

NEW SERIES Vol.3



WINTER 1982

"AUSTRALIAN NUMISMATIST"

Official Publication of

THE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA



Meetings are held on the First Tuesday and Third Friday each Month
at

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF VICTORIA THEATRETT
Latrobe Street, Melbourne

(Entrance through gateway next to Latrobe Library)

Registered at the G.P.O. Melbourne for transmission by post as a periodical
Category "B"



THE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA
Founded 1946

OFFICE BEARERS FOR 1981

President: Mr. HANS PRANGE

Secretary: Mrs. GILLIAN FARRINGDON-DAVIS

Treasurer: Mr. JOHN TARRANT

Councillors:

Dr. JOHN BISBY	Dr. JOHN CHAPMAN
Mr. JOHN O'RILEY	Mr. TERRY PEPPERELL
Mr. TOM PISTRUCCI, F.R.N.S.	Mrs. BETTY TURVEY
Dr. PERCY ZERMAN	

Librarian: Dr. JOHN CHAPMAN

Archivist: Mr. LEN HENDERSON, S.R.N., F.R.N.S.

Editor: Mr. JOHN SHARPLES, M.A., F.R.N.S.

Recipients of the "Award of Merit"

1969	H. J. IFKIN
1971	E. PHIP POTS
1973	R. T. N. JEWELL, F.R.N.S.
1979	Mrs. J. SIMON, B.E.M.

THE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA
(Incorporating the Numismatic Society of Victoria, founded 1914
and The Association of Australian Numismatists (Melb.), founded 1939)

NEW ISSUE - Volume 3.

Founded 1946

WINTER, 1982

All Correspondence to: - BOX 615D, G.P.O., MELBOURNE, 3001.

1982 SUBSCRIPTIONS -

SENIOR MEMBERS - Aged 18 years and over	\$12.50 per annum
(If resident more than 80 kilometres from Melbourne G.P.O.)	\$9.00 per annum
JUNIOR MEMBERS - Aged 11-17 years	\$3.00 per annum
PAID LIFE MEMBERSHIP	\$175.00

THE FINANCIAL YEAR OF THE ASSOCIATION
COMMENCED ON 1st JANUARY, 1982.

The Secretary may be contacted by telephone on 375-3854 (evenings only)

Editor: John Sharples, M.A., F.R.N.S.

CONTENTS

ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL

<i>Peter Wall</i>	Constantine the Great	2
<i>John Sharples</i>	The Wenallt Hoard (1980)	40

AUSTRALIAN MEDALS

<i>Gillian Faringdon-Davis</i>	Two Medical Medallions	6
<i>Kathleen Fennessy</i>	Pioneer to Soldier, 1899-1900	16
<i>Dr. John M. Chapman</i>	The Medal of the Adelaide Jubilee International Exhibition, 1887	19

GENERAL

<i>Barbara Nielson</i>	First Official Coinage of New Scotia	26
<i>John Faringdon-Davis (Ed)</i>	Chinese Currency	29
<i>John Sharples</i>	The 1871 Notes of Fiji	32
<i>Len Henderson</i>	The Saviour of Gibraltar	37

Cover: Medal of Edward Henry Embley

CONSTANTINE THE GREAT, HIS LIFE AND FAMILY

By Peter B. Wall

In about the year A.D. 279, the future Constantine Magnus (*Constantine the Great*) was born in Naissus, Upper Moesia, to Constantius Chlorus, an army officer, and Helena, an innkeeper. Naissus is the present-day city of Nis, population 150,000, in Yugoslavia, on the main road almost midway between Belgrade and Sophia.

In A.D. 293 Constantine's father was appointed Caesar by Emperor Diocletian to assist Maximianus defend the Western provinces of the Empire. Diocletian at the same time appointed Galerius as his assistant in the East, thus forming what is known as the Tetrarchy. After 20 years the two Augusti (Diocletian and Maximianus) would retire with the two Caesars (Constantius and Galerius) assuming the title of Augustus and appointing two new Caesars in their place. By this method Diocletian hoped to ensure a continuity of rule more satisfactory than the chaotic state of affairs surrounding the succession of Emperors in the third Century. Also, he hoped that the Empire which reached from Britain to Mesopotamia and Egypt could be effectively administered and protected.

In A.D. 296 Constantius was despatched to suppress a revolt in the province of Britain where the usurper Carausius had himself proclaimed Emperor by his loyal troops in 287.

Meanwhile Diocletian had established his headquarters at Nicomedia where, in the courts of which, the young Constantine grew up. Diocletian was a despot who instituted many reforms during his 20 years of rule. These reforms included a much needed re-organisation of the currency which involved the introduction of two new denominations, namely the silver *Argenteus*, a coin of approximately the same fineness and weight as Nero's denarius, and the bronze *folles*, approximately equal in size and weight to the *as* of the earlier Empire, but usually silver washed.

The political history of the late third and early fourth Centuries is very complex, with sometimes as many as five or more Emperors in power at the same time.

All the while the uncompromising stand which Christians made against the gross immorality of the times, their refusal to do hom-

age to the pagan gods, and, in particular, to the statues of the Emperor, brought them into defiant opposition with the government authorities, and from time to time fierce persecution was the result. Diocletian had realised that against his despotism was pitted a force which if not once and for all suppressed, would end by capturing the Empire. His savage attempt to suppress it was a true indication of the enormous growth of the sect. It was against this background the young Constantine grew up, influenced also by his mother Helena, a Christian. Meanwhile, she had been put aside by Constantine's father in favour of Theodora, step-daughter of Maximianus.

Soon after Diocletian's abdication on 1st May, A.D. 305, the young Constantine with difficulty succeeded in joining his father in Britain. The following year, on July 25th, 306, Constantius died at Eboracum (York) in Britain. His son Constantine was with him at his death and was immediately proclaimed Emperor by the troops.

In 307 Rome was in turmoil largely due to the ambitious and tyrannical nature of Maxentius, son of Maximianus. However, when father and son quarrelled later in the same year Maximianus sought and gained an alliance with Constantine who had been biding his time. In an effort to consolidate and strengthen his position, Constantine divorced his first wife Minervina and married Fausta, daughter of Maximianus.

In the early spring of 312, after having made an alliance with Licinius (who earlier had been promoted to Augustus over him) Constantine marched into Italy against his brother-in-law Maxentius with an army only about a quarter the size of that of his opponent. On the eve of this battle Constantine prayed for victory and received divine guidance by way of vision of a flaming cross appearing above the setting sun, and heard the words "HOC SIGNO VICTOR ERIS". *"By this sign thou shalt conquer"*. Constantine painted the Christogram on his own helmet and on his soldier's shields.

After the famous battle of Milvian Bridge in Rome on October 28th, 312, where the opposing forces were defeated, Maxentius, whilst fleeing, drowned in the flooded Tiber river.

Licinius married Constantia, the half-sister of Constantine in 313, the same year as the two brothers-in-law issued the famous Edict

of Milan which granted complete religious toleration to the subjects of the Empire. If Constantine "the Great" earned his epithet on the battlefield, he ensured its perpetuation by his patronage of the Christian Church. Perhaps originally only a move to embarrass his enemy, the determined persecutor Galerius, Constantine's Christianity grew with his success till, on his death-bed, he accepted baptism.

Relations with Licinius were strained at the best of times, and after a decade of joint-rule the final breach came in 324. After defeat in two battles the lives of Licinius and his son, Licinius II, were spared due to the intervention of Constantia, and they were permitted to retire into private life. However, Licinius soon began to intrigue against Constantine and was immediately put to death.

Constantine having raised two of his sons (Crispus and Constantine II) to the rank of Caesar in 317 now raised a third (Constantius II) to that rank.

As undisputed ruler of the Roman world he now started work on transforming the city of Byzantium into his new Christian capital of the Empire. The work took over five years and the city, renamed Constantinopolis "City of Constantine", was dedicated on May 11th, 330.

Previous to this, in 325, Constantine had presided over the first Ecumenical Council of the Christian world, the Council of Nicaea, out of which came the Nicene Creed.

Meanwhile, in 326, a domestic tragedy occurred in the imperial family. Fausta, the second wife of Constantine, became jealous of her step-son Crispus, in whose growing popularity she saw threat to her own three sons. So she fabricated evidence of treason against the unfortunate Caesar who was imprisoned and executed. When Constantine learned the truth, he immediately condemned his wife to death and she was thrown into a bath of boiling water.

In December 333, Constans, the youngest son of Constantine was raised to the rank of Caesar. The Empire was now divided between the three sons and two of the nephews of the Emperor, but the supreme power was still in the hands of Constantine himself, who was the sole Augustus.

Constantine introduced a new gold denomination in 312. This was called the **SOLIDUS** which contained 1/72 lb of gold. The

AUREUS, which contained 1/60 lb of gold continued to be struck in the East until the defeat of Licinius in 324, when the **SOLIDUS** became the standard gold coin of the whole empire. He also introduced two new silver denominations. The **SILIQUA** (1/24 of a gold **SOLIDUS** in value), simply a new name for Diocletian's **ARGENTEUS**, of which 96 were struck from one pound weight of silver. The **MILIARENSE**, slightly heavier coin, had a value of 1/18 of a **SOLIDUS**.

The bronze coinage which was very extensive, struck at something like 19 mints throughout the empire is quite enigmatic since there were frequent weight reductions, but especially as so little is known about the names given to the denominations.

Whilst preparing to lead his army in person against the Persians, Constantine fell ill and died at Nicomedia on May 22nd, 337. Following his death there was an interregnum of nearly four months during which the two unfortunate nephews, Delmatius and Hanniballianus were both put to death. It was not until September 9th that the three sons, Constantine II, Constantius II and Constans, were proclaimed Augusti and became joint-rulers of the Empire.

In conclusion it remains to be said that Constantine's three surviving sons were not great at getting along together. When not warring against each other they were engaged in fighting usurpers or defending the borders of the empire. The last direct relative to become Emperor was Julian II, a nephew. He, however, was killed in battle against the Persians in June, 363, after less than two years of sole rule. Although Constantine's city, **CONSTANTINOPOLIS**, was to flourish as a centre of Christian learning for the next 1,000 years, its name was officially changed only this Century, to Istanbul.

But the coins which Constantine struck and the religion he embraced remain.

KALOCSA (Hungary).

The numismatic collection originally owned by the gymnasium of the Jesuit Order has been transferred to the town-Museum and is now being exhibited. It consists of 8,000 coins and medals. Most are Hungarian, but Roman and German coinages are also held.

TWO MEDICAL MEDALLIONS *By Gillian Faringdon-Davis*

I want to introduce you to two doctors and two medallions. The doctors were an honour to their profession, and the medallions were an honour to the doctors. Two men and two medals: Edward Henry Embley and Richard Rawdon Stawell.

Young people want to be doctors for all sorts of mixed-up reasons. They think they can help people, or they want to cure sick people, or they love science, or they want to know the secrets of life, or have a relative in the profession, or want to be respected or make a lot of money — or any of these. But a century ago doctors didn't make so much money. In fact if a family could afford to send a boy to University there were better and cleaner ways for him to enter a profession.

The two men I want you to meet were contemporaries, Embley being born in 1861 and Stawell three years later. Meet the elder first — Edward Henry Embley.

Embley was born in Castlemaine, Victoria, on 27th February 1861, the younger son of a Gloucestershire migrant. He went to the local grammar school and Bendigo High School, his best subjects being chemistry and maths. He became interested in practical chemistry at the age of ten, and developed a laboratory in which he spent all his leisure time. It must have been an unusual kind of existence for a bush kid in the 1870's, but he did it. Goodness knows what his mates thought.

He qualified as a pharmaceutical chemist at the age of 21, and the following year married Lydia Cox. They had a son who died in infancy and two daughters. Embley worked as a pharmacist to support his family, and at the same time, two years after qualifying, he entered Melbourne Medical School and supported himself as a student also by his pharmacy work. He was therefore 28 when graduated as a doctor.

He entered general practice in Latrobe Street, and was soon in demand as an anaesthetist, his pharmaceutical background leading him to take an interest in this side of medicine. He was Honorary Anaesthetist, Melbourne Hospital, 1895 to 1917, Consulting Anaesthetist 1917–24, and Lecturer in Anaesthetics at the University, 1900 to 1919.

However Embley is remembered for his study of chloroform.

To appreciate what he did, it is necessary to go back to what it was like at the turn of the century for any unfortunate individual who needed an operation.

Surgery was rough, but anaesthesia was even rougher. Nitrous oxide, dear old laughing gas, was first discovered experimentally in 1776. Twenty two years later Sir Humphry Davy, he of the miner's lamp, suggested it might be a good idea to use it in surgery: this is the era when a serviceman's arm might be amputated with the aid of a good saw, a bottle of whisky, and a little help from his friends. Nobody did anything about the suggestion for another 43 years. However, after 1842 ether and chloroform were both introduced. Chloroform, the same sickly smelling stuff that baddies in my school adventure stories used when abducting innocent females, was discovered in 1831 and its use for anaesthesia was only experimental. Ether had been known as a chemical since the 16th century but was not used as an anaesthetic until 1846.

When we talk about experimental use we mean exactly that. For instance, after chloroform was introduced it was recommended to a famous obstetrician, Simpson, who had tried using ether on his patients but didn't like the smell. So in 1847 Simpson and some friends all had dinner at his house, and after dinner they all tried inhaling chloroform out of glass tumblers. Backed with this vast experience he used it in his practice only four days later, and actually read a scientific paper on it the following week! Such optimism today would lead a surgeon to a claim for negligence, not a claim to fame.

The first death from chloroform occurred only a few months after its first use. The doctors attempted to resuscitate the patient by the method they themselves would have preferred in happier circumstances: by pouring brandy into the unconscious patient's mouth. More deaths followed, and two medical factions developed, attributing the problems to different causes.

For some reasons, ether became more popular in America and Europe, and in Great Britain they stuck to chloroform. This meant that in Australia they were "stuck with" chloroform, all the doctors here being either British or at least trained in the British tradition.

Chloroform is actually a poison, and quite apart from deaths under anaesthesia, it does nasty things to the liver. But it was better than

dying because nobody dared to operate. Quite soon, it was found that cardiac failure occurred. What they argued over was why, and what to do about it.

Various enquiries were held, one of the most famous being the Hyderabad Commission. The Nizam of Hyderabad, public spirited fellow that he was offered to sponsor a Royal Commission on the subject, and doctors and scientists went out to India to work on the subject there and the two Hyderabad Commission reports were produced. Their work was quite erroneous, but it represented the state of the art at the time young Embley was starting out in practice as an anaesthetist.

So back to Embley, in practice in Latrobe Street, with a wife and a couple of infants to support, working out of his own home which was in the block between Swanston and Elizabeth Streets where the underground station now stands. Very convenient for all the hospitals, especially as the old Melbourne Hospital was then in Lonsdale Street, and he worked together with a surgeon who lived right opposite the hospital. He did not own a carriage, and made all his visits on foot or, later, by tram.

Perhaps his delayed entry into a medicine was a good thing, as he brought a mature and enquiring mind which was accustomed to the exactness of pharmaceuticals, and the hit or miss atmosphere of contemporary anaesthesia was not good enough for him. He started experimenting with chloroform in his spare time, and chemistry being what it was at the time, and being only a struggling beginner anyway, he not only worked in his own time with no public funding or sponsorship, but he actually made most of his own laboratory equipment including blowing his own glass. He was trying to find out what chloroform did and how to stop the dangerous side effects. In the course of his experiments he used — I say used, not killed — no less than 289 dogs. Incidentally this uncovered one of the reasons why the Hyderabad Commission had reached false conclusions.

The Royal Commission said that respiratory failure preceded cardiac failure. In other words, they had noticed that the patients stopped breathing, and believed that with no breath the heart stopped. One of the things that led them to this belief was the experimental technique of placing a dog in a box and administering chloroform vapour until it was unconscious. The members of

the commission did not realise that many dogs died while still in the box. You can imagine the scene — the white man being still king, and pye dogs going for three a penny in Hyderabad: "*You want one unconscious dog, sah — here you are*" — with no mention of how many "goes" it took to produce one happily unconscious dog.

Embley, being a poor man and doing all his own work, soon found out exactly what happened in that mysterious dog box. But it was not a matter of luck. His written work shows how he carefully examined the work of the past, and made painstaking deductions from it before he began purposeful experiments. He followed the path of classical pharmacology and did it slowly and carefully. To cut a long story short, he found that the chloroform had a paralytic effect on certain heart muscle, and also excited a nerve centre in the brain which overstimulated the heart. He missed one important point, that a high proportion of deaths were due to fibrillation, but he did uncover the most important factor. He also contributed greatly to saving life by working out that, instead of giving as much chloroform as possibly quickly in an attempt to keep the patient under for a shorter time, it was better to filter it in bit by bit to reduce the shock to the heart.

Much of his work could not be brought to fruition because the remedies — such as adrenalin and atropine — were not in general use at the time. But he pointed the way to go in safe general anaesthesia, and showed that the danger period was the initial time of induction of anaesthesia, and if respiratory failure occurred, this could be overcome if the circulation remained intact.

If it had not been for Embley and people like him, there would be no plastic surgery, no remedial surgery for people with twisted legs or peculiar faces, no elective surgery, nothing like an open heart operation, because until safe and relatively pleasant anaesthesia was available, no operations would take place unless the patient was very ill indeed — nobody would ever elect to have one, and nothing could be done about those vital organs where very deep and prolonged unconsciousness would be needed before they could be touched.

Embley carried on, working with his friend and former professor Osborne. Altogether he published 24 scientific papers, and received the David Syme Prize for Scientific Research in 1906, the first

year it was awarded, and sent papers to two international congresses but never travelled himself. He made the name of Melbourne famous among medical men when otherwise it was just a colonial village in their opinion. He did have the pleasure of being honoured in his own lifetime, and was a greatly loved man. He is described as being a gentle spirit and a dedicated man, slow speaking, kindly and a fine teacher. If you examine the medallion and the photograph in the display case I think you will agree that he does look a very kind and gentle person, and you would imagine him as a teacher, clergyman, or perhaps old fashioned doctor.

From 1920 onwards he was in poor health, unable to work, and he died on May 9th, 1924, after several years illness, at the age of only 63. I do not know if so many years close to primitive anaesthetic agents hastened his end, but think it likely.

After he died, members of the profession wanted to set up a memorial in his honour, something that would be as useful as he had been, and in 1929 the Australian Medical Association (which was then a branch of the British Medical Association) resolved that to perpetuate his memory, and at the same time forward the advance of medical science, subscriptions would be invited to a fund to finance the delivery every third year of a lecture on recent researches, principles and practices in anaesthesia, to be called the E.H. Embley Memorial lecture. It was also resolved that part of the money should be applied to erecting a tablet to his memory in the hall of the Medical Society of Victoria.

In addition, income from the trust fund was to be invested in the name of the trustees to meet the expenses of the lecture, and to provide a gold medal to be offered annually for the medical students of the University of Melbourne in some test of knowledge and skill in the science and practice of anaesthesia.

That has been done ever since, with one unfortunate omission. You may have noticed that the medallion on display tonight, which is one to be awarded to the next undergraduate to win the prize in anaesthesia, is not gold. It appears that the money collected was not quite enough to produce gold mementoes even back in 1929. However, the prize is awarded each year — the student has the choice of money or medal, and I am pleased to say that they usually select the permanent memento — and every third year a lecture is delivered on the subject. This year the speak-

er is to be Dr. Kevin McCaul on analgesia in childbirth, which brings us back to the beginnings of the subject, as you will remember that Queen Victoria gladly accepted some analgesia when members of her large family were born, making it socially acceptable for all women to acknowledge the need to reduce pain.

The memorial tablet reads: *"In memory of Edward Henry Embley, M.D., whose researches on the causation of death during administration of chloroform and similar agents have enriched materially the theory and practice of anaesthesia and benefited not only his profession, but mankind. This tablet has been erected as a tribute of appreciation of his courage and skill as an investigator and of his noble simplicity of character"*.

The larger medallion that I have brought to-day commemorates Richard Rawdon Stawell, who was born in Kew in 1864. He was the son of Sir William Stawell, Chief Justice of Victoria. His early education was at Marlborough College, England, then Hawthorn Grammar School, and Trinity College of the University of Melbourne where he graduated in medicine in 1886. A year was spent as resident medical officer at the Melbourne Hospital, actually a couple of years ahead of Embley who had been working as a pharmacist. He then moved to the Melbourne Hospital for Sick Children, the forerunner of our Children's Hospital, and worked for his M.D. This work with children set the pattern for much of his life's work, as he then went to Europe and England and took up postgraduate study in children's diseases and neurology. He became an authority in both, and did much to raise the standard of practice in those directions.

Before returning to Australia, he continued his research in the leading clinics of the United States. He presents a contrast to Embley, a country boy who never left Victoria, whereas Stawell came from a very distinguished professional family and was something of a suave sophisticated man about town compared to his colleague. However, they were both enormously loved by their peers and respected in their different fields, and are both remembered for being thoroughly nice men.

Returning to Melbourne, Stawell started in practice in Collins Street and joined the honorary staff in the Children's Hospital as an outpatient physician. In those days the honoraries really were honorary, they gave their time. He was a clinical teacher

of outstanding ability and his classes were always fully attended due not only to the standard of instruction, but his infectious enthusiasm and keennes. His practice grew enormously, but he felt that his private practice should not interfere with his teaching work, especially when he was appointed physician to the inpatients at the Children's.

Because of his success in lecturing in clinical teaching, he was invited to join the staff of the Melbourne Hospital, and in time became the senior indoor physician, and consultant physician to both hospitals.

At the outbreak of the First World War, although he was already fifty years old, Stawell volunteered for active service in the Australian Army Medical Corps, and worked during the latter part of the Gallipoli campaign, Egypt and Lemnos.

He left Australia with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in charge of a medical section of the Third Australian General Hospital. This hospital was the largest medical unit sent from Australia and had a capacity of 1050 beds, later extended to 2000. It was embarked in the old P. & O. "Mooltan" in May 1915, and reached London in June. All its equipment had to be provided by the British War Office with extra material bought through the Australian Red Cross Fund. He had masses of detail work to do preparing for the Suvla Bay landing, but unfortunately the War Office or the gremlins did their best again and the whole mass of equipment was loaded into another ship which did not arrive for weeks after the hospital ship had arrived at Gallipoli.

So there was the Colonel with no tents for the sick and wounded, and none for his men. They scoured the Bay of Mudros in small boats lent by the Navy, and grabbed some apparently abandoned tents which served as a hospital. There was no jetty at which stores could be landed, not even from small boats. The Colonel, with a corporal's guard of half a dozen men, worked for hours up to their waists in water wrestling with rocks to build a jetty fit for the little borrowed boats.

Then followed months of work, first in caring for the wounded from Savla Bay, and then in treating infections such as tyhoid, dysentery, and hepatitis. Stawell was in charge of the medical section of the hospital, which contained nearly a thousand patients suffering from those diseases. They were rare diseases in Australia,

and no one had much experience of them, so they had to research the best treatment as they went.

Food was bad, living conditions difficult. After two months service, only nine of the 30 doctors who had originally landed were still on duty. The rest were either hospital patients themselves or had been invalidated out.

Stawell himself got amoebic dysentery, followed by infectious jaundice, and after a severe illness was sent to England to convalesce. While he was there he attended a sitting of Parliament and got very indignant when a speaker said conditions at the front left hardly anything to be desired. At that point, the unit had received its first consignment from the Australian Red Cross. With great excitement, on a day when a blizzard was blowing, temperature at a freezing point and wind at sixty miles an hour, they unpacked a generous gift of cotton pyjamas, fly whisks, and mosquito netting.

Back on duty, Stawell busied himself collating records and analysing all the case sheets, some 5000 cases, an enormous study of military disease for future use. After the evacuation of Gallipoli they sailed for Egypt, and Stawell and another officer went as an advance party to arrange for the establishment of the military hospital in Cairo. That I believe to have been Mena House Hospital, which was staffed originally by the same nurses who returned after the war and founded Mena House Hospital in East Melbourne, which is still operating.

In 1916 he was repatriated to Australia for health reasons. For the remainder of the war he worked for the sick and wounded who were returned. Afterwards he was untiring in his work for the veterans and for repatriation. Much work was done for the returned soldiers at Mont Park, and for the Repatriation Department, and up to the time of his death he was a member of the Assessment Appeal Tribunal. In 1929 he was awarded the K.B.E. for distinguished services and citizenship.

However, noble as it might be, working as an honoured physician, this was not all Stawell did. He was a competent writer, and contributed articles to the Intercolonial Medical Journal. Later he became its editor.

He was always an active member of the British Medical Associat-

ion, and for years was on the Council. He was one of the members of the Federal Committee which led to the formation of the Australian Medical Association, and became President of the Branch. Then when the British Medical Association Council decided to hold its annual conference in Melbourne as part of the Melbourne centenary celebrations, Sir Richard Stawell was named as President-elect of the international body. His talent at organising will be realised when I mention that, without professional organisers or subsidies of any kind, and in spite of people coming from countries all over the world to what must have been one of the first off-shore conferences ever held, the meeting actually made a profit: in fact, enough profit to endow a triennial essay competition with a cash prize which, even today, is quite substantial, known by the ghastly name of the British Medical Association (1935) Conference Essay Prize.

Sir Richard Stawell was also active in the formation of the Association of Physicians of Australasia and was its first President. He was a member of many clubs, very keen on sport, especially golf, boating and fishing, but in his student days he was keen on tennis and played so much that he failed his first year medicine, having taken too much time off to win the doubles championship of Victoria.

Stawell was one of the few people who are honoured in their own lifetime, soon enough for their own family to appreciate the position they hold. In 1933, one of his old students and colleagues, Dr. A.E. Rowden White, decided that something should be done to recognize Stawell's attainments and keep his memory alive. White wrote to the President of the B.M.A. in Victoria suggesting that this master of the profession should be made aware of the esteem and goodwill with which his colleagues regarded him. He offered to place with trustees the sum of one thousand pounds to commemorate Stawell and his work with an annual oration. At this stage White wanted to be anonymous. He thought that the oration should be wide enough in scope to emphasize the importance of medical science, teaching, and scientific research, and special emphasis should be laid on the study and presentation of problems of a clinical nature. The gift was accepted, trustees appointed, and the annual oration began. The following year, Stawell died of a coronary after a very short illness. He left his wife, two daughters, and a son John who was a 4th-year medical

student and is still in practice.

Some years later, Rowden White added more money to provide refreshments at the oration, and to cover the award of another triennial essay prize.

The oration is still held, and some eminent men have been honoured to accept invitations to be the orator, including Sir Robert Menzies and Sir Paul Hasluck, as after the first twenty years Rowden White felt that other sciences which affect medicine should be included, and in fact speakers from all walk of life. However, over the last few years inflation has reduced the value of the investment, and the trustees have decided to hold the oration only every second year. This year it is to be given by Prof. Richard Lowell, who will receive the medallion with the portrait of Stawell next May 5th.

Both the Stawell and the Embley medallions are struck by Stokes, who hold the dies on behalf of the trustees, and both portraits were taken from photographs. The portrait of Stawell was modeled on a photograph by Dr. Julian Smith, whose grandson, another Julian Smith, graduated in medicine last year. On that occasion young Dr. Smith received not only the Embley medallion, similar to the one you see, but also the Australian Medical Association medal for the top university student in the final year.

The oration is something of social event. Leaders of the medical profession are invited, also a long list of former friends and relatives, now becoming in many cases quite old and frail but still determined to achieve their annual night out in honour of the beloved Sir Richard.

A rather faint copy of the original letter from Dr. Rowden White, who started it all, is also on view tonight. You will notice that it is addressed from 85 Spring Street, Melbourne, where White shared a building opposite Parliament House with a number of other doctors, and where the Stawell family had a house of their own at number 45, a few doors down.

This year's Stawell Oration is the Forty-Eighth, and there have been seventeen of the triennial Embley lectures, so the tradition is guarded. That means of course that there are 48 Stawell medallions in existence, each one named to the recipient, and a somewhat smaller number of Embley medallions, which go of

course not to the lecturer but to the examination prizewinner. Pity they aren't gold!

I can do no better than to finish with tribute paid to Embley in the fifteenth lecture by Professor Noel Cass, which I also extend to Stawell. It was originally written by Pericles in the funeral oration for the Athenian dead in the First Peloponnesian War in 431 B.C. He said: *"The whole earth is the tomb of famous men; neither is their name graven only on the stone which covers their clay, but abideth everywhere without visible symbol, wrought into the stuff of other men's lives"*.

I HAVE TO BELIEVE THAT.

References:

EMBLEY:

Medical Journal of Australia for July 7, 1924; August 2, 1924; and December 10, 1960. Trust deeds of the E.H. Embley Memorial Lecture. "Anaesthesia and Intensive Care" May 1979 - "The Changing Face of Pharmacology in Anaesthesia" by Noel Cass.

Archives of the Australian Medical Association (Victorian Branch).

STAWELL:

Medical Journal of Australia for May, 1935, and October 10, 1936 (Second Oration). Preface to the bound volume of Orations, 1954. The Stawell Orations Deed of Trust.

PIONEER TO SOLDIER, 1899-1900 By Kathleen Fennessy

A Discussion of Two Medals from the Collection of
the Science Museum of Victoria.

International Exhibitions were very popular throughout Australia and Great Britain during the second half of the nineteenth century. Medals were a favoured means of commemorating these events and so, this class of medal is regularly found in even small numismatic collections.

In the 1890's, a series of privately sponsored exhibitions were held in London on twenty six acres at Earl's Court. These followed national themes, and were as much concerned with public entertainment as they were with instructing the visitors on the quality of the products displayed. The sponsors of the exhibitions described the recreational and educational wonders of Earl's Court in

the following manner:

..... where in the world, we may ask, is there an undertaking affording such undoubted and varied education 'pure air' and bright sunshine as that at Earl's Court? The very name is suggestive of gaiety and lightheartedness...It stands pre-eminent amongst places of entertainment.....the realisation of a dream, reared in phantasy. (Guide p.13-14)

During 1899 the Greater Britain Exhibition was held at this venue. This exhibition displayed the products of the Colonies of Great Britain with a special stress on the Colonies of Victoria, Queensland, Rhodesia and British South Africa.

The Victorian Government displayed the produce of the Colony in an area called the Victoria Court. The Catalogue of the Exhibition detailed the products displayed; these included primary and secondary

industries, the arts and education. In the guide to the displays the Victorian Government declared that the Colony was represented in order that *'..the natural resources of Victoria should be brought prominently before the notice of the British public...'* as a means of increasing the demand for Victorian produce. (Guide p.73).

Included in the section devoted to 'Technical and Art Work' was an exhibition by Stokes and Sons (of 264 ½ Post Office Place, City). Their display was of electro-plated goods, mounted emu eggs, dies for medals, buttons, badges and a working medal press that struck medals from colonial metals, including tin, copper, silver and gold. (Catalogue p.135).

One of the medals produced at that Exhibition is to be found in the collection of the Science Museum of Victoria, reg. No.20,143. It is of gilt copper (or brass) and is holed for a ribbon and it has the legend 'GREATER BRITAIN EXHIBITION' 1899/COMMEMORATION MEDAL STRUCK AT VICTORIA COURT'. The reverse depicts a bushman on horseback reigning back hard; in his hand he holds a stock whip and he shades his eyes as he scans the



PLATE I

horizon. The legend reads THE PIONEER, AUSTRALIA, 1899 / CAPT. COOK LANDED 1770. VICTORIA SEPARATE COLONY 1851.

(Plate I)

The medal is consequently a graphic expression of the Australian bushman legend. It is, furthermore not surprising to find another expression of the theme at the same exhibition, Tom Robert's painting 'The Shearing of the Rams', a work which further expresses the theme of the heroic Australian bushman.

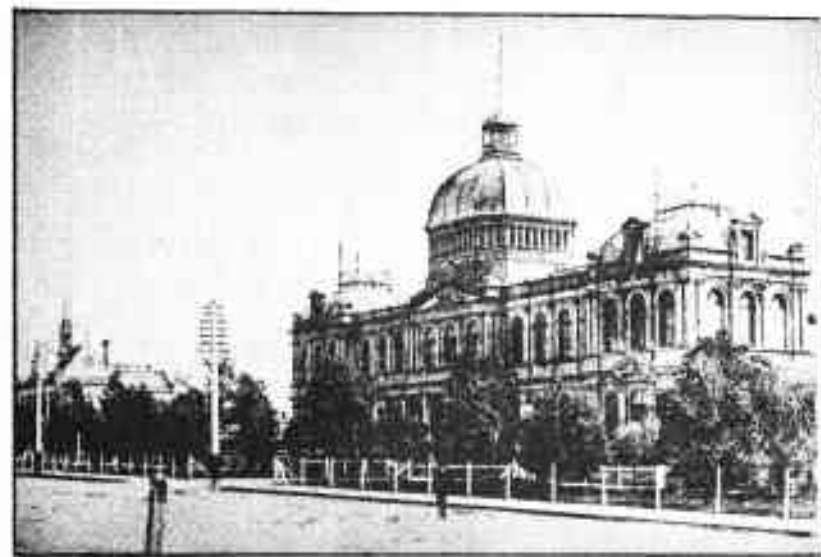
The transformation of the legendary pioneer into a heroic soldier, foreshadowing the development of the digger legend, is beautifully depicted in the form of one of the medals produced to farewell the Australian troops departing for the Boer War in 1900. (Plate II)

The reverse of the medal in question presents a modified version of the Pioneer depicted the previous year in London. As can be seen from the plates, the soldier is shown with exactly the same posture as the pioneer; mounted, reining hard and scanning the horizon. However he has become a mounted rifleman and has exchanged his stockwhip for a cartridge belt slung over his shoulder.

The Greater Britain medal and the Farewell medal are thus linked and depict the development of the idealised Australian at the turn of the century.



PLATE II



Adelaide Exhibition Building

THE MEDAL OF THE ADELAIDE JUBILEE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, 1887.

An Intriguing Example of the Work of Ernst A. Altmann.

By Dr. John M. Chapman.

As early as 1882, preparations were being made for the Commemoration in 1886 of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Proclamation of the Colony of South Australia, and seeing that the following year would mark the Jubilee of the Reign of Queen Victoria, a combined celebration was mooted in the form of an International Exhibition.

On 1st June, 1882, a Royal Commission was issued to organize an International Exhibition to be held in Adelaide in 1887. The Jubilee Exhibition Act of 1883 empowered the Governor to appoint Exhibition Commissioners to take the necessary steps for holding a Jubilee Exhibition of Works of Industry and Art. The first appointments were made on 2nd May, 1883, with the Governor as President of the Adelaide Jubilee International Exhibition Royal Commission. The Commissioners had the power to appoint Officers and delegate powers to Committees. However, due to

considerable public outcry against the large expense which was contemplated for such an exhibition, the Government abandoned the whole project, passing an Act in 1884 to repeal the Jubilee Exhibition Act.

Fortunately this was not the end of the matter. On 31st July, 1885, at a Town Hall meeting, Mr. Edwin Thomas Smith, M.P. presented a plan for a privately promoted exhibition on the Guarantee Principle. On this basis, a Committee appointed to act with Mr. Smith, formulated a detailed scheme which they presented to the Government on 2nd September, 1885. In this memorial, the Government was requested to provide a block of land facing North Terrace, and £32,000 over two years for the erection of an Exhibition Building with associated permanent improvements.

On 7th October, 1885, the House of Assembly accepted the terms for a Jubilee Exhibition for South Australia to be held in 1887, and an Act to set apart certain land for a Jubilee Exhibition and other purposes was passed. On 25th November, 1885, expenditure of £32,000 was approved by the Legislative Council. The Act was to be inoperative until a guarantee fund of at least £15,000 was raised. Actually £22,000 was subscribed by 56 Promoters, who guaranteed at least £100 each. The Promoters had full management of the Exhibition and were entitled to charge for space and admission.

A Memorandum of Agreement was drawn up between the Guarantors and the Trustees, stating that if a profit resulted from the Exhibition, it was to be applied to some useful public purpose determined by the Guarantors, but any loss was to be borne by the Guarantors. The Trustees formed an Executive Committee to supervise the running of the event in collaboration with the Promoters.

The Government established a Royal Commission in 1886, with the Governor as President and Mr. Smith as Vice-President, to arrange the South Australian exhibits, and a London Commission was appointed to arrange for exhibits to be sent from the United Kingdom.

Mr. Edwin T. Smith, M.P., the driving force behind the successful organisation of the Exhibition, was elected Mayor of Adelaide for 1886-87 (his second term), and knighted in 1888 for his outstanding record of service to the Colony.

ional Exhibition' at an additional cost not to exceed 3d. per case"

On 31st October, 1887,:-

"A telegram was received from Mr. Altmann stating that he would require 25 weeks to supply 2,000 medals and would agree to a penalty of £2 per day for non delivery. Referred to Medal Committee with power to complete arrangements with Mr. Altmann."

It may be noted in passing that while the Medal negotiation seems protracted, the arrangements for the design and printing of the Diploma were even more complicated.

An unusual feature of this Exhibition is that its official Award Medal was produced in only one size and one metal, (3 inch bronze), modifications being limited to the two varieties of reverse caption, and the gilding of special presentation specimens.

Winners of a 1st Award received a Medal and Diploma, while the second and 3rd Award winners had to be content with a Diploma only.

According to the official records, there were 1,970 1st Awards, 975 2nd Awards and 590 3rd Awards.

The actual number of medals struck is unknown, but as Altmann's telegram mentions 2,000 as late as the end of October, 1887, this figure may be assumed to be correct, which means that the 'For Services' group were probably included in the 1st Award total. The Medals were cased according to instructions, but not officially named, notwithstanding provision for such in the tender.

The production of this medal by Altmann is of extreme numismatic interest as two quite distinct obverse dies were employed, and two different wreath reverses, both occurring with "First Order of Merit" and "For Services". Thus there is a theoretical possibility of eight different medals, if both obverse dies were mated with each of the four reverses. Although my researches so far lead me to believe that certain combinations probably do not exist, perhaps this paper may lead to a collector reporting one unknown to me. I am now fairly certain of how Altmann proceeded in fulfilling the contract. He cut two pairs of obverse and reverse dies with which he struck the "First Order of Merit" medals. He then ground out the lettering area on both reverse dies in the shape of a shield, and substituted "For Services" in

The Exhibition was opened by the Governor, Sir William Robinson, on Tuesday, 21st June, 1887, using a beautifully jewelled and inscribed gold master-key, presented to him by Sir Charles Davenport, Executive Commissioner of the Exhibition.

The Official Declaration of Awards took place in the Exhibition Hall on the evening of 30th November, 1887. The Governor presented the Rolls of Awards to representatives of the Exhibiting countries, but owing to appeals, the list was not completely finalised until 16th April, 1888.

Closing day, 7th January, 1888, marked the end of an outstandingly successful season. Admissions (including Season Tickets) totalled 789,672 and all expenses were met without recourse to the Guarantee Fund. To celebrate the successful conclusion, the Exhibition Promoters held a "Complimentary Social" at the Adelaide Town Hall on 17th January, 1888, to which over 1,000 invitations were issued.

Numismatically, this Exhibition is of great interest, not only for its variety of Commemorative Medalets, but also for some intriguing features of its Official Award Medal.

In December, 1886, the Fine Arts and Finance Committees jointly recommended that:—

"Designs be invited in the Australian Colonies for the Medal and Diploma of the Exhibition; that 10 Guineas and 20 Guineas respectively be offered for the design."

Approval was given, except that the proposed 20 Guineas for the Diploma design was reduced to 10 Guineas.

In March, 1887, the Fine Arts Committee held a meeting to decide upon the submitted design for Diploma and Medal—28 for the former and 39 for the latter. With reference to the design for the Medal, the Committee was unanimously of the opinion that there was no design worthy of the occasion and recommended that:—

"On one side there should be the portrait of Her Majesty struck from some authoritative medal issued in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee, and on the other side simply a wreath with a suitable inscription."

At the first meeting of a Medal Sub-Committee in September 1887-

"Samples of medals submitted by Messrs Stokes and Martin and

Mr. Altmann of Melbourne were laid on the table and inspected, and it was resolved that offers be invited by advertisements to supply medals for the Exhibition; the price of dies to be stated and wax impressions from the dies to be supplied; Size to be 3 inches in diameter; the lettering on the obverse to be 'Adelaide Jubilee International Exhibition 1887' surrounding a portrait of Her Majesty the Queen; the lettering on the reverse to be 'First Order of Merit' with a laurel wreath. Guarantee of 1,000 bronze medals to be given; plain cases for the same to be provided by the Contractors and offers to be received up to Tuesday, 18th October."

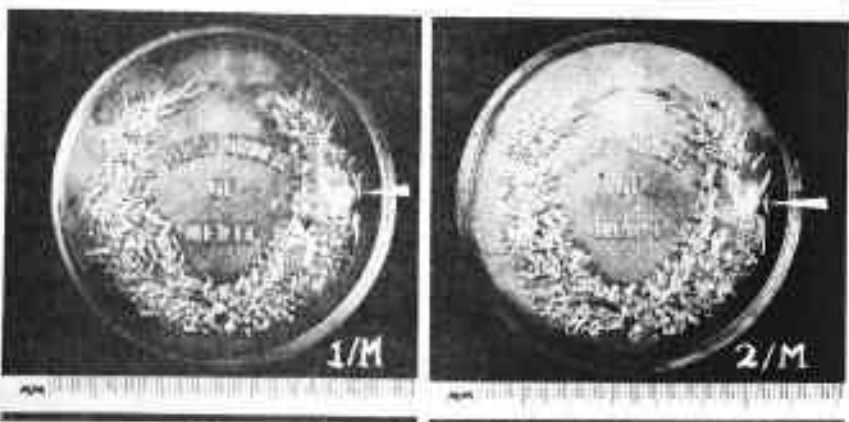
The second meeting of the Medal Sub-Committee on 20th October, 1887, reported that:—

"Tenders have been received from Mr. Altmann of Melbourne, Messrs. Stokes and Martin of Melbourne, and Mr. J.M. Wendt for Elkhington of Sydney. There being some ambiguity in the tender of the lowest tender (Mr. Altmann), the Secretary was instructed to inform Mr. Cameron (Secretary of Victorian Commⁿ) that the Committee were prepared to negotiate with Mr. Altmann if he saw his way clear to come to Adelaide."

At its third meeting on 26th October, 1887, the Medal Sub-Committee:—

"...Conferred with Mr. Altmann of Melbourne with reference to his tender the following points were agreed to, which Mr. Altmann was instructed to embody in the amended tender, viz.:—

- (1) That the quality of the metal and the workmanship of the Medal shall be equal to the sample of the Sydney Exhibition Medal submitted with the Tender.*
- (2) That Mr. Altmann submit the design of a wreath of S.A.'n flowers instead of the laurel wreath for the reverse side of the Medal.*
- (3) That for an additional charge of 6d. per Medal, Mr. Altmann will engrave on each medal the name of the person to whom it is awarded.*
- (4) That Mr. Altmann will agree to engrave without extra charge the words 'For Services' on the medals which may be required to be distributed as Complimentary Awards to Commissioners & others.*
- (5) That Mr. Altmann will have printed in gilt letters on the cases for the medals the words 'Adelaide Jubilee Internat-*



the depressed surface. The required number of this type of medal were then struck using both altered reverse dies, but apparently only one of the obverse dies.

Some of the numerous die differences are obvious in the accompanying illustrations. If we call the two obverse dies A (Cross between NA) and B (Cross under N); the two basic reverse dies 1 (leaf over) and 2 (leaf under), using M and S to distinguish between "First Order of Merit" and "For Services", then the following chart lists the combination that exist in my own collection (C) and the Science Museum of Victoria (V). I have examined many other specimens without finding an unlisted combination.

OBVERSE	REVERSE	SPECIMENS
A	1/M	C*CCVVV
	2/M	NOT SEEN
	1/S	
	2/S	
B	1/M	C*CCV
	2/M	C
	1/S	CCVV
	2/S	

**) Gilt Specimens (B.2/M being the copy presented in a special case to the Vice-President, Sir Edwin T. Smith, Mayor of Adelaide).*

Postscript.

Ernst A. Altmann's career presents an opportunity for rewarding numismatic research, as virtually nothing has been recorded of his life and work in Melbourne during the latter half of the 19th Century. It is not generally known that his medal design was selected for the Centennial International Exhibition, Melbourne, 1888, but due to his illness at the time, the Melbourne Mint was asked to take over its production. To Altmann's chagrin, the authorities were persuaded that his high relief design would be too difficult for the Mint to strike, and his archrivals Stokes and Martin were commissioned to cut modified dies.

TAIPEI (Taiwan)

The National Museum of History has mounted a special numismatic display of Chinese coins and early currency forms from as early as the Shang and Chou dynasties.

THE FIRST OFFICIAL COPPER COINAGE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

By Barbara Nielsen



Like Canada, Nova Scotia was discovered by John Cabot — two years earlier than Canada proper — in 1475. Some forty nine years later it was visited by the Italian navigator and explorer, Giovanni da Verrazano and named Arcadia. Settlement by Europeans did not come until 1622 when William Alexander brought a party from Scotland in the reign of James I of England. They gave it the name Nova Scotia — New Scotland. However, since this first settlement, Nova Scotia changed ownership several times and was not finally confirmed as an English colony until the peace of Utrecht in 1713. The map opposite gives the relationship of the peninsular of Nova Scotia to Canada proper and to the other early Canadian colonies on the east coast of North America.

At first, after 1710, when the English reacquired the colony permanently the gold coinage was mainly Spanish Doublons, French Louis and English Quineas. Later English Sovereigns appeared. The silver consisted largely of Spanish coins, the Spanish Dollar being valued at five shillings by 1753. This rating of the Spanish dollar was known as Halifax currency (Halifax being the capital of Nova Scotia) and was finally adopted by all the Canadian Colonies. There was also some English and French silver and the copper was nearly all English and Irish.

The copper currency was later augmented by private copper tokens of various types. In 1817 the use of these tokens was made illegal and permission was asked for and granted by the British Govern-



ment to strike copper coins to fill the need made by the withdrawal of the private tokens. The first of these coins appeared in 1823 — an issue of 400,000 halfpennies. Mr. R.C. Willey, the principal scholar of Canadian colonial issues in Canada writes *"that in the Canadian colonies the basic coin was the halfpenny. Farthings were very seldom used, and the penny was just a convenient double unit. We have 3 or 4 times as many halfpennies than pennies — quite the reverse of the situation in colonial Australia, where the penny was the basic copper coin and the halfpenny little used"*.

The first halfpenny bears on the obverse a classical bust of George IV, laureated and draped and on the reverse the badge of Scotland, a thistle. With the second issue in 1824, both halfpennies and pennies were struck, 118,636 of the former and 217,776 of the latter. The design was the same as that of the first issue, the penny of course being larger.

Although George IV died in 1830, the 1832 issues still carried his bust on the obverse. These issues of George IV are of interest in that there were many lighter counterfeits of both the halfpenny and penny. These were used together with the genuine copper coins to augment the copper shortage. There is a rare variety of the 1832 counterfeit halfpenny — 1382 — rare because the forgers soon discovered their mistake and corrected the die.

With the ascension of Queen Victoria to the Throne of England, her bust replaced that of King George IV on the issues of 1840, and 1843, the reverse of the halfpennies and pennies of these issues remaining the same as for earlier issues. There are three major varieties of the 1840 halfpenny — large, medium and small O's in the 1840.

The year 1856 saw the last issue of the non decimal Nova Scotian coinage, the decimal system being adopted in 1860. This last issue bears new designs on the obverse and reverse, the former being a diademed bust of Queen Victoria and the latter a spray of the provincial flower of Nova Scotia, the trailing arbutus or mayflower, *Epigaea Repens*.

It is interesting to note that while these non decimal copper coins were official government issue they all bear on the reverse either "HALFPENNY TOKEN" or "ONE PENNY TOKEN".

The word token does not feature on the decimal half and one cents.

References

THE COINS AND TOKENS OF THE POSSESSIONS AND COLONIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE, Atkins, J., *Barnard Quaritch, London, 1889.*

STANDARD CATALOGUE OF CANADIAN COINS, TOKENS AND PAPER MONEY Whitman, Wisconsin 1967, 15th Edition. Charleton, J.E.

THE GUIDEBOOK AND CATALOGUE OF BRITISH COMMONWEALTH COINS 1660-1969, . Winnipeg, Canada Second Edition, 1969. Remick, J. et al.

CHINESE CURRENCY

Extracts from 'Things Chinese'
by J. Dyer Ball (1925).

Selected by John Faringdon-Davis.

China presents the curious spectacle of an Empire without a gold or silver currency in general use throughout the land. For Centuries, with but slight exceptions, the medium of exchange has been the cash, a small copper coin of the size of an English Halfpenny, but only a half or a third as thick, with a square hole in its centre for convenience in stringing.

It has a raised broad rim round the circumference as well as one round the square hole in the centre. In the sunk space between these two rims are, on the obverse, four raised Chinese Characters, two of which are the style of the Emperor's Reign, and two are the equivalent of "current coin".

At the present day the majority of the coins also have on the reverse two raised Manchu characters, one denoting the provincial mint at which the coin has been cast, and the other the equivalent of the word "currency". For some Centuries before Christ, and until the present time, this has been, in its general features, the circulating medium of China.

Larger coins of the same character have also been coined, but as a rule it may be said that China has had no gold or silver coinage. A few attempts to coin silver have been made once or twice in the past, but they have been failures. Edkins says *'Arabian Trade brought to China the use of silver by weight, as European Trade at a later period brought the Dollar'*.

'A thousand years ago the people in Central China kept their Accounts in Copper Cash'. It is now the general practice in the South for all Accounts to be kept in silver — taels, mace, candarins,

and li (a decimal system: ten li making one candarin; ten candarins, one mace; and ten mace, one tael); there being actually no such coins in existence. But in Hong Kong and places where the dollar is common, they are often kept in dollars and cents. Hence arises sometimes a curious mixture, the shopkeeper at times puts down some of the items in taels, etc., and in other parts of his books items will occur in dollars and cents.

Paper notes have at different periods been issued by the Government, and in later times by private firms. They have been much in use in certain parts of China — Foochow for example. Marco Polo devotes a whole chapter to an account of the paper money in use in China in his time. The Chinese readily used the Mexican, South American and other dollars — half a century ago Spanish dollars took the place that the Mexican subsequently held, but except in the neighbourhood of Hong Kong, and often there as well, they always weighed them, and they were generally stamped, as they passed through the hands of merchants and shopkeepers, with a private mark of the firm, till they fell into pieces and became what is known as broken silver, and had to be weighed as each transaction took place to know their value. For this purpose a small money scale is a part of the equipment of every one going shopping; in time, no doubt, a regular silver coinage will drive this practice out.

The Japanese, Hong Kong, and Straits Settlement subsidiary coins, such as the five, ten and twenty cent pieces, have been much in circulation, especially in Hong Kong and its neighbourhood. The Japanese yen and Hong Kong dollar are also used more now.

In 1890 a mint was established at Canton. This mint is a very fine one, and in one respect, that of stamping machines, is the largest in the world. It was at first under the superintendence of a Scotchman, but all the other officials and workmen are natives. The following extracts from Consul Brenan's report may prove of interest in this connection:

'This mint has now so far (1893) taken upon itself the duty of providing the people with a standard of value at the expense of the Government. It only cares to work at a profit No assayer is employed, and the provincial treasury silver is taken to be pure, the Canton dollar (few of which have been coined) is not of even fineness. Some of the first dollars coined there were found in the London mint to be actually 884 instead of 900 fine There is

a steady demand (for the subsidiary coins) because of the convenience, their passing above their intrinsic value being an exemplification of Ricardo's proposition that the value of a coin depends on demand and supply There is certain to be in time an immense demand for such small silver pieces all over the Empire.'

(Sir Thomas Wade, a former British Minister to Peking, actually recommended that Hong Kong should coin taels when it was proposed to issue a Hong Kong dollar, and this when the Chinese were familiar with foreign dollars. The Chinese, as will be seen below, are given in their adhesion to the use of the dollar themselves.)

The coins issued by the Canton mint have been dollars, half dollars, twenty, ten and five cent pieces in silver, copper cents and cash. The Government of the Fukien Province had a large quantity of silver coins minted for them at this establishment in Canton. The same Viceroy, Chang Chih-tung, who introduced this first mint into China, also established one at Wuchang in 1895 for the benefit of the Hupeh and Hunan Provinces. Mints were opened at Peiyang and Foochow in 1896, and two years later at Nanking, Hankow, Anking, Ch'engtu, Mukden, and Kirin. Other mints will soon doubtless supply other portions of the Empire with silver coins. The ten and twenty cent pieces issued by the Canton mint are largely in circulation in Hong Kong, though not now received at the Government offices, such as the Post Office, etc. Generally, the coins have only a local circulation in the provinces where they are issued, and none rival the Mexican dollar in popularity. In Peking, the Yuan Shih-k'ai silver coins have a higher exchange value than others issued by native mints.

The British Museum is putting onto computer archival data concerning the whole collection of coins and medals. The American Numismatic Society reported the same activity in their Summer 1981 Newsletter. The Science Museum of Victoria has been employing a computer catalogue for some years. Efforts are being made to ensure that the systems are compatible.

THE 1871 NOTES OF FIJI

By John Sharples

The Science Museum of Victoria, Australia, holds two small parcels of the 1871-73 type notes of Fiji. These notes do not confirm all of the descriptions given in Pick's *World Paper Money* and add the Government Debentures to that listing. One of the groups is of unknown origin but appears to have been a single acquisition while the second was donated by the Hon. J.S. Butters, M.L.C., F.R.G.S., Lord Mayor of Melbourne from 1867-68 and the first speaker of the Fijian Parliament in 1871. The career of Hon. J.S. Butters and his association with the Parliament which issued these notes forms the basis of this paper as it indicates the social and political conditions which brought this short-lived issue into existence. A brief catalogue of the holdings of the Science Museum of Victoria is given at the end of the narrative.

(A) The Historical Circumstances of the 1871 Note Issue.

Fiji was discovered by Abel Tasman in 1643. Its earliest white settlers were a party of escaped convicts from New South Wales who sailed to Fiji in an open boat in 1804. It was not until 1835 that the first permanent settlers arrived and the white population as late as 1859 was still under 100. Levuka became the capital of the Island group and grew by the early 1870's to boast six stores five hotels, an athenium, a church and about forty houses. At that time the white population had grown to 2,500 to 3,000 and the native population was estimated at 100,000 to 150,000.

The opening up of Fiji to white settlement occurred as the result of the United States Government imposing a large fine on King Cabobau (or Thakombau as he was sometimes known) for alleged damage done to their consulate. To pay this fine the King made 200,000 acres of land available to the Polynesia Company which had been specially formed in Melbourne to take advantage of the situation.

One of the Trustees of the Polynesia Company was James Stewart Butters. In July 1870 he set sail for Fiji in the barque Koh-i-noor after resigning from the Victorian Legislative Assembly and the Melbourne City Council. It would appear that the purpose of this trip did not coincide with the wishes of the shareholders of the Polynesia Company as a number of them followed Butters to Fiji where they succeeded in frustrating his personal plans.

It may seem strange that shareholders would so little trust Butters

as to follow him to Fiji. Especially as he had held such honourable position as Lord Mayor of Melbourne and was only the next year to be selected as the first speaker at the Fiji Assembly, but J.S. Butters was an adventurer, his attitudes to life perhaps epitomises those of the white adventurers who hoped for great profit in the opening up of Fiji.

When we examine his earlier career we find that he had already been expelled once from Parliament because he had been a central figure in a corruption debate. Later in his career his election to the Legislative Council was declared void because he mis-stated his property qualifications.

He was also to foil the Victorian Government in an attempt to detain a United States cruiser which had been forced to make repairs in Hobsons Bay. On that occasion, the Government refused to accept United States Gold Coins as a legal form of payment. Butters immediately formed a syndicate which went on board the cruiser and purchased \$40,000 worth of gold coins which they melted into bars and sold to the very bank which had the day before refused to accept the U.S. coinage.

In Fiji, after being foiled by Company shareholders, Butters devoted himself to establishing a cotton plantation and cattle station. Unfortunately, most of his work was destroyed by a hurricane during which he was shipwrecked and had his arm badly broken (a break which he reset himself). After the hurricane he returned to Melbourne for a time where he decided to return to Fiji to wind up his interests there.

While in Levuka settling his affairs he was asked to be president of the committee formed by the King to formulate an effective local government. Under his Presidency the election of the first Parliament took place and he was elected Speaker of the Assembly.

The First Parliament sat in October 1871 and according to an Englishman living in Fiji at the time "..... one of the first practical results of settling up a Government was to flood Fiji with paper money". The principal members of this First Parliament were:—

George Austin Woods	Minister for Land and Works
Sydney Charles Burt	Chief Secretary
Frederick Wm. Hennings	Minister for Finance
James Cobham Smith	Minister for Trade and Commerce
John Temple Sagar	Minister for Native Affairs

At elections in 1872 J.B. Thurston became Chief Secretary and the Hon. Alexander Howard Clarkson became Minister for Finance.

There were regular difficulties involving the Assembly and Ministers, in fact, the diplomacy of the Speaker, our Mr. Butters, is thought to have saved much bloodshed in Parliament. The new Government was an economic disaster. The total revenue for the period 1871-73 was 42,063 pounds whilst they incurred debts of 82,000 pounds.

The paper money issued by the Government was described by the Australian Handbook of 1873 as "not over-negotiable" and by Forbes as "so much waste paper". In addition to it the Government also issued debentures at 10% and these went into circulation as currency. These might have had some success if the interest could have been paid in specie but there was no coin circulating in the Islands. Even the debased Bolivian half-dollars which had earlier been imported from Samoa to circulate at two shillings (although they were only valued at 1/3 in Sydney) had disappeared. The notes therefore circulated at ruinous discount, some six to eight shillings in the pound or 30 to 40 cents in the Dollar. Business was mostly carried on by the acceptance of IOU's, especially the pound promissory notes of a Levuka merchant and, when possible, with drafts and orders on banks in Sydney.

The Fiji Commercial Bank was established in 1873 and remained in business until 1876. Perhaps the most succinct comment on it is to be found in the Australian Handbook of 1877. After noting the opening of a branch of the Bank of New Zealand in Fiji the handbook states "*unlike its predecessor (the Fiji Commercial Bank), its operations are confined to legitimate banking business*".

In 1873 matters grew worse in Fiji. After the election, the King refused to accept the resignation of Ministers who had been constitutionally defeated. In the middle of the year the Assembly was dissolved and a new Constitution removing all power from the whites was drawn up. At that point the British Consul stepped in and established a special commission who declared the King's Government bankrupt.

On March 20, 1874, King Cakobau offered to cede Fiji to Great Britain under certain conditions. This offer was refused as seces-

sion had to be unconditional. After some discussions the King dropped all conditions and Fiji became a full member of the British Empire on 30th September, 1874. King Cakobau received a pension and money to purchase a ship.

As a Crown Colony, Fiji was governed absolutely by a Governor appointed in Great Britain. The inhabitants, both native and European, had no voice in political matters. British currency became sole legal tender although supplies of coin were small. Between 1874 and 1884 only 10,500 pounds in silver coins was sent to the islands. Bronze was not popular.

(b) 1871-1873 Fijian Notes at the Science Museum of Victoria

A. C.R. (Cakobau Rex)

12½ Cents - Number 791 - dated September 1st, 1873.
104 mm x 55 mm - cancelled - Ref. Pick 1.
Signed: C.E. Gundry and Howard Clarkson.

Printed in blue ink on white paper (or pale blue paper).
Single chain border.

Donor: J.S. Butters (pre 1912) Reg. No. 7989

25 Cents - Number ? - dated 12th September, 1871.
91 mm x 67 mm - cancelled - Ref. Pick not listed.
Signed: A. Fleming and F.W. Hennings.

Printed in black ink on blue paper. Single chain border.
The note is damaged and has been mounted on paper backing.

Donor: J.S. Butters (pre 1912) Reg. No. 7990

50 Cents - Number 73 - dated 2nd October, 1871.
106 mm x 68 mm - cancelled - Ref. Pick 1A.
Signed: J.C. Mc and F.W. Hennings.

Printed in blue ink on white paper but much faded. Single chain border. This note is damaged and has been mounted on a paper backing.
J.C. Mc. was J.C. MacCallum.

Donor: J.S. Butters (pre 1912) Reg. No. 7991

100 Cents - Number 91 - dated 12 February, 1872.
115 mm x 68 mm - cancelled - Ref. Pick 4.
Signed: D.J. Chisholm & J.C. Smith.

Printed in brown ink on white paper. Single chain border.
The note is damaged and is glued to a paper backing frame.

Donor: J.C. Butters (pre 1912) Reg. No. 7992

B. Levuka, Ovalau.
Not held.

C. Levuka, Treasury Notes.

One Dollar — Number 1722 — dated 11th January, 1873.
195 mm x 120 mm — cancelled — Ref. Pick 5B.
Signed: C.E. Grundy and Howard Clarkson.
Printed in black ink on white paper by S.T. Leigh & Co., Sydney.
Donor: J.S. Butters (pre 1912) Reg. No. 7994

Ten Dollars — Number 5310 — dated 17th March, 1873.
198 mm x 122 mm — cancelled — Ref. Pick 7.
Signed: F.C. Oswald and Howard Clarkson.
Printed in brown ink on white paper by S.T. Leigh & Co., Sydney.
Donor: J.S. Butters (pre 1912) Reg. No. 7995

Twenty Five Dollars — Number 109 — dated 15th July, 1872.
193 mm x 122 mm — cancelled — Ref. Pick 8.
Signed: A.F. and Howard Clarkson.
Printed in blue (sic) ink on white paper.
Donor: uncertain Reg. No. 7996

Twenty Five Dollars — Number 376 — dated 12th June, 1873.
196 mm x 125 mm — cancelled — Ref. Pick 8.
Signed: G.M. and G.A. Woods (as Acting Treasurer)
Printed in blue (sic) ink on white paper.
Donor: J.S. Butters (pre 1912) Reg. No. 7997

Fifty Dollars — Number 413 — dated 12th June, 1873.
200 mm x 120 mm — cancelled — Ref. Pick 9.
Signed: G.M. and G.A. Woods (as Treasurer)
Printed in pink ink on white paper (the ink may be faded red).
Donor: J.S. Butters (pre 1912) Reg. No. 7999

Fifty Dollars — Number 1159 — dated 1st April, 1872.
199 mm x 118 mm — cancelled — Ref. Pick 9.
Signed: D.J. Chisholm and J.C. Smith.
Printed in pink ink on white paper (the ink may be faded red).
Donor: Uncertain Reg. No. 7998

D. Government Debentures

Five Dollars — Number 44 — dated 1st January, 1872.

215 mm x 140 mm — cancelled — Ref. Pick not listed.
Signed: Horace Smith and F.W. Hennings (Acting Treasurer).
Printed in black ink on white paper, denomination overprinted in brown ink.

Donor: Uncertain

Reg. No. 8000

Ten Dollars — Number 3 — dated 1st January, 1872.
220 mm x 145 mm — cancelled — Ref. Pick not listed.
Signed: Horace Smith and F.W. Hennings (Acting Treasurer).
Printed in black ink on white paper, denomination overprinted in brown ink.

Donor: Uncertain

Reg. No. 8001

Bibliography:

Australian Dictionary of Bibliography, Vol.3, 1851-1890, A-C, pp. 316-317.

Australia's Representative Men,)
Australian Handbook & Almanac 1870-1871,) T.W.H. Leavitt (ed.)
Australian Handbook 1872-1877.)

Two Years in Fiji, Litton Forbes, London, 1895.

Standard Catalogue of World Paper Money, Pick Albert, Krause Publications, 1980.

THE SAVIOUR OF GIBRALTAR

By Len Henderson

Gibraltar came into British hands as part of the dowry of Catherine of Braganza when she married King Charles I. On several occasions Britain offered to return The Rock to Spanish control but strangely enough the offers were declined until both Spain and England realized the mistakes they had been making and Britain hung on to the area as a base and seaport leading into the Mediterranean during various wars in The Spanish Succession.

In 1779 General Elliot was approaching retirement and he was given the easy job of being Governor of Gibraltar as his last posting. General Elliot had had a long though undistinguished career in the Army and would have been completely forgotten by the world except for the fact that war broke out once again between England and Spain and he became famous for his defence of The Rock.

Some of the men who served under him also became famous, although in different fields.

The war between England and Spain broke out in 1782. Elliot defended Gibraltar nobly but soon ran short of the very essential supplies of powder, shot, cannons, and food for the besieged garrison.-

The Navy was able to run the blockade and bring in powder and shot and some food, and the Arab seamen from the North African coast also took the risk with the Spanish ships to carry cattle and grain across the Straights for the rich prices they could get. There was so much cannon fire in the bombardments that the British cannons were exploding with over-use and there was no way in which new cannons could be obtained. The Royal Navy ships could bring in shot and powder which could be lifted up to the heights fairly easily but cannons were just too awkward and heavy for block-and-tackle when you had to work in a rush.

A prize of 10,000 Pounds was offered to anyone who could think of a way to make cannon actually in Gibraltar.

Two men, who were both Sergeants in the Royal Artillery, thought of a method of keeping up the British fire-power against the Spanish.

Basically, a cannon is merely a tube for firing a shot in a given direction. What these Sergeants thought of was in using the actual rocky surface of Gibraltar as a series of cannons. Their plan was to drill holes in the rock aimed in the direction of the Spanish town and port across the Bay and use these holes as cannons.

No particular accuracy was needed in shaping or aiming the holes--near enough was good enough.

The holes were drilled a couple of feet deep; a charge of one and a half pounds of powder put in and covered with a layer of wet felt. A red hot nine pound cannon ball was dropped into the hole, this burnt through the felt and ignited the gunpowder; the felt being wet meant that the gun-crews had time to stand back away from their improvised cannons.

This charge of powder with this size cannon ball was sufficient to send the red-hot projectile the three miles across the bay and into the Spanish town and dock area. The holes didn't last very long as the rock split and shattered fairly soon but all that the Gunners had to do was drill more holes.

Now, one of the men who was engaged in the defence of Gibraltar was a young Midshipman in the Royal Navy. When peace came and the Spanish Commander came up to pay his compliments to the defenders of The Rock it was this Midshipman who greeted and escorted the Duke of Ventura Morena up to the Governor's Palace. As they walked along -- the Duke was puzzled by the air of confidence shown by his young escort. They were talking to one another in French and the Duke changed to Latin; the young man continued the conversation in that tongue. The Duke next changed to Italian, then to classical Greek and finally to ancient Hebrew. The young English Midshipman was able to continue talking to him in all these languages. Finally in a tone of bewilderment the Duke asked, "*Just who are you?*". The lad replied, "*Prince Henry William of Clarence*". The Duke was dumbfounded. "*But you are a Prince of the Royal Family and yet you are only a Midshipman !*". This young Prince was the future King William the IVth. - "*Sailor Bill*".

If the Army and Navy General Service Medals had been brought in earlier than they were, William the IVth. would have had quite an interesting arrangement of Service Bars.

Let us leave these Princes and Dukes and Generals and get back to the Ranks -- particularly one of those Sergeants who thought of the idea of improvised guns.

One of them took his share of the Prize Money and bought himself out of the Army. He went back to England and settled in Birmingham where he started a Button Making factory. With the commencement of the Napoleonic Wars there was a steady demand for buttons and buckles for uniforms, and, with minor connections with the Admiralty, business was certain. From making buttons and buckles the firm then started making tokens and coins and this Firm is still going today in the same business.

The firm is **The Mint, Birmingham**. The Sergeant was Ralph Heaton, the "*Saviour of Gibraltar*".

Dr. Colin M. Kraay, Keeper of The Heberden Coin Room, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, died at Oxford on January 27, 1982. His death leaves a gap in the numismatic fraternity which will be impossible to fill.

THE WENALLT HOARD (1980)

By John Sharples

Collectors of ancient and medieval coins are aware that the discovery of a new hoard can produce large numbers of previously rare coins. They are also aware that a 'complete collection' if such an animal exists, can easily be made incomplete through the discovery of new types or the issues of unrecorded mints. The Wenallt Hoard of Medieval English coins, which was discovered by Cyril and Ronald Shepherd of Wales using metal detectors, is a timely reminder of both of these facts.

The hoard contained only 102 silver pennies struck during a period when British minting standards were in their lowest ebb. The majority were struck in the name of the Dowager Empress Matilda, Countess of Anjou (1139-1148) who was contending the English throne with Stephen. Prior to the discovery of this hoard coins of Matilda were considered to be of the highest rarity (only three were known in Australian collections). Of equal importance, none were known from the Mint of Cardiff - in this hoard the majority appear to be freshly struck at that mint.

In addition to tripling the known coins of Matilda, the hoard also contained new Baronial issues struck during the same period of Civil war (the first new additions to the catalogue of Baronial issue since the Catal hoard of 1684) and new varieties of the coinage of Stephen.

The hoard will be published by the National Museum of Wales, which acquired most of the rare new types for its collection. Hopefully, in addition to making coins of Matilda, more readily available to collectors, the information which the hoard offers to historians will create a better understanding of that confused period of British Numismatic history.

CALL FOR PAPERS

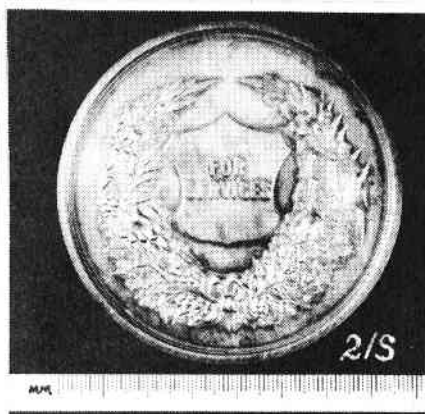
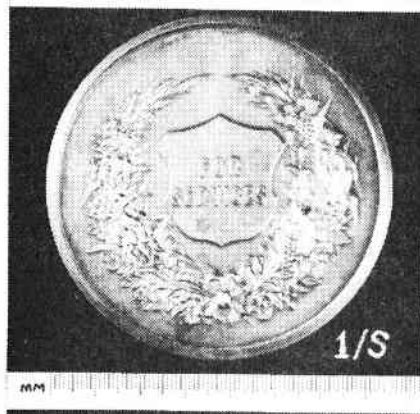
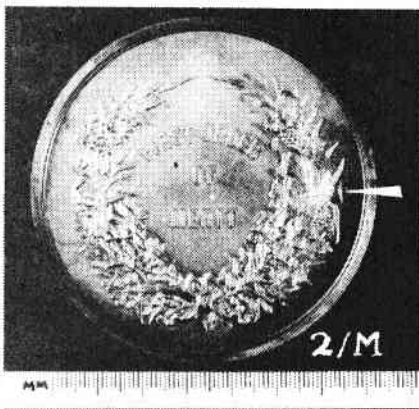
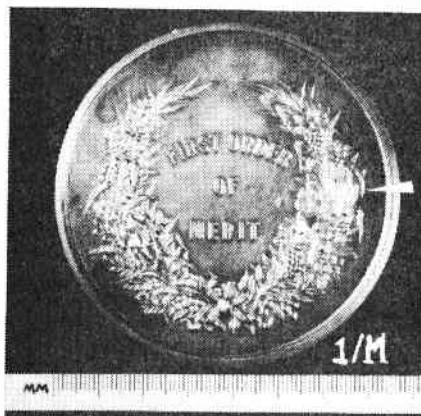
The Australian Numismatist requires papers for publication in the Summer 1982 and Winter 1983 issues. If you have promised to produce a paper now is a good time to do so. If not, it is still a good time. Leave your paper at a meeting or send it to John Sharples at the Science Museum of Victoria, 323 Swanston Street, Melbourne, 3000.

THE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

Founded 1946

PAST PRESIDENTS:

Rev. F. C. BREMER, E.D.	- - -	1946 - 1948
W. E. CURRAN, Esq., E.D., F.R.N.S.	- - -	1948 - 1950
N. W. ADAMS, Esq.	- - -	1950 - 1953
R. W. FARMAN, Esq.	- - -	1953 - 1955
E. KENNEDY, Esq., F.A.S.A.	- - -	1955 - 1957
J. GARTNER, Esq.	- - -	1957 - 1958
H. P. HIGSON, Esq.	- - -	1958 - 1960
E. PHILPOTTS, Esq.	- - -	1960 - 1962
W. E. CURRAN, Esq., E.D., F.R.N.S.	- - -	1962 - 1964
R. T. N. JEWELL, Esq., F.R.N.S.	- - -	1964 - 1965
R. G. STEWART, Esq.	- - -	1965 - 1967
P. SIMON, Esq., F.R.N.S.	- - -	1968 - 1969
F. H. HEARD, Esq.	- - -	1970 - 1972
W. E. PURNELL, Esq., A.S.T.C., C.Eng., F.R.A.C.I.	- - -	1973 - 1974
H. J. PRANGE, Esq.	- - -	1975 - 1976
P. J. DOWNIE, Esq.	- - -	1977 - 1978
R. L. HENDERSON, Esq., S.R.N., F.R.N.S.	- - -	1979 - 1980



THE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

Founded 1946

OBJECTS:

Briefly, the objects for which the Association was established, are –

- To encourage the study of Numismatics in all its branches
- To represent generally the views and interests of all Numismatists
- To provide education in the field of Numismatics, and to
- Encourage sound and methodical collecting practice

ACTIVITIES:

- Discussion at Monthly Meetings
- Reading of Papers
- Assisting members in the study and acquisition of numismatic specimens
- An Annual Exhibition
- A half-yearly publication containing articles and items of interest to all Numismatists
- Stimulating research into the currency of Australia
- Encouraging correspondence between members throughout the world