

The Planchet

Vol: 55
Issue: 9
December 2008



This Issue

Coins of the Ayyubid Empire

Confined to a Plastic Prison

Tetradrachm of Nero.....

On L.S.D.

La Marseillaise

Next Meeting

DONATION AUCTION
Wednesday, December 10, 2008
Doors 7:00pm -- Meeting 7:30pm
Royal Alberta Museum
12845-102 Ave, Edmonton

Contact

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Edmonton's Money Show a Success

Once again the Edmonton Numismatic Society hosted a very successful money show. The show was held on November 8&9 at the Mayfield inn. With over 50 dealers in attendance, this years money show was one of the biggest in ENS history and one of the



biggest shows in Canada. Hundreds of attendees swarmed into the bourse room over the weekend. With dealers in attendance from across Canada there was a wide variety of numismatics that were available for purchase. Other notable events from the show where an educational symposium held on Sunday that was



free for all show attendees. Garth Wright gave an interesting discussion that was well received by those in attendance. This show also had more displays submitted including a Remembrance Day military exhibit that was given many compliments from

show attendees. The kids on coins table hosted a treasure hunt in the bourse. While looking around the bourse kids who took part were able to get free coins when they spotted a hidden icon at a dealers table. The RCNA and ENS also had tables at the show, where they displayed copies of their publications and signed up memberships. Although the economy is going through a slow period, most of the dealers said they had a strong show. The next Money show will be held at the Mayfield inn, March 14&15, 2009. We hope that this show will be just as successful as this last one.



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The Edmonton Numismatic Society

The Edmonton Numismatic Society (ENS) dates back to September 1953. At that time the members met and discussed the hobby under the name, the Edmonton Coin Club. During the 1960's, 70's, and 80's the Club sponsored 20 Annual Coin-A-Rama shows, issuing many collectable souvenirs. In 1979, The City of Edmonton's 75th Anniversary, the Club was host to its first CNA Convention. A number of mini shows and Anniversary shows were held during the 1980's and 90's. As a reflection of the varied collecting interest of the current membership, and a continuing commitment to promote the hobby, the Club changed its name to the Edmonton Numismatic Society (formerly the Edmonton Coin Club) just prior to hosting its second CNA Convention in 1998. Since 1996 the Club has sponsored two shows each year, one in the late winter/early spring and one in the fall. The ENS will host the first RCNA Convention in 2009.

Club Meetings

NEXT MEETING

December 2008

Wednesday December 10, 2008
Royal Alberta Museum 12845-102 Ave
Doors open at 7:00pm Meeting starts 7:30pm

~ **DONATION AUCTION:** Members are asked to bring along any items they wish to donate, numismatic or otherwise, and all proceeds go to a worthy cause determined by the ENS executive.

~ **Speaker:** Marc Bink

Topic: The coins of Lubeck

~ **Collector presentations to follow.**

~ **Nominations for ENS executive positions**

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

ENS is a Member of:

Canadian Numismatic Association
American Numismatic Association
Canadian Paper Money Society

November 2008

The November meeting began with an interesting talk by Pierre Driessen about the portraiture of 18th and 19th century French medals. The talk gave a walk through of the different portraits of Napoleon, depicted on French Medals. Later in the evening collector presentations were made by various club members. The members took the floor and explained their interests and their history of how they became coin collectors. At the end of the meeting the members were also reminded that the December club meeting will be the annual club benefit auction night. After the evening was over many of the club members, including some new faces, met up at the traditional meeting place, the Boston Pizza on 124th street.

Message from the President

Greetings all, the busy season has come and gone in a blink of an eye. For myself, Edmonton's Money Show was over too quickly, and I didn't get a chance to chat with everyone. This November saw a strong show for most dealers even with the forecasted downturn in the economy. I think this is the first show in recent history that there were no dealer no-shows, all 79 tables were full. We had just over 500 paid attendees, which is about average. The military displays were a nice touch on remembrance day weekend.

I'd like to personally thank each of the volunteers who helped make it possible, without them we'd have no show. We should also extend our thanks to Kevin Dyck and the Mayfield Inn & Suites, for being such cooperative hosts.

Our 2009 RCNA committee had a chance to sit in on the RCNA executive meeting Sunday morning. We reported our progress on the 2009 RCNA convention, as well as presented the RCNA medal competition finalists. Thanks to all the entries, they are all worthy. The RCNA will be making the final decision shortly.

This November's show saw the launch of a few experimental programs, namely the Sunday educational symposium and the fellowship breakfast. Neither program was hugely attended, but it was a learning curve, and if we continue these we'll know how to proceed next time. Thank you to Garth Wright, Marc Bink, and Ron Darbyshire for pioneering this aspect of our show.

One doesn't have to ponder long to come to the conclusion that numismatics is not for the masses. I have no idea why... everybody likes coins, notes, and investments. Given a population of around a million, it seems strange to me that we can only draw 500 people to the largest coin show in Canada!

To bring the appeal of coin collecting to the masses is a tough job. On that note, I think we should commend the Royal Canadian Mint for minting such coins as the 2010 Olympic quarters and marketing them to the masses as collectibles. With any luck, series like these will plant the seed for future collectors. In the States, an estimated 127 million "collectors" gobbled up the state quarters, a series second only to the legendary Lincoln Cent for collectability. We can only hope that the RCM's series are just as inspiring to Canadians.

Our next general meeting December 10th includes the Donation Auction. Just bring along any items you'd like to donate, numismatic or otherwise, and all proceeds go to a worthy cause determined by the ENS executive.

See you then!

Jamie

Thank You

The ENS wishes to thank all the volunteers who helped in making November's Money Show a success.

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- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| • <i>Jamie Horkulak</i> | • <i>Greg Wichman</i> |
| • <i>Pierre Driessen</i> | • <i>Graham Sproule</i> |
| • <i>Marc Bink</i> | • <i>Larry Priestnall</i> |
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| • <i>Dorothy Gilbey</i> | • <i>Ron Darbyshire</i> |
-

A special thank you to Garth Wright for his interesting talk that was held on Sunday.

We thank all the dealers who attended the show, and the courteous hotel staff that accommodated us.

We would also like to thank everyone else who helped out at the show who we have not mentioned.

Coins of the Ayyubid Empire

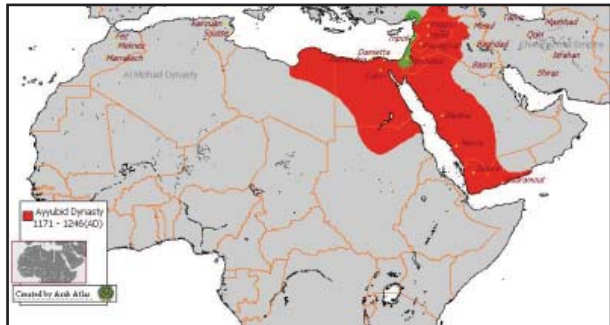
BY CHRISTOPHER HALE

The Ayyubid Empire, which ruled over parts of what are now Egypt, Syria, Mesopotamia (modern Iraq), Saudi Arabia and Yemen, lasted from 1171 to 1250. It was named after Najm ud-Dīn Ayyūb, a Kurdish soldier of fortune.

Saladin (Ṣalāḥ ud-Dīn), son of Najm ud-Dīn Ayyūb, was invested by the Abbasid caliph, the head of the Sunni Moslems, as Lord of Egypt in 1171 after the death of the last Fatimid imam, the ruler in Cairo. In 1183 Saladin conquered Damascus and Jerusalem during the Third Crusade in 1187. Saladin ruled also in Yemen, the Hejaz, part of modern Saudi Arabia, and upper Iraq. Just before his death in 1193 Saladin divided his empire among his regional vassals, but the empire was ruled as a family federation. In 1250 the Mamluks killed the Ayyubid sultan of Egypt and took over the empire, but the Principality of Halab in Syria continued under Ayyubid rule until 1260.

Seven Ayyubid principalities issued coins – Egypt, Halab (Aleppo), Damascus and Hamah in Syria, The Jazirah and Hisn Kayfa in Mesopotamia, and Yemen. The main denominations were the gold dinar, originally 4.25 grams, the silver dirham, originally 2.97 grams and the copper fals of varying weight. It is not known what the relationship was between gold, silver and copper. Sometimes fractions of these denominations were minted. In Mesopotamia large copper dirhams were also struck.

Some of the characteristics of Ayyubid coins are that they are fairly well struck, and ornamentation (stars, squares, lobes, etc.) is frequently used on them. Usually on the obverse are the name and titles of the ruler, and on the reverse are the name and titles of the Abbasid caliph. The Arabic word: الملك (Al-malik = The king) usually starts the obverse inscription, and the Arabic word: الإمام (Al-Imām = The Imam [religious leader]) usually starts the reverse inscription. Usually the date (written out) and mint are in the margins of one side. The Kalima, (the profession of faith) (“There is no god but Allah, Muḥammad is the prophet of Allah”) is often in the margins on the



The Ayyubid Empire at its greatest extent (Wikipedia)



Dirham of Saladin, 585 A.H. (1189/90 A.D.), Hama



other side. Figures of people or animals frequently appear on the copper dirhams.

The obverse of Saladin's Hamah dirham reads: "Al-Malik An-Nāṣir (The Defending King, Saladin's regal title), Ṣalāḥ ud-Dunyā wa ud-Dīn (The honour of the world and the faith, his honorary title), Yūsuf (his personal name), bin Ayyūb (son of Ayyūb)". In the margins is the inscription: "Ḍuriba bi-Ḥamāh sanat khams wa themānīn wa khamsmi'at (Struck in Hamah year five hundred eighty-five).

The reverse of Saladin's Hamah dirham reads: Al-Imām (The Imam, the Abbasid caliph Al-Nāṣir's religious title), An-Nāṣir li-Dīn Allah (The Defender of the Faith of Allah, the caliph's honorary title), Amīr al-Mūmīnīn (The Commander of the Faithful). In the margins is the Kalima, the profession of faith ("Lā illah illā Allah, Muḥammad rasūl Allah" = There is no god but Allah, Muḥammad is the prophet of Allah).

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Dirham of Saladin, 579 A.H. (1183/84), Damascus

The obv. of Saladin's Damascus dirham reads like his Hamah dirham, except in the margins is: "Ḍuriba bi-Dimshq sanat tis' wa sab'in wa khamsmi'at (Struck in Damascus year five hundred seventy-nine)".

The reverse of Saladin's Damascus dirham reads like his Hamah dirham. (Center)



Dinar of Al-Kāmil, ruler in Egypt, 1218-1237 A.D., 631 A.H. (1233/34), Cairo



The obv. Of Al-Kāmil's dinar reads: "Al-Malik Al-Kāmil (The Perfect King, royal title), Abū Al-ma'ālī (Father of the Sustainer, fictitious relationship), Muḥammad (personal name) ibn Abī Bakr ibn Ayyūb (son of Abū Bakr son of Ayyūb)". In the margins is the Kalima followed by "arsalahu bi-'l-hudā wa dīn al-haqq li-yuḍhirahu 'alā 'd-dīn kullīhi walau kariha al-mushrikūn (He sent him with true guidance and a religion of the truth in order that he might cause it to be bright over the faith, all of it)".

The rev. of Al-Kāmil's dinar reads: "Al Imām Al-Manṣūr (The Victorious Imam, Caliph Al-Mustanṣir's religious title), Abū Ja'far (Father of

the Little River. Caliph's fictitious relationship), Al-Mustanṣir **المستنصر** Bi-'llah (The One Seeking Aid from Allah, Caliph's honorary title), Al-Amīr ul-Mūmnīn (Commander of the Faithful)". The margins read: "Bismillah ar-raḥman ar-raḥīm ḍuriba hadhā 'd-dirham bi-'l-Qāhirat sanat ihdā wa thalathīn wa sittmi'at (In the name of Allah the Merciful, the Compassionate, this dirham was struck in Cairo year six hundred thirty-one)."



Dirham of Al-Kāmil, Ruler of Egypt, 1218-1237, 617 A.H. 1220/21



The obv. of Al-Kāmil's Damascus dirham reads: "Al-Malik Al-Kāmil (The Perfect King, Al-Kāmil's royal title), Nāṣir ud-Dunyā wa ud-Dīn (The Defender of the World and the Faith, honorary title), Muḥammad (personal name) ibn Abī Bakr (son of Abū Bakr)". The margins read: "Bismillah ḍuriba bi-Dimshq sanat sab' 'ashrat wa sittmi'at (In the name of Allah struck in Damascus year six hundred seventeen)".

The rev. of Al-Kāmil's Damascus dirham reads: "Al-Imām An-Nāṣir **الناصر** li-Dīn Allah (The Imam, religious title) the Defender of the Faith of Allah, Caliph An-Nāṣir's religious title), Amīr Al-Mūmnīn (Commander of the Faithful), Aḥmad (personal name)". The margins read: "Lā ilah illā Allah waḥdahu lā sharīk lahu Muḥammad rasūl Allah (There is no god except Allah alone, there is no partner to him, Muhammad is the prophet of Allah)".

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The obv. of Al-Kāmil's half dirham reads: "Al-Malik Al-Kāmil **الکامل** The Perfect King". The margins read: "Ḍuriba bi-Dimshq sanat ithnatain wa 'ishrīn wa sittmi'at (Struck in Damascus year six hundred twenty-two)".

The rev. reads: "Al-Imām An-Nāṣir **الناصر** (The Imam the Defender, the Caliph An-Nāṣir's religious and honorary title)". In the margins is the Kalima.



Half dirham of Al-Kāmil, 622 A.H., (1225/6 A.D.), Damascus (Above)



Half dirham of Halab Principality, Adh-Dhahir Ghāzī, 600 A.H. (1203-1204), Halab

The obv. of Adh-Dhahir Ghāzī's Halab half dirham reads: "Al-Malik Adh-Dhahir **الظاهر** (The Conspicuous King, Adh-Dhahir Ghāzī's royal title)". In the angles of the star is the same inscription as on the dirham.

The rev. reads: "Al-Imām An-Nāṣir **الناصر** (The Imam the Defender, the Caliph An-Nāṣir's religious and honorary title)". In the angles of the star is the Kalima.

Continued next page.....



Dirham of Halab Principality, Adh-Dhahir Ghāzī, 1186-1216, 600 A.H. (1203-1204) Halab



The obv. of Adh-Dhahir Ghāzī's Halab dirham reads: "Al-Malik Adh-Dhahir **الظاهر** (The Conspicuous King, royal title), Ghāzī (personal name), ibn Yūsuf ibn Ayyūb (son of Yūsuf, son of Ayyūb)". In the angles of the star is read: "Ḍuriba bi-Ḥalab fī sanat sittmi'at (Struck in Halab in year six hundred)".

The rev. reads: "Al-Imām An-Nāṣir **الناصر** (The Imam the Defender, the Caliph An-Nāṣir's religious and honorary title), Aḥmad (personal name), Al-Malik Al-'Ādil Abū Bakr (The Just King Abū Bakr, royal title and personal name of Al-'Ādil, the sultan of the Ayyubid Empire)". In the angles of the star is the Kalima.

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Copper fals of Halab Principality, An-Nāṣir Yūsuf II, 1236-1259, ND, NM. (Left)

The obv. of An-Nāṣir Yūsuf's fals reads: "Al-Malik An-Nāṣir الناصر (The Defending King, An-Nāṣir's royal title)"

The rev reads: "Bin Al-Malik Al-'Azīz العزيز (Son of the Mighty King)". This is one of the relatively few Ayyubid coins that doesn't have "Al-Imām (الامام)" on the rev.



Copper fals of Halab Principality, Al-'Azīz Muḥammad, 1216-1236, NM, ND



The obv. of Al-'Azīz Muḥammad's fals reads: Al-Malik Al-'Azīz العزيز (The Mighty King, royal title).

The rev. reads: "Al-Imām Al-Mustanṣir المستنصر (The Imam Al-Mustanṣir)".



Copper dirham of Jazira Principality, Al-Āshraf Mūsā, 1210-1220, 612 A.H. (1215/16 A.D.), NM



The obv. Of Al-Āshraf Mūsā's copper dirham around the figure reads: "Sanat thnā [sic!] 'ashr wa sittmi'at (Year six hundred twelve)". Around the rim reads: "Al-Malik Al-Āshraf الأشرف (The Very Noble King, royal title), Muḍḥaffar ud-Dīn (The Conqueror of the Faith, honorary title), Shāh Arman (The Shah of Armenians), Abū 'l-Faṭḥ (The Father of Victory, surname), Mūsā موسى (personal name)".

The rev. reads: "Al-Imām An-Nāṣir الناصر li-Dīn Allah (The Imam, the Defender of the Faith of Allah, the Caliph An-Nasir's religious and honorary title), Al-Amīr Al-Mūmnīn (Commander of the Faithful)". In the margins reads: "Al-Malik Al-'Ādil Sayf ud-Dīn Abū Bakr ibn Ayyūb (The Just King The Sword of the Faith Abū Bakr son of Ayyūb, royal title, honorary title, personal name and patronymic of Al-'Ādil, Sultan of the Ayyubid Empire)".

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Silver dirham of Yemen, An-Nāṣir Ayyūb, 1201-1214, 608 A.H. (1211/12 A.D.), Ta'izz



On the obv. of An-Nāṣir Ayyūb's dirham is the Kalima followed by: "Sallā Allah `alaihi (Allah bless him [Muhammad])". The margin reads: "Bismillah

ar-raḥman ar-raḥīm ḍuriba hadhā 'd-dirham bita'izz sanat thamān wa sittmi'at (In the name of Allah the Merciful, the Compassionate, this dirham was struck in Ta'izz

year six hundred eight)".

The rev. reads: "Al-Imām (The Caliph An-Nāṣir's religious title), An-Nāṣir الناصر li-Dīn Allah (The Defender of the Faith of Allah, the Caliph's honorary title) Aḥmad (personal name), Amīr ul-Mūmnīn (The Commander of the Faithful)". The margins read: "Al-Malik Al-'Ādil Abū Bakr (The Just King Abū Bakr, royal title and personal name of Al-'Ādil, the sultan of the Ayyubid Empire), wa Al-Malik An-Nāṣir الناصر (The King the Defender, An-Nāṣir's royal title), Ayyūb (personal name), Ibn Tughtegīn (son of Tughtegīn)".

Works consulted

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The Bargain Bin

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Confined to a Plastic Prison

BY GRAHAM SPOULE

Back when I was still in high school in the late 1990s, not as many businesses had as many debit or interact machines as they do today. I used to always make a habit of carrying a couple of ten or twenty-dollar bills in my wallet. At this time, some businesses that had debit machines would sometimes charge a fee for small purchases. The policy that I religiously followed was that I would use my debit card whenever possible, so that I could keep my reserve bills handy in case I went somewhere that didn't use interac. It seemed like it would be a flawless operation. But like all policies, this one ended up working better in theory than in practice.

It was usually when I would go out with my friends for lunch at food courts or for treats at convenience stores that my reserve bills would quickly disappear. Now I don't know why, but franchises in food courts were the worst offenders for either not having interac. Much like the convenience stores for charging a fee for small purchases. So, when I frequently went out for a shawarma or a slurpee my reserve bills would always be quickly converted into change. I'm not exaggerating when I say that I collected so much of it in the course of a Saturday that I came to truly loathe the sight of a tooney.

Now I'm sure I have some obsessive-compulsive personality disorder, but few things irritated me more than walking around with my pockets full of change. You could say that, even before anyone heard of Obama, I am one who has never been elated upon hearing the spoken words 'Change is coming!' The problem back then, was that I also had this bad habit of forgetting my packed lunch at home. So every lunch hour I would dutifully go with my friends to make our daily 'pilgrimage' either to the vending machine or convenience store. And for the remaining three hours of the school day I would walk through the hallways with change jingling in my pocket.

Whenever I was walking around with change in my pocket, the jingling sound grated on my nerves. I would try creative solutions to alleviate the problem like sticking tissues in my pocket to cushion the coins, wrapping the coins in paper towel and placing them in my backpack but to no avail. I think I even tried taping them together one day! If I was near my locker

or my house I would always try to dump my change off in a jar. And if neither was nearby, I would do almost anything I could to get rid of my change. These included donating to charities I never heard of, buying cans of pop when I wasn't thirsty, and tipping when no tips were requested.

As businesses increasingly began to accept the debit card without any extra fee, I began to carry reserve bills with me less and less. Even many charities were beginning to accept pre-authorized donations instead of traditional giving. I even noticed this past summer that some grocery stores now even have machines which you can use to convert spare change into cash! Ah, if only my high school had had such a machine near the vending machine! In any case, when more and more businesses began to use interac, my confidence gradually increased, now that I could get by carrying only my debit card. I could now lead a tooney-free existence, or so I thought.

To this day, I still only carry around my debit and credit cards with me. And it does feel good not having to lie to panhandlers anymore, or worry about my money getting stolen when I travel. I blindly reasoned that I had had enough change and was now a full participant in the twenty-first century world of financial transactions. But this last November I suddenly experienced a moment of truth as I watched the Remembrance Day ceremonies with no poppy pinned on my lapel. For someone with two grandfathers who fought in World War II and a great-grandfather who fought at Vimy Ridge, this was very troubling to me, and it led me to do a bit of soul-searching.

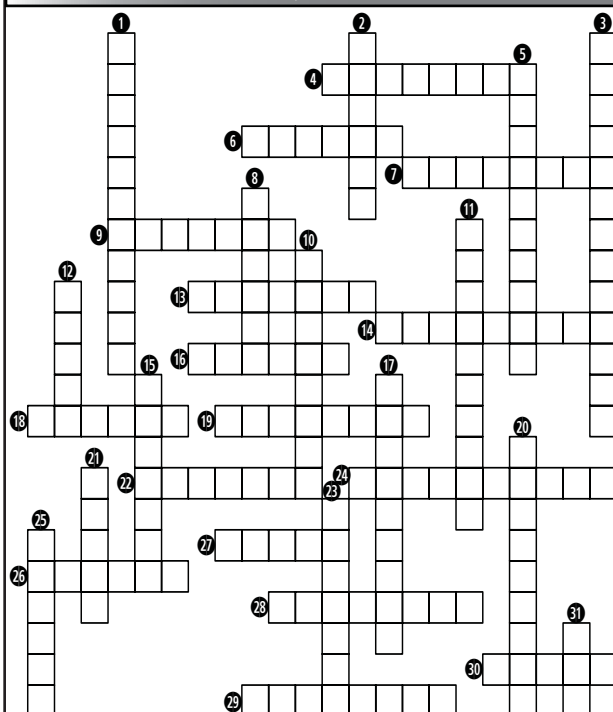
When I watched the Remembrance Day ceremonies, I realized what the problem was. It was because anytime I passed by some veterans from the Royal Legion giving out poppies, I refused to take one. I would have felt guilty to do so having no change with which I could make a donation. I realized upon further reflection the other ways in which my life without change was giving me less freedom, not more. I can no longer grab anything from a vending machine if I am hungry and in a rush, make calls from pay phones if I don't have a cell phone on me, buy a coffee from certain coffee shops, catch a bus quickly if I need to, tip the waitress at certain restaurants, pay back friends for small sums owed, or even tithe when I go to church!

I am slowly beginning to reconsider my policy of only carrying around my plastic cards. By unburdening myself of the chore of carrying change, I have metaphorically confined myself to a plastic prison. And the most difficult part of my imprisonment is my consciousness, that its confines are that of my own making. I still don't have any details of what my new policy will be, but I can say with certainty that 'change is coming!'



Canada 1/4oz Gold Coins

By Joseph Kennedy



#	Crossword Clue	Denom	Date	Weight (Troy oz)
1	Old Coat of Arms	\$5	1912-14	0.24
2	Chinese Astrology	\$150	2000-08	0.286
3	Old Coat of Arms Remembered	\$5	2002	0.24
4	1642 Maisonneuve lands on this island in the St. Lawrence River	\$100	1992	0.25
5	1720 French military center	\$100	1995	0.25
6	Newfoundland bird	\$100	1999	0.25
7	Horseless transportation	\$100	1993	0.25
8	BC river exploration	\$100	2008	0.23
9	Parliamentary reference center	\$100	2001	0.25
10	1896 Gold discovery	\$100	1996	0.25
11	Silver and Gold GML	\$10	2004	0.25
12	National Emblem GML	\$10	1982-08	0.25
13	Banting & MacLeod discovery	\$100	1998	0.25
14	1945 War-time Painting: Maintenance Jobs in the Hangar	\$100	1994	0.25
15	Franklin Expedition search	\$100	2000	0.25
16	Jesuit Mission: Sainte Marie among the _____	\$100	1989	0.25
17	George & the Dragon	£1	1908-19	0.24
18	St. Lawrence route	\$100	2004	0.23
19	Self-governing territory	\$100	2007	0.23
20	Alexander Graham Bell inventor	\$100	1997	0.25
21	Olympics	\$100	1987	0.25
22	Top court	\$100	2005	0.23
23	Olympics 14 kt / Rim Beads	\$100	1976	0.25
24	Second World War fighters	\$50	2005	0.23
25	Bowhead	\$100	1988	0.25
26	Ice sport	\$100	2006	0.23
27	Bread	\$100	2003	0.25
28	3 dimensional image GML	\$10	1999/01	0.25
29	Reading	\$100	1990	0.25
30	Empress of _____ Ship	\$100	1991	0.25
31	Black gold	\$100	2002	0.25

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1859 W9/8 ICCS MS63Bn.	\$2000.00	\$1400.00
1895 PCGS MS64RB	\$650.00	\$400.00
1898 PCGS MS65RB	\$2600.00	\$2200.00
1900 PCGS MS65RB	\$3000.00+	\$2000.00
1916 ICCS MS65RD	\$650.00	\$550.00

Five Cent	Trends	CC Price
1875H LD PCGS VF30	\$1200.00	\$1100.00
1885 5/5 VF30	\$535.00	\$450.00
1897 N8/W8 PCGS AU55	\$550.00	\$475.00
1899 PCGS MS64	\$1100.00	\$800.00
1925 ICCS EF45	\$550.00	\$450.00

Ten Cent	Trends	CC Price
1872H ICCS AU50	\$1350.00	\$1050.00
1875H PCGS AU53	\$5400.00	\$4000.00
1884 PCGS EF45	\$3875.00	\$3000.00
1889 PCGS VF25	\$3750.00	\$3300.00
1893RT ICCS VF20	\$4000.00	\$3850.00

1870 Commercial Bank \$5.00 F&B PF	\$1900.00	\$1400.00
1870 Commercial Bank \$10.00 F&B PF	\$1900.00	\$1400.00
1872 Molsons Bank \$4.00 F&B PF	\$2500.00	\$1950.00
1878 DC-8e-iii-o \$1.00 F-15	\$1325.00	\$1100.00
1887 DC-11 \$2.00 F	\$2400.00	\$1900.00
1897 DC-14b Abt. VF	\$1750.00	\$1400.00



Currency



Twenty Five Cent	Trends	CC Price
1858 20 Cent PCGS AU50	\$600.00	\$500.00
1875H ICCS VF30	\$3750.00	\$3500.00
1885 PCGS AU50	\$2800.00	\$2100.00
1887 ICCS AU50 Cl.	\$3500.00	\$2800.00
1912 PCGS MS63	\$1750.00	\$1350.00

Fifty Cent	Trends	CC Price
1872H PCGS MS62	\$9000.00	\$7800.00
1872H A/V ICCS VF30	\$3650.00	\$3500.00
1890H PCGS EF45	\$12600.00	\$10520.00
1914 PCGS MS63	\$15000.00	\$12000.00
1947 MLCR ICCS EF40		\$5200.00

One Dollar	Trends	CC Price
1938 PCGS MS64	\$825.00	\$675.00
1945 ICCS MS63	\$900.00	\$750.00
1946 PCGS MS64	\$1600.00	\$1350.00
1948 MS60	\$1900.00	\$1750.00
1950 PCGS MS66	\$1500.00	\$1200.00

1912 DC-21c F	\$1200.00	\$1150.00
1935 BC-3 \$2.00 EF++	\$1250.00	\$1000.00
1935 BC-9b PCGS VF20	\$2200.00	\$1890.00
1935 BC-11 F+	\$4800.00	\$4600.00
1937 BC-27b \$100 Unc. +	\$1150.00	\$975.00
1954 BC-34a \$50.00 CUnc.	\$1650.00	\$1450.00

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Ancient/Medieval

Tetradrachm of Nero from Alexandria Egypt

BY TERENCE CHEESMAN

The Roman conquest of Egypt did not see an immediate change in the coinage. In the beginning the Romans simply modified the previous royal Ptolemaic coins. However during the reign of Tiberius the first Roman tetradrachms were minted in Alexandria. This coinage continued until the cessation of the local Egyptian coinage by Diocletian in 297 A.D. This coinage was unusual in that the silver content was about a third of that found in other eastern tetradrachm coins meaning that these low value coins did not circulate outside of Egypt.

In 56 A.D. Nero began to issue tetradrachms in limited numbers. Initially the portrait was that of Claudius the previous emperor which is a bit surprising in that usually the Romans were extremely efficient at spreading the image of new emperors throughout the empire. The reverse features the first wife of Nero, Octavia.

Octavia was the daughter of Claudius and Messalina his third wife. If even half the stories about Messalina are true, she led a wild dissolute life. She died in a bizarre coup attempt against her husband. Everything that has been said about Octavia indicates that she was virtuous and chaste. Octavia was married to Nero in order to cement the succession. The marriage was not happy. The marriage was at the instigation of Agrippina, Nero's mother, who demanded a large role in government. Nero increasingly began to resent her demands. In 59 A.D. Nero arranged to

have her murdered. In 62 A.D. Nero divorced Octavia, in order to marry Poppaea, banishing her to a small island Pandateria.

The population of Rome upon hearing this began a series of riots. This did not help Octavia. She was tried for treason and was put to death 9 of June 62 A.D.

The coinage of Alexandria features many individuals not found in the regular Roman coins.

Both Messalina and Poppaea mentioned above can be found on this coinage. The coins of Roman Egypt are a popular area for collectors as the coinage features many Egyptian motifs showing very well how well the local culture survived after centuries of both Greek and later Roman occupation.



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AGENT FOR THE ROYAL CANADIAN MINT



A Penny's Worth

By Marc Bink

On L.S.D...

Okay, okay,... the title is a little misleading. - I'm not on acid, contrary to what others may think.

Last month in the letters section, we received a letter asking about the origins of the English system of pounds, shillings, and pence, abbreviated "L", "S", or "d", and finally "D" or "d". So I decided to see what I could find out.

First off, one Pound equaled 20 Shillings, or 240 Pennies. By the time the UK went decimal in 1971, the coinage consisted of a ½ Penny, a Penny(1 d), three pence (3d), sixpence (6d), Shilling (12d) Florin, (2s) ½ Crown (2s6d) a Crown, (5s), a Sovereign (20s). The English had this nasty habit of calculating wealth and value in a myriad of ways, sometimes in Pounds, Marks, or Shillings and Pence, depending on who wrote the document and their social standing. Nothing was ever really standardized until the 19th Century. Equally confusing is the coinage, with some issues being in gold, some in silver, some worth more than a Pound, and some being fractions of a Penny. The standard though, was the lowly penny; -it's been around since the Roman times.

The Early History...

It's generally thought that the English monetary system was inherited from the Romans. But in actuality it was copied from the French Merovingians. After the Roman Empire died out in around 440 A.D, the Anglo-Saxons continued on with the old system. They imported some of the Merovingian gold Tremisses that would have replaced the Roman Solidus in the coinage. Hence, 1 penny was equivalent to 1 Denari, or Denier, as it was referred to by the French. The Tremissis was 1 solidus, or what became known as a shilling much later on. They added a Pound, or a Livre, to this system, and then determined how many pennies it would take to reach a pound of sterling silver. The

government set the standard weight for the penny; and throughout the long period that the penny was being minted this weight was subject to change as the government's fortunes either improved or waned. The abbreviations begin to make sense using 1d to signify a penny, and 1s to signify the Solidus or Tremissis, and 1L to signify a Pound or a "Livre". The gold coins were continually debased with silver, and disappeared entirely

from the British Isles by 675 to be replaced by the abstract concept of the pound. From this point the Shilling and the Pound were used as units of account, with no physical coin in circulation. The Penny was the only coin minted for general circulation from about 675 until after 1272, when Edward I reformed the coinage. True, Henry III tried it a little earlier, minting a gold

penny, but it was overweight and never caught on. Pennies were minted in fine silver, at an established weight of 20 grains.(LEFT) The term "penny" may be an anglicized version of the Germanic word "pfennig", which was in use in Denmark at the time. The average daily wage for a skilled carpenter in around 1290 was a penny a day; - and if one looks up what one of those pennies currently costs in EF condition, one would find that its held up to inflation quite well, the values being anywhere from \$60 to \$100 today.

Every transaction involving money was based on weight. Every merchant had a scale, and knowing what a certain coin should weigh was how prices were determined. The Exchequer determined coin weights, and the denomination. After a round of inflation in the early 14th century, it was determined that more denominations and coinage were needed, so we see the emergence of the Groat, and the first gold issues. A "groat" was tarified at 4 pence. By the late 1300's, a skilled tradesman would earn 4d per day; - the plague having sparked off another round of inflation made it a necessity to add a higher denomination silver coin that could be still cut into quarters for lesser values. This practice of cutting coins was very popular; one still sees halved or quartered pennies and groats for sale, and, the cross on the reverse side was deliberately made for this purpose.



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A Coinage Renaissance...

The Shilling, (initially called a “testoon”) now made in silver, made its emergence around 1544, with the third coinage of Henry VIII. Here again, inflation had sparked another debasing of the currency, and a larger denomination was required. Part of this debasement was Henry’s own fault; - by the time the third coinage was released, he was so broke that the coins were made from debased silver, and in use the copper started to wear through. As a result, he was called “old coppernose” because this was the first part of the coin that would show wear, and reveal the copper beneath. There was a large recoinage in 1551, and it was an attempt to modernize the coinage somewhat, and reduce the dependence on the medieval penny-groat multiples of coinage. The shilling was introduced along with a new six-pence, and three pence coin. The shilling was removed as a unit of account, and placed into circulation. This denomination became the benchmark for the general public, with the penny and its fractions being regulated to small change. Rich people still used gold, but general public rarely ever saw any of it, and were usually paid in silver coin. There were no banks, - so what one had was what one was worth. People generally hoarded and hid money in buildings or in the ground. The more urbanized areas used money, and the rural areas used a barter system that had more or less gone unchanged for centuries. The ever increasing use of cash for goods, and the increased reliance on imports was changing the way people used money, so starting with the reign of Edward VI (*right*) more coinage was issued in larger denominations. The silver Crown (5s) makes its appearance around this time. By Elizabeth’s time the Crown was again made in gold, (as well as silver) and the silver coinage was back up to its prior grade and fineness, reflecting the increased fortunes of the newly emerging English empire.

There never was a one pound coin; - there were plenty of denominations set at over a pound, but never a deliberately named “Pound”. The closest thing to it was a coin called a “Unite”, which became known as a sovereign. This was tariffed at 20 shillings, and was introduced during the reign of James I. Until around the 18th century, the pound was more or less an abstract concept, much like the English use of the “mark”. The

general public only counted things by shillings and pence, as it was easier. However, with England’s burgeoning empire came the need for progressively higher denominations, and the Pound Sterling was standardized to 20 shillings. In 1662 the Unite, or Pound, was replaced by a coin called the Guinea, which was valued

at 21 shillings. The sovereign valued at 20 shillings was reintroduced in

1817, and was replaced by a paper banknote during World War I. A new pound coin was introduced in 1983 when the paper note was discontinued. Britain was tied to the gold standard longer than any other currency, the pound was taken off the gold standard in 1945, and at which point, a gold sovereign’s value in terms of pounds

and shillings began to float with the price of gold on the open market and had ceased to be a circulating legal tender coin.

The currency went through a couple of reorganizations and weight changes throughout the 19th century, starting with the “great re-coinage” of 1816. By the 1850’s it was pretty much standardized to the system that was in place until 1971. With every successive devaluation that was brought on by inflation over the centuries, the penny had shrunk in size and weight. It had gone from

a fine silver coin to a lowly bronze at the end. The mint was at first loathe to make a penny out of copper; it had been considered in 1702 by Sir Isaac Newton, - but in time the Royal Mint was forced to switch, because the penny was still a useful denomination, but the cost of silver had rendered the coin to be too small and inconvenient. The half-penny and the farthing had been made from copper since the 1690’s,

again because a silver coin would have been far too small and inconvenient. The last silver penny minted for general circulation happened in around 1786, and any other pennies after that date were only minted for Maundy sets. In 1797 the mint made a series of pennies made from pure copper (*top*), but it had to contain one penny’s worth of copper. Needless to say it was quite large, and subsequent issues were reduced in size and weight over the years. Still, the last copper pennies of the pre-decimalization period were as large as a silver dollar in diameter.

Continued next page.....



The Canadian Connection

So how did this all tie into the new Canadian coinage? In the 1850's there were a lot of foreign coins circulating in Canada, and it made it difficult to establish a common value for things. So in 1854 a standard was developed, whereby 1 Cent would equal $\frac{1}{2}$ d. The sizes and weights worked out reasonably well; - the shilling was similar to a quarter, and the dime was similar to a six-pence. The 50 cent piece came in close to a half-crown, so that made the dollar worth one crown. A pound was worth \$5.00 in most of Canada, \$4.80 in Newfoundland. The new province of Canada issues reflected this standard, with one notable exception. The first series of 1858 had a 20 cent coin instead of a 25 cent coin. The US quarter was circulating freely at that time, so a certain amount of confusion was caused and it led to the 20 cent coin being unpopular with the public. The subsequent Dominion of Canada 25 cent piece had its weight adjusted to reflect the change, and was widely accepted. If one looks at the size of the 1935 silver dollar, one would find it was very close to the same weight and size of the English crown.

This standard remained in effect throughout the Victorian reign into the first part of the 20 century, and only started to change after the First World War, when currencies were removed from a bullion standard. By the end of WW II, the pound was worth around \$4.00 Canadian, and as Britain's fortunes declined, so did the value of the pound in relation to the dollar. An interesting thing to note is the fact that in 1919, the coinage in the UK was debased; the silver coinage was no longer made from fine silver. Its purity had dropped to 500 silver, mostly as an austerity measure brought about by World War debts. Starting in 1946 Cupro-nickel replaced silver in all circulating British coins, here again reflecting Britain's state of indebtedness brought on by the Second World War.



Finally; - Decimalization!

At some point in the sixties it was finally decided that Britain should overhaul its currency and get on with the rest of the world. This was done more to help with the UK's application to join in with the European Union. On February 15, 1971 a new decimal coinage was introduced in the UK; the older issues were declared "demonetized" and pulled from circulation. This process in preparation for the eventual change-over was started in 1969 with the demonetization of the half-crown and half-penny, and ended on August 31st, 1971 when all the old denominations were legally demonetized. These new coins were made close to the same size as the old issues, to facilitate an easier transition and wide public acceptance of the new system. This new currency has no intrinsic relation with the Canadian system, and is a "fiat" currency like ours is. It is still currently being used in the UK, and yes, since 1983 they've been making a pound coin!

So there you have it; - a short history of the English currency. In future articles I'll be exploring some of the fascinating history behind some of these denominations as well as the people who issued them and made them.

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Canadian Coin History

For December

BY KEN POLSSON

December 1973 marked the launch of the Canadian Olympic Coin Program, to raise money in support of the XXI Olympic Games, to be held in Montreal, Quebec, in 1976.

On December 11th, André Ouellet announced the coin program. On the 12th, the Royal Canadian Mint began accepting orders for various sets of collector editions of the first series of \$5 and \$10 silver commemorative coins, and banks across the country began making individual \$5 and \$10 coins available to the public, for face value. The Mint began marketing the coins immediately in Japan, and in the USA and Europe the following March. The second series was available in 1974, the third, fourth and fifth series in 1975, and the sixth and seventh series in 1976. Two \$100 gold coins (14K and 22K) were authorized in 1975, and put on sale in 1976. The government netted about \$110 million profit from the Olympic coin program. The gold coins proved sufficiently popular for a yearly gold coin to be produced for collectors. \$20 silver coins made their appearance when Canada hosted the XV Olympic Games in 1988 in Calgary, Alberta.

Other events in December:

December 12, 1858 - The first decimal coins (1, 5, 10, and 20-cent) of Canada are released.

December 9, 1862 - Canada's first coin club is formed, the Numismatic Society of Montreal.

December 17, 1921 - A proclamation describes the design of the new nickel 5-cent coin.

December 1, 1931 - The Ottawa branch of the Royal Mint begins operation as the Royal Canadian Mint, under the control of the Canadian Finance Department.

December 22, 1943 - An Order-in-Council announces the decision to switch the 5-cent coin from Tombac to chrome-plated steel.

December 18, 1950 - The Mint announces

the design of the 1951 5-cent commemorating the 200th anniversary of the discovery and naming of the element nickel.

December 23, 1966 - The government announces that 10-cent, 25-cent, and 50-cent coins would be switched from silver to pure nickel in 1968.

December 2, 1977 - The Minister of State for Fitness and Amateur Sports announces that the 1978 silver dollar will commemorate the 11th Commonwealth Games in Edmonton.

December 15, 1977 - The Mint produces a 16-mm diameter 1-cent test token. It is soon discovered to be interchangeable with a higher valued Toronto Transit Commission token.

December 12, 1979 - The Mint announces the designs of the 1980 silver \$1 and gold \$100 coins, commemorating the 100th anniversary of the transfer of Arctic territories from England to Canada.

December 10, 1981 - A proclamation changes the composition of the 5-cent coin to 75% copper, 25% nickel.

December 15, 1981 - The Supply and Services Minister launches the 1982 commemorative silver dollar, marking the centennial of the city.

December 17, 1981 - The Supply and Services Minister announces that the 1982 1-cent piece will be 12-sided, to aid the blind in distinguishing it from the 5-cent piece.

December 21, 1984 - The Currency Act is amended, authorizing \$20 silver coins, for the 1988 Olympic coin program.

December 5, 1995 - The Mint begins striking new \$2 coins for circulation.

December 31, 1998 - The Mint launches the first 25-cent Millennium coins in St. John's, Newfoundland.

December 4, 2000 - In Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Quebec, the Mint launches the "Community" 25-cent coin.

December 1, 2003 - The Mint issues the 2004 Year of the Monkey \$15 silver and \$150 gold coins.

You can find more Canadian coin history on my Web site timeline: Chronology of Canadian Coins, <http://www.islandnet.com/~kpolsson/cancoin>



Pro Diligo Exonumia

(For the Love of Exonumia)

LA MARSEILLAISE **the French national anthem**

It was early April, 1792 the National Convention, France's revolutionary government, had just declared war on the monarchies of Europe. The French armies prepared to cross France's frontiers and bring their revolution to all of Europe. At the same time, the monarchies of Europe had mobilized their troops. Prussian, Austrian, Hessian and émigrés forces, under the command of the Duke of Brunswick, were poised to strike at Alsace-Lorraine, France's frontier with the Holy Roman Empire.¹

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

De Lisle's music for the song was derived from the 'Variazioni sulla Margesiliese per violino e orchestra' by the Italian composer Giovanni Battista Viotti.⁴



obverse: bust of Claude Joseph Rouget de Lisle.
reverse: on next page - the lyrics of the Marseillaise, with symbols of the French Republic - the fascia and Phrygian hat. Copper bronzed, 41mm, by Rogat, 1855.

Lyrics of the Marseillaise (1887 version):⁵

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

refrain: *To arms, oh citizens !*
 Form up in serried ranks !
 March on, march on !
 And drench our fields
 With their tainted blood !

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

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

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

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

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

continued on next page

Although originally intended to be the ‘War Song of the Army of the Rhine’, it quickly became the rallying cry for the French Revolution. In quick fashion, it was widely distributed. Having been played at a patriotic banquet in the southern French city of Marseilles, it was adopted by the revolutionary volunteer forces of that city when they marched towards Paris. Upon entering Paris, the Marseilles volunteers were singing the song. When these same Marseilles volunteers marched upon and then stormed the Tuileries Palace on 10 August 1792, they did so accompanied by this song.^{6,7}

As a consequence, in popular imagination, the song quickly became: *la Marseillaise*. The National Convention officially adopted *la Marseillaise* as the French National anthem on 14 July 1795, Bastille Day. It remained such until the First Republic came to an end in 1804. During the reigns of Napoleon I (1804 - 1814/15), Louis XVIII (1814/15 - 1824) and Charles X (1824 - 1830) *la Marseillaise* was banned.⁸

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

During the reign of Napoleon III (1852 - 1870) it was again banned. Not until 1879 was it officially restored to its prominence as France’s National anthem. A place of honor it has retained to this day.¹⁰ There were however many versions, it wasn’t until 1887 that a commission of professional musicians settled upon the official version, having reworked both the music and lyrics.¹¹

La Marseillaise composer Claude Joseph Rouget de Lisle’s did not gain the prominence nor acclaim his creation did. He was swept up in the maelstrom of the period called the Terror (1793 - 4), the time when Madame de Guillotine reigned supreme. Denounced and cashiered, he was thrown into prison in 1793.

He was a moderate, who perhaps favored a constitutional monarchy; as such it is believed he refused to swear allegiance to the new Revolutionary Constitution following Louis XVI’s execution. He narrowly escaped the guillotine and was freed following the end of the Terror.¹²

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

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

Today, *la Marseillaise* is one of the most recognizable national anthems in the world; having graduated from a revolutionary battle song, it recalls the fierce and bloody struggle which accompanied the foundation of the modern French state and the beginnings of the transformation of the European continent from feudal and absolute monarchies to modern democracies.



see previous page
for description

by J.P. Driessen

- 1 - “Who Was Who in the Napoleonic Wars”, pp 48-9;
- 2 - www.elysee.fr; 3 - Wikipedia, La Marseillaise; 4 - Ibid; 5 - www.elysee.fr; 6 - Ibid; 7 - Modern History Source Book, Fordham.edu; 8 - Ibid; 9 - www.elysee.fr; 10 - Ibid; 11 - www.elysee.fr; 12 - Modern History Source Book, Fordham.edu; 13 - www.elysee.fr; 14 - Wikipedia - Rouget de Lisle.

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Editors Note

Last November the ENS hosted another successful money show. Over the two day event I was able to get out and meet with many club members who were in attendance at the show. I was very pleased with the effort put on by the ENS volunteers to make the event so successful. This show we had more numismatic displays for attendees to view. One of these new displays was put together by Marc Bink and myself. It featured a wide variety of military memorabilia ranging from WW1-present. The display also featured the New Poppy quarter in an effort to show support for our veterans on Remembrance Day.

Some of the other new additions we had to the show was a book table displaying books by the author Greg Ingram, and a table representing the RCNA. All of the people who I had met, were generally pleased with the show. And I am pleased to say that in my opinion this has been one of the largest and most successful shows in ENS history. But this show could not have been so successful without all the dedicated work done by the volunteers, and I would personally like to thank them all for their work.

Due to the overwhelming amount of articles sent to me in the past few weeks, I will not be including this month installment of Mutilated Money. Instead It will be held off until January. Thank you to all the columnists who continue to send me such great work.

Have a good Christmas.

Matthew Sztym
Editor, *The Planchet*

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Coming Events

Saeculum: Coins from Ancient Rome Exhibit

September-December. Monday-Thursday 10am-1pm
University of Alberta 2-89 Tory Building.

This exhibit will be of particular interest to ENS members, as many of the coins on display are from the collection of ENS member Terence Cheesman.

DECEMBER 7, VANCOUVER B.C.

Vancouver Coin and Stamp Show, Oakridge centre auditorium.
Contact balmoralnu@telus.net

JANUARY. 23 - 25, 2009, Hamilton, ON

CAND Show, Sheraton Hotel, 116 King St CAND, (905) 643-4988, e-mail: cand@cogeco.ca.

FEBRUARY. 1, 2009, Paris, ON

S.W.O.N., Special Events Building, 139 Silver St. (Fairgrounds). <http://tedscollectables.com>.

FEBRUARY. 7, 2009, Oshawa , ON

Coin-a-Rama, Five Points Mall, 285 Taunton Rd. E. e-mail: papman@idirect.com.

FEB. 21 & 22, 2009, Toronto, ON

Torex - Canada's National Coin Show, Hilton Toronto Airport Hotel, 5875 Airport Road, Mississauga Ballroom Website: <http://www.torex.net>.

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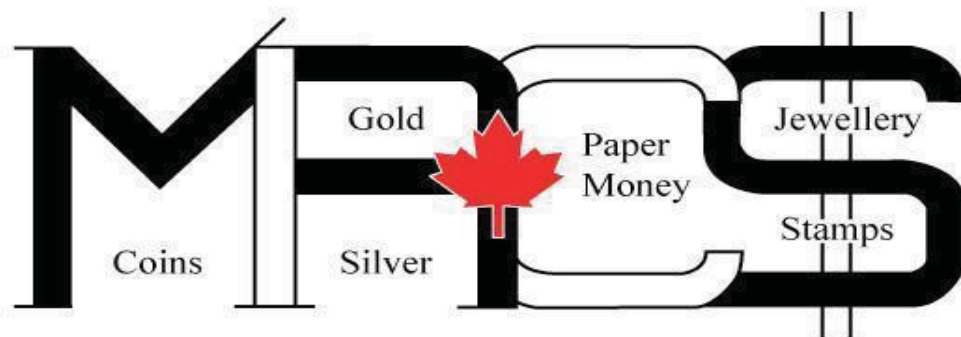
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