraped off. The dies were then polished. This polishing removed the bloom from the fields but not from the devices. When the coins were struck the bloom produced cameo-like devices on polished fields. The pressure of striking quickly caused the cameo effect to fade. The first coins to be struck (maybe only the first 3 to 5) developed an ultra-heavy cameo appearance. With the pressure and friction of striking each successive coin had somewhat less contrast. Later coins were heavy cameo and this rapidly wore to a cameo effect. Even this wore quickly and the vast majority of proof-like coins do not exhibit any contrast between the devices and the fields, even for exceptional high grade pieces.

The process by which these coins originated suggests that cameo coins and especially heavy and ultra-heavy cameos are not common. This is also supported by the table presented above. The International Coin Certification Service (ICCS) has certified almost six thousand proof-like coins dated between 1953 and 1968. While this represents only a fraction of the existing coins the patterns of the numbers tell a story. Higher denominations are the most expensive, suggesting that higher value coins value coins are preferentially certified. This preference also holds for the cameo, heavy cameo

and ultra-heavy cameo coins. Yet even with this selective submission the total certified population drops with each step up in cameo contrast. Cameo and brilliant coins make up 72% of the population, heavy cameo contrast coins represent 26%. Ultra-heavy cameo coins make up only 2% of the certified population. In no denomination has a complete date set been certified in heavy cameo. Many dates in each denomination have no certified ultra-heavy cameo coins, even though such coins are submitted very preferentially compared to those showing lesser contrast. A dealer may submit a nice cameo 50 cent piece of a certain date but not bother with a low price proof-like coin that shows no contrast. This suggests that ultra-heavy cameos are difficult to find and do not exist in quantity. For example, in the 50 cent series ICCS has certified only 26 coins in ultra-heavy cameo for all years from 1953 to 1967. In some denominations no cameo coins have been certified for certain years.

In summary, high grade cameo coins before 1968 are beautiful to collect and literally represent the best of the best, they are objects of beauty and rarity, giving great delight and pride their owners.

Do Cameo Coins become more common as certified populations increase?

Numbers of *Minor* Coins Certified from 1992 to 1996*

	1992	1994	1995	1996
No Cameo	632	788	922	1070
Cameo	749	920	1046	1134
Heavy Cameo	589	712	886	980
Ultra Heavy Cameo	94	100	114	118
Total Certified	2042	2520	2673	3302
UHC as a percentage of the total population	4.6%	4.0%	3.8%	3.6%

* from ICCS Population Reports

If cameo and ultra-heavy cameo coins are being preferentially submitted for certification they would over time form a larger percentage of the certified population. This should be especially true for the minor proof-like coins which are often considered as having little value unless showing a heavy or ultra cameo contrast. The table above shows that this is assumption is simply not the case. First, the data indicate that cameo coins are being submitted in preference to no cameo coins. However, even with

this preference the number of ultra-heavy cameos continues to decline as a percentage of the total submitted. They represented 4.6 % of the total certified population in 1992, but now form just 3.6% of the minor coin population. This certainly suggests that examples of uncertified ultra heavy cameo coins are becoming increasingly scarce. But how about heavy cameos. Are not the numbers increasing. Yes they are. However, as a proportion of the total they too are declining. They formed 35.7%

of the certified population in 1992 and now represent only 29.7%. The data certainly suggests that heavy and ultra-heavy cameo coins were always scarce and are becoming increasingly hard to find. It is now unlikely that the remaining uncertified populations contain a large percentage of high grade cameo pieces.

The table below shows that the same relationships hold for the silver dollar denomination.

Numbers of Silver Dollars Certified from 1992 to 1996

	1992	1994	1995	1996
No Cameo	738	834	1024	1094
Cameo	545	645	815	887
Heavy Cameo	276	361	496	547
Ultra Heavy Cameo	15	16	20	20
Total Certified	1574	1856	2355	2548
UHC as a percentage of the total population	0.95 %	0.86 %	0.85 %	0.78 %

* from ICCS Population Reports

Edmonton Numismatic Society

COIN, STAMP & COLLECTIBLES SHOW



CONVENTION INN

4404 CALGARY TRAIL

EDMONTON, ALBERTA

APRIL 12th & 13th, 1997

Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Admission \$1.00 Advance

\$2.00 at the Door (16 & under FREE)

COIN DISPLAYS, DOOR PRIZE DRAWS

April 12th Breakfast Meeting, 9:00 a.m.

with guest speaker, door prize, \$10.

RSVP Mike @ 450-0155 by April 10th.



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT YOUR LOCAL COIN DEALER

OR CALL 435-3294 OR 433-7288