

The Planchet

Vol: 55
Issue: 8
November 2008



This Issue

Edmonton's Money Show
Playing "Whitman Bingo"
A Coin From Caracalla...
Coins of Richard Lionheart
From the Vault...
Fidelity Medals

Next Meeting

Wednesday, November 12, 2008
Doors 7:00pm -- Meeting 7:30pm
Royal Alberta Museum
12845-102 Ave, Edmonton

Contact

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www.edmontoncoinclub.com

November Money Show Edition

Edmonton's Money Show is back for another year. Once again, the show will be held at the Mayfield inn, 16615-109 Ave. November 8 & 9. Visitors are welcome to attend the bourse room Saturday and Sunday, as well as the educational symposium Sunday afternoon. The ENS will also be hosting a fellowship breakfast Sunday morning in the courtyard buffet, everyone is welcome. There will be around 50 dealers at the show from all across Canada, including a few new faces, and that is sure to bring a wide diversity of merchandise to the bourse floor. The bourse also features an ENS club table and a kids table. Draw prizes include a 1/10oz Maple leaf gold coin as well as a wide variety of items donated by dealers and local coin shops.

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the Edmonton Numismatic Society
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Blueson Coin & Curiosity, Tisdale	J&P Coin, Ontario	Trojan Publications, Ont.
Canada Coin & Paper Money, St. Albert	MCCS Canada, Edm.	Rumors Coin, Edm.
Canadian Coin Collectors, Vancouver	London Coin, Ont.	Certified Coin of Canada, Ont.
Lawson's Coin & Paper, Brant, Sask.	AME Coin, Edm.	Clare Vanc., Calgary
Gilbey Numismatics, Antwerp	Raw Whitney Coin, Edm.	Diverse Equities, Calgary
Charles Moore Numismatics, California	J&P Coin, Edm.	Joe's Modern Numismatics, Edm.
Tandem Goldcorp, Hamilton, Ont.	Ralph Numismatic Coin & Antiques, Edm.	Treasure Gallery, Florida
Edmonton Coin, Dorothy B.G.	Norwest Coin & Curiosity, Kenora, Ont.	D & D Collectibles, Edm.
Lochy-Jeffrey Coin, Edm.	Chateau International, Vancouver	Harwood Collectibles, Edm.
Andy McRae CCN Inc., Calgary	Loose Change, St. Michael	Lighthouse Numismatics, Halifax
AT Finance Inc., Edm.	Rob's Collectibles, Calgary	Edin's Paper, Edm.
J.H. Collectibles, Calgary	George Moss Coin, Regina	Proof Positive, R.F.



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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

November 2008

Wednesday November 12, 2008
Royal Alberta Museum 12845-102 Ave
Doors open at 7:00pm Meeting starts 7:30pm

Speaker: Pierre Driessen
topic: The portraiture of 18th and early 19th century French medals.

Collector presentations by:
Jamie Horkulak and Bill Demontigny

A special ENS breakfast meeting will be held on Sunday November 9th during the money show at the Mayfield Inn. The meeting starts at 8am in the court yard buffet.

For more information regarding these events, please email the editor at editor_ens@yahoo.ca

ENS is a Member of:

Canadian Numismatic Association
American Numismatic Association
Canadian Paper Money Society

October 2008

The main event of the meeting was The Round Table Show and Tell facilitated by Cathy Arbeau. Club members, having brought items from their collection, shared their passion for collecting and love of the hobby, and the reasons why they collect. It was a great success, providing a great deal of insight into the many of reasons and motivations for collecting, and the rich variety of collections which can be found amongst the ENS membership. Before, during and after the main event the Silent Auction was conducted - many members brought, sold and bought items. The official meeting ended around 22:00hrs and adjourned for further fellowship to the traditional Boston Pizza meeting place.

Message from the President

Well show season is upon us again, and for the Edmonton Money Show, things are a little less frantic than last time. We are once again at the Mayfield Inn, so we know what to expect at the hotel with not as many surprises. The ENS has what promises to be a long term relationship with the Mayfield, for many shows to come. It's a busy time for coin shows right across the country, with Torex October 25 & 26, Followed by Nuphilex in Montreal October 31 to Nov 2. The Canadian Coinoisseur and RCNA president, Michael Walsh, is set to retire after this his last Torex auction. He will be in attendance with a table at our November Money Show to deliver auction lots. Speaking of retirees, Peter Milpacher of Kelowna will not be set up at the Money show for the first time in many years. We wish Peter and his wife a great retirement. If you are coming from out of town for the show, it is advised you book your hotel ASAP, as the rodeo will be in town and rooms can get quite scarce. This coming money show will offer another new feature, on Sunday afternoon there will be an educational symposium featuring a kids how-to demonstration as well as more advanced presentations. Be sure to attend these interesting and free talks.

The ENS has continued in its old case replacement program buy ordering another 20 Allstate aluminum cases from the U.S. With this order we should no longer need to borrow cases, or scramble to find extra on show day. I'd like to remind collector members that, yet another membership perk, during the show space will be provided free of charge for items they have for sale. Just bring them to our club table #70 packaged and priced. Members who do use this feature are required to man the club table at least for some time period. Congratulations are in order to new *Planchet* editor Matt Sztym for all the positive feedback and rave reviews toward his new format. With this format we are not as limited in advertising space, so if your company would like to advertise in the *Planchet*, please notify Matt or myself. Paid ads are very reasonably priced and do not have to be of Numismatic nature.

For the first time in ENS history, there will be a club shirt. It's a classy black long sleeve button-

up dress shirt, with the ENS logo embroidered in gold on the left chest. It's available for free to all executive members, and other members who frequently volunteer during the Money Show. After the show, they will be made available to all members at cost.

Another ENS first, we are excited to now offer membership dues payable by Paypal on our website. This is especially convenient and instant for our out of town members.

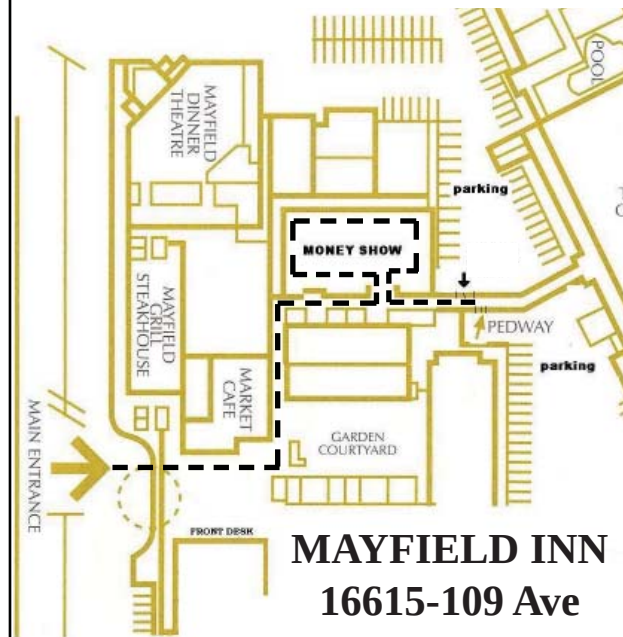
A special thanks goes out to our Webmaster Dan Gosling and his Daughter for taking the time to do such a very professional job.

The RCNA convention medal design contest has closed Oct 31st. Thank you to all who submitted, and good luck. Submissions will be presented by the ENS to the RCNA executive committee at their meeting here during the November Money Show. A winner will be announced by the RCNA shortly after.

Finally, "For those of you collecting the US commemorative state quarters, the last of a 10-year series is scheduled for release November 3rd, featuring the last state to join the union, Hawaii. The US mint at Denver and Philadelphia will make 520 million of the Hawaii quarters, bringing the total of the series to 34 billion coins. The coins have been snapped up by over 147 million collectors in the US alone, bringing \$3.5 billion in profits, not including the special-issue sets."

See you at the Show!

Jamie Horkulak



MAYFIELD INN
16615-109 Ave

A Penny's Worth...

By Marc Bink

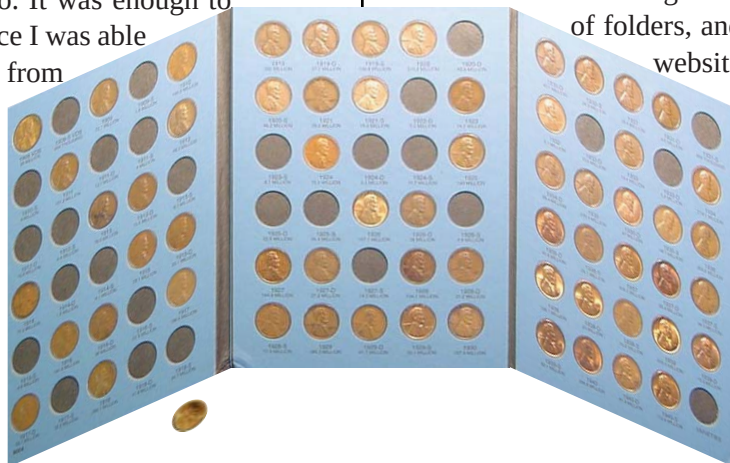
Playing "Whitman Bingo"

A while back at one of our breakfast meetings, a friend made a derogatory comment about the old Whitman folders and playing Whitman Bingo, and I figured that there was a topic in that for this column. At first I wasn't sure how to approach it without being denigrating myself. The mere mention of a Whitman folder makes most of us with coins protected by flips, slabs, or 2x2's cringe.

I'm sure the reader can remember those old blue Whitman folders; they opened up like a book and had two sides of holes for coin storage, and were accompanied by a brief statement on the history of the denomination being depicted. They are most certainly not the best way to store coins, unless they are VF or less. But they were convenient and cheap, and one could have a lot of fun filling them up. For many of us, that was the first way we stored our "collections" as kids.

I had them growing up too. The first real collection I ever bought was in a full set of them. They've also been the bane of my existence ever since. I can still remember the quarter set I bought; - there in the top corner, where the obverse side was displayed, was a 1959 Quarter in MS with the remnants of a huge piece of yellowed tape running across poor Elizabeth's face, as if she was being censored for appearing in perfect cameo. It was enough to make one weep! Once I was able

to extract the coin from its sticky prison, I noticed that the caribou was covered in a yellowy gunk from the glue on the inside of the booklet. Luckily the coin "dipped" well, but the cameo didn't survive, so to



apurist this coin was now a write-off. At that point, one could be excused for having a "Tourette's Moment", and cursing everything under the stars.

Another such coin was a 1939 penny, which was also in MS, but it had a huge clear thumbprint marring George's face. While I was thinking of sending the coin off to a forensics lab to find out who in their right mind would have committed such a crime, one of my relatives thought it would be a good thing to polish off the thumbprint; - another coin ruined, another Tourette's moment.

Whitman bingo was easily played; - the goal was to collect as many coins as one could, - either a straight line, corners, and "X", or eventually fill up the whole card. Quality didn't matter with us kids. We would just fill it up with what ever junk we found, as long as the dates were correct and matched the holes. It was considered cheating if you got a generic card with no dates in it, and filled it up with your penny jar.

It wasn't until I bought my first adult-assembled-collection at age 13 that I realized that George VI didn't have a Mohawk; - that's how bad most of that "fill" was. In the late seventies there still was a lot of junk silver and older stuff around; so it was actually quite easy to fill up a booklet. The fact that I had a paper route at the time didn't hurt either. There were four of us in this little contest, which I was winning until I got serious about the hobby and "evolved"; - my little brother liberating my collection and spending it all at the local 7/11 probably spurred that "evolution" on somewhat.

Whitman Publishing still makes these types of folders, and according to their website, they've been making them since 1940. That means there are at least three generations of bingo players out there. Some people still have these things, as evidenced by

Continued....

what I see coming into some coin shops recently. They were and probably still are a very popular way to store coins, as the website puts it, "a convenient method of storage for the novice collector". When I was growing up a lot of kids I knew had grandparents filling them up for them in hopes of one day creating an heirloom that might be worth something, or at least to remember their grandparents by. Most of these kids who weren't the least bit interested in coins got them and promptly dumped them on to people like me; where the booklets and their worn-out contents sparked a passion for coins and history in me that continues to this day.

This leads me to another point, and perhaps the main point; - last night I was talking with another member of our executive about hobbies and the pursuit of them. We were talking about the old car hobby, but it could apply to coins as well. His point was "why buy and fix up an "un-cool" car, when it would be easier to just save up and eventually buy the right "cool" car lat-

er?" To which I replied, "It isn't about what you end up with, it's the journey and the evolution". We all started with either loose coin, Whitman folders, coins wrapped in Kleenex and placed in old cigarette tins, but we all somehow evolved within the hobby, developed areas of expertise, and moved on at our own pace. Our spouses and family members may think we're nuts to give out "good" new money for old pieces of metal, but it's what makes us all individual, - whether one collects Canadian Decimal, world coins, ancients, love tokens, medallions, used chewing gum wrappers, barbed wire, or for that matter, Whitman folders. We get some form of gratification from our collections, and we want to show them off. So don't be afraid to come down and show your collection at a club meeting, or come down and volunteer in the next show. You'd be with like-minded individuals who have the same passion for collecting that you do, and wouldn't it be nice to be with people who can understand that for a change?



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Ancient/Medieval

A coin of Caracalla from the Mint of Tarsus

BY TERRANCE CHEESMAN

The coins of Caracalla from the mint of tarsus are relatively common. They have a great variety of obverse designs, coupled with a varied number of reverse types. Many of these obverses share the same reverse as other coins, but a few are known only from one obverse and one reverse die pairing.

The coin is made of bronze, weighs 17.65 grams, and is 35 mm in diameter. It was probably minted circa 214 to 217 A.D. initially to celebrate the emperor's visit to the city, and continued till his death. On the obverse Caracalla is shown facing right in the robes and crown of a demiurge. The function of this office is difficult to translate. Essentially the word translates into worker of the people, however this title has been used to describe the creation myths of the planet by the gods. Thus we are left with either a civic title which may be similar to that of a Roman Tribune, who would intervene for the people against the ruling elite, or a priest of a creator god.

The reverse features Perseus on the left and Hercules on the right facing. Both are holding a bust of the emperor Caracalla between them. Perseus was the hero who tamed Pegasus, the winged horse, and slew the Medusa, a creature who gaze would turn men into stone. In his free hand he holds a harpa, a sword that has a boat hook like appendage on its blade. Hercules, another hero, is known for his great strength and for destroying a number of mon-



sters. During the last three centuries B.C. many cities in the east created legends that tied that city with the new dominate culture of Greece. Perseus founded the city, when after landing near the site, his horse Pegasus went lame, the name Tarsus sounds in the Greek like sole of the foot. Hercules apparently was captured by the god Sandon, the chief god of the city.

Tarsus was the capital of the Roman province of Cilicia. It was the scene where Marc Antony met Queen Cleopatra beginning a long affair that ended with their deaths in Alexandria. St Paul was also born there, and it was because of this that he enjoyed Roman citizenship. As the city is on the great overland trade route linking Syria and Turkey and was the fifth most important mint in the empire.

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The Bargain Bin

A little bit of everything.

Coins of Richard Coeur de Lion (Lionheart)

BY MICH GOUDREAU

Richard I of England who ruled from 1189 - 1199 was born at Oxford on 8 September 1157 to Henry II and Eleanor of Aquitaine. His epithet of Lionheart has reached legendary proportions because of his military abilities and his chivalric reputation. Richard was considered a hero in his day and is portrayed as one in English literature classics such as "Ivanhoe", "The Talisman" and the Robin Hood stories and legends.

The Kings of England who ruled from 1154 - 1453 AD had land territories in France which became Richard's home at a young age where he stayed under Eleanor's care when his parents separated. He was endowed with Eleanor's duchy of Aquitaine in 1168 and then Poitou in 1172. Richard joined his brothers Henry and Geoffrey in an unsuccessful rebellion against their father during 1173 - 1174 as they were dissatisfied with their lack of actual power. He later fought against these same brothers in 1183 when they supported revolts by nobles of Aquitaine against his rule. Henry II feared that this war between his sons would threaten his kingdom and successfully intervened in support of Richard. He would however wage war once again against Richard in 1189. King Henry II died on 6 July 1189 and Richard was crowned King on 3 September 1189.

Richard departed in 1190 on the Third Crusade with Philip II of France with whom he had a strained relationship. After capturing Messina in Sicily and then Cyprus, Richard joined the siege at Acre which surrendered shortly after he took control. Phillip II returned to France and plotted against Richard along with Richard's younger brother John. When Richard realized that he could not besiege and capture Jerusalem he negotiated a pact with Saladin giving Christian pilgrims access to holy sites in Jerusalem. On his return to Europe in 1192 Richard was captured by Leopold V of Austria with whom he had bickered during the crusade. He was handed over to Holy Roman Emperor

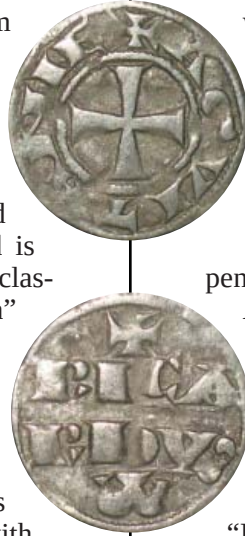
Henry VI and held for a large ransom which was paid for by his English subjects in 1194. Richard returned to England in 1194 to suppress his brother John's revolt against him. He spent most of the remaining years of his life

in conflict with Phillip II of France who was determined to conquer Richard's possessions on the continent. On 26 March, 1199 during the siege of Chalus in France, Richard was hit by a bolt fired from a cross-bow. He died with his mother Eleanor at his side on 6 April, 1199 from the infected wound. Richard issued only short cross type pennies in England throughout his reign.

An interesting point is that these coins all bear his father's name "henricvs". Richard's brother John succeeded him on the throne and he also struck his coins under Henry II's name. While no portrait coins of Richard exist, the only coins struck in his name "Ricardvs" or "Ricard" came from France. These are the deniers and obols (half-deniers) from Aquitaine and Poitou, and the extremely rare denier from Issoudun in Berry. The coins of Aquitaine are believed to have been struck before Richard became King as they do not have the royal title "Rex" on the obverse. I've come across references suggesting that he issued coins in Normandy but I'm not sure if some numismatists are confusing him with Richard I of Normandy who ruled from 942 - 996 as I haven't been able to find any definite information. It's remarkable to note that Richard spent only six months of his reign in England and that he actually spoke very little English. In spite of the romantic legends associated with Richard The Lionheart, many modern historians view many aspects of his life in a negative manner.

References

- 1) The Anglo - Gallic Coins, Les Monnaies Anglo - Françaises By E.R. Duncan Elias, 1984 Published jointly by Émile Bourgey, Paris & Spink and Son Ltd, London 2) Coins of England & The United Kingdom 43rd Edition, Standard Catalogue of British Coins Spink 2008 3) Milestone Coins By Kenneth Bressett Whitman Publishing 2007 4) The Silvered Coins of Medieval France (476 - 1610 AD) By James N. Roberts, 1996 Attic Books Ltd, South Salem, NY 5) http://www.themiddleages.net/people/richard_lionheart.html6 <http://www.templarhistory.com/richard.html> 7) http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_I_of_England 8) <http://original.britannica.com/eb/article-9063546/Richard-I> 9) <http://www.historicaleye.com/lionheart.html> 10) [http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Catholic_Encyclopedia_\(1913\)/Richard_I_King_Of_England11](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Catholic_Encyclopedia_(1913)/Richard_I_King_Of_England11) <http://infoplease.com/ce6/people/A0841801.html> 12) http://www.historyofwar.org/articles/wars_crusade3rd.html 13) http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pierre_Basile 14) <http://www.nndb.com/people/426/000093147/>



Canadian Paper Money

From the Vault of the Currency Museum

BY JAMIE HORKULAK

The bank of Canada currency Museum is located in downtown Ottawa, and is a must-see for any paper money collector. I was lucky enough to visit it on the delegate trip to Ottawa for the CNA convention. The entrance is situated in the middle of a modern enclosed courtyard.

Once you enter, the first display is Gallery 1, which examines the concept of money and demonstrates how it had been interpreted and represented differently by various objects around the world.



First Multicolor \$1 Bill Printed

(SPECIMEN does not appear on the actual Bank Note)

Gallery 2 displays the development of coinage in the west, illustrated by pieces from different eras: antiquity, the medieval period, and the modern era up to the current day.

Also illustrated is the technical evolution in minting coins, the origin of the dollar, the development of paper money, the use of unusual paper money, and hyperinflation. Other galleries go on to show the evolution of the fur trade, and how British rule introduced banks and bank notes, which became very popular, with both merchants and banks issuing their own notes. Impressive were the high denomination Bank of British north America, in both specimen and issued versions. Galleries 3 and 4 show artifacts to illustrate the first currencies in Canada, such as french and English coins, wampum beads and ornamental silver traded for furs. A shortage of these currencies lead the colonial government to adopt signed playing



Various 1935 Low # Notes residing in the Currency Museum

(SPECIMEN Does Not appear on the actual Bank Notes)

cards, and then on to bank tokens. Gallery 5 displays currency starting after 1867, including the first Dominion notes, the first three series of Bank of Canada the silver dollar, and some early commemorative silver dollars. Highlights include the \$50,000 bank legal notes, of which the museum has eleven copies, all specimen. Gallery 6 shows the notes of today, including a geometric lathe used in the patterns of the multicolor issue. Also on display is a mylar plastic version of the 1986 Bird series \$5 note. Gallery 7 houses a kids discovery area and future exhibits. Gallery 8 is everybody's favorite section the Collector's Corner, which offers an exhaustive representation of Canadian bank coins, and colonial and merchant tokens with nearly every date and every variety on hand. Thin, vertically standing slide-out metal cases hold banknotes from very early script to chartered banknotes to modern. Stand out examples are the low number notes of the 1935 issue both in English and French versions. These notes can be seen in person at the museum, and I recall having to step back for a breath after seeing some of these unbelievable beauties. The National currency is somewhat of a "holy grail" for paper collectors and researchers, pity none of it is for sale! Every collector should plan to see this museum at least once in your lifetime, it is literally mind boggling.

Canada Coin & Paper Money

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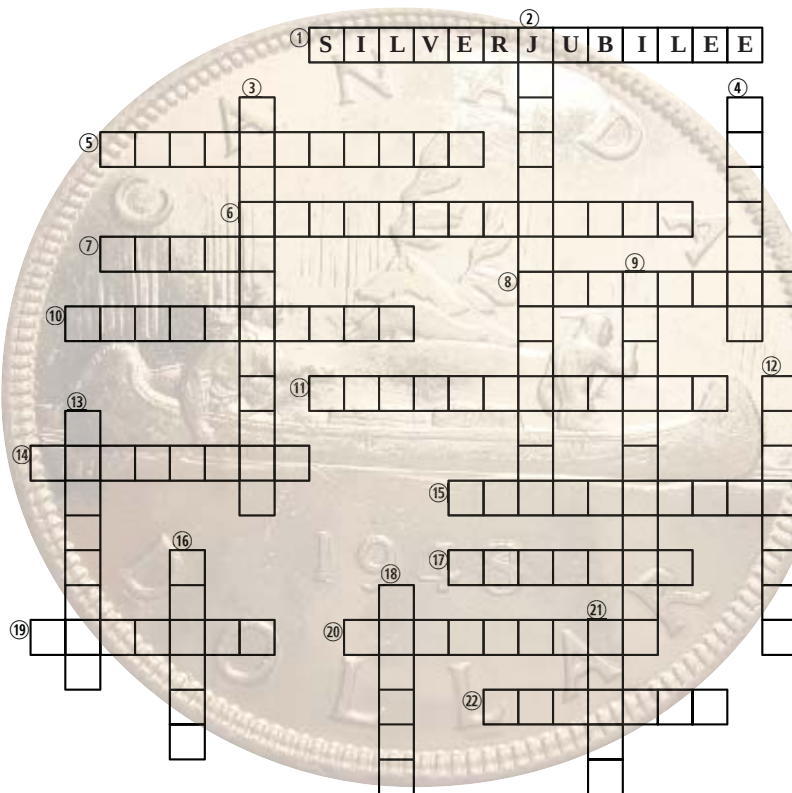
A Crossword By Joseph Kennedy

Crossword Clue

Date

(1) George V 25 Anniversary of Accession	1935
(15) Royal Visit of George VI & Elizabeth	1939
(4) John Cabot's Ship	1949
(20) British Columbia Native Art	1958
(6) 1864 Meeting	1964
(7) Centennial of Confederation	1967
(16) Manitoba Flower	1970
(19) British Columbia Flower	1971
(9) PEI building	1973
(10) City of Winnipeg Variety	1974
(11) Fathers of Confederation	1982
(2) Landed at Gaspé Quebec	1984
(12) Canada at 125 Years	1992
(8) At the Parliament Buildings	1992
(5) Cenotaph in Ottawa	1994
(3) Calming the Nations	1995
(11) Queen Elizabeth's 50th Year of Reign	2002
(21) Center Ice Loonie	2004
(13) Canadian Hero	2005
(14) Loon Landing	2006
(22) Loon Mating Ritual	2008
(17) Arctic Stone Monument	2010

* Answers will be posted in the December Issue of *The Planchet*



Dealers Attending Edmonton's Money Show

Table #	Dealer
1-2	NATIONAL PRIDE, EDMONTON
3	LOOSE CHANGE, St. MICHAEL, AB
4-6	CLASSIC CASH, SYLVAN LAKE, AB
7-8	COLLINS COINS, SHERWOOD PARK, AB
9	SCORNY'S STUFF, EDMONTON
10	A&E COINS, EDM
11-13	GEORGE MANZ COINS, REGINA
14,15	CANADA COINS & PAPER, ST. ALBERT, AB
16,17	MRCS, EDM
18	DAVID PETER COINS, EDM
19	DB&D COLLECTIBLES, EDM
20, 21	ANDY McKAIG / CCGS Inc, CALGARY
22	WINDWARD COLLECTIBLES, EDM
23-25	B&W COINS, BRAMPTON
26	BOB'S COLLECTIBLES, CALGARY
27-28	CLYDE VINCETT, CALGARY
29-32	NEWCAN COINS & CURRENCY, KENORA, ONT
33	TRADERS GOLD CORP, HAMILTON
34-35	DIVERSE EQUITIES, CALGARY
36	PROOF POSITIVE, N.S
37	CHARLES MOORE, CALIFORNIA, USA
38	BALMORAL COINS, BURNABY B.C
39	CHANTOU INTERNATIONAL, B.C
40	BLUENOSE COINS & CURRENCY, KELOWNA
41-42	OLMSTEAD CURRENCY, St. STEPHEN, N.B
43	SVEN'S MODERN BANKNOTES, EDM
44	J&J COINS, EDM
45-46	THE CANADIAN NUMISMATIC COMPANY
47	CANADIAN COINOISSEUR, VANCOUVER
48	EDDIE'S PAPER, EDM
49	KAMERICAN COINS, EDM
50-52	CALGARY COIN GALLERY, CALGARY
53-54	REX WILSON COINS, ONT
55	SELECT CURRENCY, ONT
56-56A	ROCKY MOUNTAIN COINS & ANTIQUES, EDM
57-58	LUCKY DOLLAR COINS, EDM
59	LIGHTHOUSE NUMISMATICS, HALIFAX
60	TRAJAN PUBLICATIONS, ONT
61	AL TEBWORTH PAPER, VANCOUVER
62-63	GILBEY NUMISMATICS, ARDROSSAN
64-65	CERTIFIED COINS OF CANADA, ONT
66	LORANS COINS & PAPER, BRUNO, SASK
67	TREASURE GALLERY, FLORIDA
68	LONDINIUM COINS, ONT
69	KIDS-ON-COINS, EDM
70	ENS CLUB TABLE
70A	CANADIAN COIN CERTIFICATION SERVICE, QC
71	CANADIAN CURRENCY, ONTARIO
72	JW- COLLECTIBLES, CALGARY, AB
73-74	WEST EDMONTON COIN & STAMP

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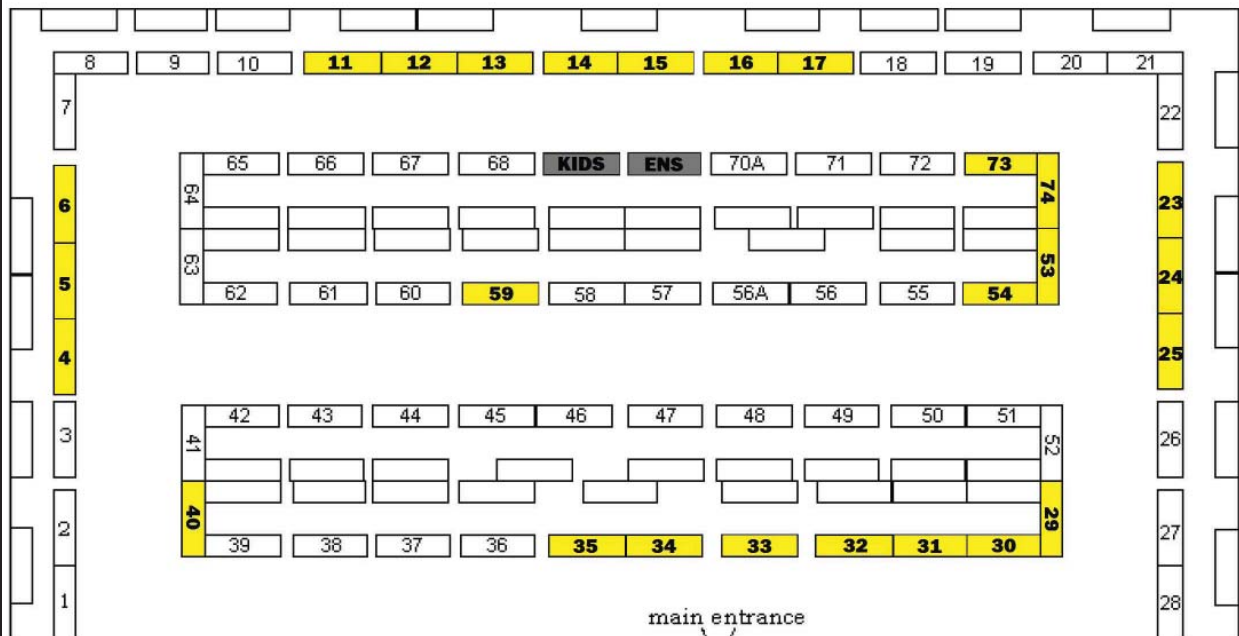
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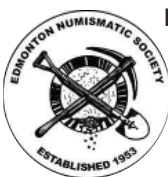


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1872H A/V - ICCS VF30
1890H - PCGS EF45
1914 - PCGS MS63
1947 MLCR - ICCS EF40

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1945 - ICCS MS63
1946 - ICCS MS63
1948 - MS60

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LES DÉCORATIONS du LYS et de la FIDÉLITÉ

Following the invasion in 1814 of France by Prussian, Russian, Hapsburg, British and other allied troops, and the initial abdication of Napoleon I, there was great question about the allegiances of many parts of French society. During the period in 1814, known as the First Restoration, the Bourbon King Louis XVIII, was uncertain of the loyalty of the regular French army, as such he placed his hopes for the stability of his government on the French National Guard and in particular the National Guard of Paris.

To demonstrate the Bourbon dynasty's affinity with the National Guard, the *comte d'Artois*, Louis XVIII's brother and the future King Charles X, wore the blue and white uniform of *la Garde nationale de France* and was escorted by 600 Paris Guardsmen upon entering Paris on April 12, 1814.¹

Founded in 1789, during the early days of the French Revolution, as the military arm of the Paris bourgeoisie, *la Garde nationale de Paris* served as the city's premier law and order keeping body. Its main function was to protect property and life against '*la plus vile populace*', the unpropertied poor, which made up $\frac{3}{4}$ of the city's populace.²

The Paris Guard was a body of unpaid volunteers, composed of bourgeois property owners who provided their own uniforms and equipment. Initially its officers were elected; its first commander being the Marquis de la Fayette. Following the upheavals of the early years of the French Revolution, in 1791 a National Guard was formally established throughout the departments of France, modeled on the Paris Guard.³

As a result of its composition, the National

Guard and in particular the Paris Guard was a conservative force. The latter having supported a constitutional monarchy during the early stages of the Revolution.

During the consulate and Empire, Napoleon I disarmed the Guard, but kept it in reserve, ultimately mobilizing it in 1814 for the defense of France and the city of Paris. The National Guard acquitted itself well in 1814, especially considering the lack of enthusiastic leadership on the part of many of Napoleonic officials. The overwhelming numbers of allied forces and the potential destruction of Paris made further resistance futile and a tentative armistice was reached.

In an order of the day, 26 April 1814, the *comte d'Artois*, in his capacity as lieutenant-general of France, created *la Décoration de Lys*, specifically to honour the Paris National Guard.⁴ This order was most likely a formal recognition of the small medals many Paris guardsmen had begun to wear to show their loyalty to the Bourbon king. These medals were the product of enterprising Parisian artisans, who had begun to make unofficial small medals in various sizes and designs. There was, however a general style which showed the effigy of Louis XVIII on fleurs de lys, suspended from a white ribbon.⁵

Fleurs de lys and white colored ribbon being ancient symbols of the French monarchy.



Made in 1814, this example is one of the many designs of *la Décoration du Lys*. Made of silver, with its original white silk ribbon, it is 4.5cm long and 2.1cm wide. Note the effigy of the king on top of the fleurs de lys and the overall primitive design.

continued on next page

On 9 May 1814, King Louis XVIII approved the creation of *la Décoration du Lys*, but expanded the right to wear it to the entire French National Guard.⁶ As a show of loyalty to the new regime, requests to wear the new decoration were soon coming from all quarters, including the regular French army. The authority to authorise its wearing began to grow exponentially, until not only the senior members of the royal household, but ministers, generals and even mayors could do so.⁷ The very reason for its legitimizing - to provide singular honour to the Paris National Guard, for its valor in defending and protecting Paris within and out, and preserving it for the king, had been eroded.

One of the first acts of Napoleon I, upon his return to France during the famous Hundred Days in 1815, was the suppression of *la Décoration du Lys*.⁸ During the period from early March to early July 1815, there was a general state of political unrest in France, marked by periods where a power vacuum existed. On 13 March 1815 King Louis XVIII fled Paris, Napoleon did not enter the city until March 20th. Subsequently following Napoleon's defeat at Waterloo on June 18th, it was not until July 7th that Louis XVIII returned to Paris - 'in the baggage of the allies'.⁹

It was during these periods of regime change and uncertainty that the Paris National Guard performed a vital role as it kept order, protected property and persons, and prevented riots. During the Second Restoration, following Louis XVIII's return to Paris on the 7th of July 1815, the Paris National Guard continued to perform guard and police duties. In fact it patrolled Paris jointly with the occupying Russia, Prussian and British troops and was even empowered to arrest the troops of these powers if these broke the law and disturbed the peace. They also acted as a protection force for the French Royal Family and the King's person. This latter role

diminished however, with the establishment of the *Garde du Corps* or royal bodyguard.¹⁰

Despite its volunteer nature, Surgeon James of the British Life Guards, stated in 1815 that: "...[they] are a soldier-like and well-disciplined body of men. They are well armed and numerous ...they always appear remarkably clean and *comme il faut*." ¹¹

Following the return of the Bourbons in 1815, *la Décoration du Lys* was reinstated.

On 5 February 1816, by royal decree, the importance of the Paris National Guard was finally recognized formally by the creation of *la Décoration de la Fidélité*. Strictly speaking, it was not a new decoration, but rather a special version of *la Décoration du Lys*, created exclusively for and limited to the Paris Guard, issued by the government to set it apart from all other National Guard troops.¹²



la Décoration de la Fidélité - measures 5cm long and 3cm wide. A star with five branches, white enamel, tipped with balls and a centre medallion. The obverse of the centre medallion has the effigy of King Louis XVIII in gold, encircled by blue enamel with gold lettering: FIDELITE DEVOUEMENT. The reverse of the centre medallion has gild fleurs de lys encircled by blue enamel with gold lettering: 12 AVRIL - 3 MAI 1814, 19 MARS - 3 JUILLET 1815. Suspended from a fleurs de lys surmounted by a crown topped by a cross. Issued in silver or gold. With three band silk ribbon - royal blue/white/royal blue. Example shown is in silver.

continued on next page

The importance the Bourbon government of Louis XVIII placed in its relationship with the Paris National Guard, and the creation of *la Décoration de la Fidélité* to cement that relationship, can be seen in the issuance of the commemorative medal pictured below.



la médaille de la Fidélité - 41mm, bronzed copper. Obverse: Louis XVIII; reverse: la Décoration de la Fidélité. Bramsen 1724



The *Décorations du Lys et Fidélité*, although important, were nonetheless decorations and never attained the status of an order. Not having their own organization nor a grandmaster, they eventually came under

the jurisdiction of the Order of the *Légion d'honneur*.

The efficiency and zeal of the Paris National Guard diminished gradually after the crisis of 1814 and 1815. Their number began to dwindle, from a high of 35,000 in 1815, by 1817 there were 29,000, which had further decreased to 16,000 by 1821. Their appearance also began to suffer, as many Guardsmen began to perform their duties in civilian dress. Parisians, ever fickle, became increasingly unwilling to devote their time to guard duty, nor their money to uniforms.¹³

The *comte d'Artois*, had initially been a champion of the Paris National Guard, served as its colonel-general and intervened to prevent its dissolution by the Municipal Council of Paris as an economy measure. When he succeeded his brother as Charles X, relations became more and more strained, and on 27 April 1827, he dissolved the Paris Guard. He neglected however to confiscate their weapons, as the Guardsmen had paid for them; an oversight which had disastrous consequences for him, his dynasty and government three years later.¹⁴ The 1830 July uprising in Paris saw many of these former Guardsmen turn these very weapons against him.

Charles X's successor, Louis-Philippe I officially abolished both decorations on 10 February 1831.¹⁵

by J.P. Driessen

1 - "Histoire de distinctions et des récompenses nationales" pp. 69-72; 2 & 3 - "Paris Between Empires" p.4; 4 & 5 - "Histoire de distinctions et des récompenses nationales" p.72; 6, 7 & 8 - "Histoire de distinctions et des récompenses nationales" pp.73-74; 9 - "An Encyclopedia of World History" p.626; 10 - "Paris Between Empires" pp.67-102; 11 - "Paris Between Empires", pp.101; 12 - "Histoire de distinctions et des récompenses nationales" p.73; 13 - "Paris Between Empires" pp.216-17; 14 - "Paris Between Empires" p.218; 15 - "Histoire de distinctions et des récompenses nationales" p.78.

Canadian Coin History

For November

BY KEN POLSSON

Events of November 1986 resulted in a coin that Canadians have a love/hate relationship with: the Loonie. On November 3, master dies for the 1987 dollar left the Royal Canadian Mint in Ottawa, to be transported by courier to the mint's facilities in Winnipeg. These dies were for the new smaller nickel dollar coin with the familiar voyageur and canoe reverse. On the 6th, the courier informed the Mint that the delivery was delayed due to a severe snow storm. By the 12th, the courier could not locate the package, and informed the Mint of this. Two days later, the RCMP was informed of the loss. On the 17th, the Mint announced that the introduction of the new dollar would be delayed from January to July, for reasons related to the new coin blanks. On the 27th, the Mint was authorized to mint the new dollar in bronze-plated nickel. And on the 30th, the RCMP called off the search for the missing dies, concluding that the packages arrived in Winnipeg, but were then lost or stolen. A new design was selected in late December, a loon design by Robert-Ralph Carmichael, originally submitted in 1976. The public announcement of the new design was made in January. 22 years later, we're closing on 1 billion of the golden coins in our pockets, Lucky or otherwise.

Other notable events in November:

November 2, 1907 - The Ottawa Mint Proclamation is published at the court of Buckingham Palace in England, authorizing the opening of the Ottawa Mint.

November 7, 1907 - Test tokens are struck to adjust the coining presses prior to the first production of Canadian coins at the Ottawa branch of the Royal Mint.

November 10, 1910 - James Bonar writes to the Deputy Master of the Royal Mint requesting preparation and transmission of matrices and punches for various coins, including the \$1 silver, and \$2.50, \$5, \$10, and \$20 gold.

November 8, 1911 - Designs of the \$5 and \$10 coins, created by W.H.J. Blakemore, are

approved for use.

November 25, 1919 - The Governor General in Council authorizes changing the fineness of circulating silver coins from 0.925 to 0.800, effective January 1, 1920.

November 9, 1931 - The Ottawa Mint (Discontinuance) Proclamation, 1931, is read at the Court of Buckingham Palace, in England, discontinuing the Ottawa branch of the Royal Mint as of December 1.

November 29, 1947 - A Proclamation removes "ET IND IMP" from the obverse legend of Canadian coins.

November 21, 1953 - The auction catalogue of the Canada Coin Exchange uses the term "Proof-Like" for the first time, suggested by F.S. Epps of Michigan (or James Charlton?). The term is used to describe the quality of Canadian coins minted for collectors, which appear similar to Proof coins of other countries.

November 8, 1962 - The Government passes an Order-in-Council changing the shape of the 5-cent coin from 12-sided back to round.

November 28, 1964 - The Grey Cup football game parade includes a float with a replica of the Big Nickel Monument (1951 5c commemorative).

November 14, 1973 - In the minting facility of the Royal Canadian Mint in Hull, Quebec, Postmaster General André Ouellet strikes the first \$5 coin for the 1976 Olympic Coin Program.

November 20, 1984 - A proclamation sets the design of the 1985 gold \$100 coin, commemorating the 100th anniversary of the founding of the National Parks.

November 17, 1988 - The Royal Canadian Mint officially launches the silver (\$5) and platinum (\$5, \$10, \$20, \$50) Maple Leaf coins in six cities. In the first six weeks, 1,062,000 troy ounces of silver and 64,200 troy ounces of platinum coins are sold.

November 1, 1999 - The Independent Coin Grading Company (ICG) of Colorado, USA, begins grading and encapsulating Canadian coins.

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



Letters To the Editor

Dear editor,

You often see the words pounds, shillings, and pence when reading old English literature. Of course, most countries around the world including Canada now use a decimal currency system. Could you explain what the main difference is between the old pound sterling system and the current decimal system that most former British colonies today use? And is the British Pound today still on the old pound system or has it been modified to a decimal system as well?

Graham S.

Thank you for your question. In 1971 the British Monetary system converted to a decimal currency system. Prior to 1971 the British monetary system was a prime example of the evolution of a monetary system throughout the centuries.

The old system worked as follows:

4 farthings = 1 penny 2 pence = 1/2 groat

4 pence = 1 groat 12 pence = 1 shilling

2 shillings = 1 florin 5 shillings = 1 crown

20 shillings = 1 pound (sovereign)

21 shillings = 1 guinea

Under this system 240 pence = 1 pound.

Under the new decimal system:

100 new pennies = 1 pound (£)

The old Currency system was loosely based on a silver weight system (pound sterling). 1 troy pound of silver would be equivalent to 240 pennyweights, hence 240 pence = 1 pound. By breaking down a pound into so many fractions the old system was confusing and cumbersome. The new system is much less complicated and has done away with the farthing, half penny, shilling, 2shilling, and 6 pence coins.

*Matthew Sztym
Editor, The Planchet.*



I just finished looking over the entire issue. I'm impressed. Even for the articles I didn't read, I liked seeing the color images there. I found more of interest in that one issue that I would in a couple of Canadian Coin News issues. Of special interest was the article on the Liberty Dollars. I've heard of the Liberty Dollars, and a brief note on a radio show that the company was raided and the coins confiscated last year. I don't know all the details of the laws, but I suspect it is pretty hard to create something like that to compete with the US Mint or Federal Reserve. I've been curious about something, and maybe you know the answer: is our Bank of Canada privately owned, like the Federal Reserve is?

Ken P.

Thank you for your question and compliments. In 1933 Prime Minister R.B. Bennett Called a Royal Commission that ruled in favor of a central bank. The bank began operations in May of 1935 originally under private ownership, in an effort to separate the bank from political influence. In 1938 Prime Minister King, made the bank a Crown Corporation with a Governor appointed by the Cabinet. Although Bank of Canada is a public institution funded by the Canadian Taxpayer, It tries to operate independently from government.

*Matthew Sztym
Editor, The Planchet.*

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Editors Note

All Saints day, also known as Hallowmas, is celebrated each year on November 1st. This Christian holiday was formed to honor all the Saints from history that are known, and not known. Throughout the years this holiday has slowly been forgotten, and in Western Culture a new tradition sprung up in it's place. Halloween, is known to most people, as the day when children dress up in costumes and ask for candy from strangers. In history the day was actually known as Halloweve, the day before Hallowmas. Around a hundred years ago this event was celebrated with a feast, and the giving of gifts to family members. These gifts could include sweets, toys, trinkets, money, jewelry, or clothing. This tradition of giving gifts, soon evolved into the Western practice of giving candy at Halloween. What does all of this have to do with coins? Well, in the 1880's Love tokens, made out of coins, were a popular item in Jewelry. Throughout this period many coins were destroyed in an effort to keep up with the gift market. All Saints day is no exception, with dozens of coins surfacing each year with "Halloweve" or "All Saints Day" scratched into the surface. Because giving money, and jewelry was traditionally done on this day, combining the two in the form of a love token only makes sense. So next Halloween, instead of buying candy for the children, bring down that old penny jar, punch a few holes in the coins, and give the children a traditional Halloween gift. Mutilated Money!

The first installment of my Mutilated Money series will premier December, with the topic being on Love Tokens.

For those who are attending Edmonton's Money Show, I will be in attendance, please feel free to stop by and say hello. Finally, In the October issue, in the Column *Canadian Coin History*, the last few lines of the article were cut off. Thank you Ken for correcting me on this mistake.

Matthew Sztym
Editor, *The Planchet*

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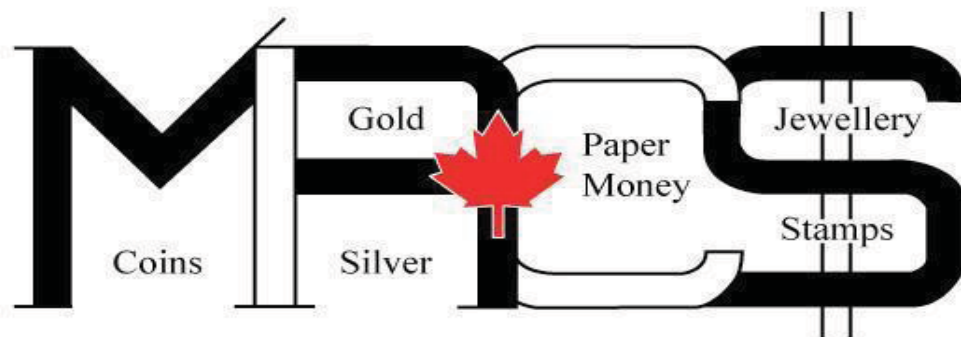
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