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March, 1965



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*Official Organ of*

THE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION  
OF VICTORIA



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at

NATIONAL GALLERY THEATRETTE

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## NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

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March, 1965.

MINUTES OF THE 226th GENERAL MEETING HELD  
AT THE THEATRETTE, NATIONAL GALLERY,  
SWANSTON STREET, MELBOURNE, 19th FEBRUARY,  
1965.

IN THE CHAIR:

R. Jewell Esq., F.R.N.S., President.

PRESENT:

77 Members and 44 Visitors.

APOLOGIES:

Mrs. Freame, Messrs. Enscoe, Schafer,  
Wicks, K. Kennedy, S. Trainor, B. Bernal.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letters were received from:-

1. W. Moase, Summerside P.I. Canada,  
wishing to exchange Canadian coins for  
Australian.
2. Resignations were received from  
Miss S. Green and Master A. and D.  
Green, Wellington Road Rowville, and  
D. Butler, 3 Millicent Avenue Toorak.
3. Mr. C. H. MacDonald, 4225 Tyson Ave.,  
Phila 35, PENNA, U.S.A., desiring to  
exchange U.S.A. coins for Australian.

The correspondence was received.

ELECTION OF  
MEMBERS:

The following were unanimously elected to  
membership:

ANDERSON. Erling Viggo No. 558  
169 Malop St., Geelong.

ANDERSON. Theo A. R. No. 559  
367 Ryrie St., Geelong.

CHUA. Kim Song No. 560  
Flat 8, 62 Westburgh St.,  
East St. Kilda, S.16.

ELECTION OF  
MEMBERS - cont.:

FELLA. Joseph No. 561  
173 Tyler St., East Preston.

HARTE. H. (Mrs.) No. 562  
4 Ottawa Rd., Toorak.

LESLIE. Richard Cabell No. 563  
2215 Greenridge Drive, Richmond,  
California.

MOGRIDGE. Mervyn L. G. No. 564  
Dept. of Labour, Cameron Plateaus,  
Milne Bay, New Guinea.

PILE. Leonard No. 565  
117 Reynard St., Coburg.

SANFORD. Terrence J.M. No. 566  
43 Barkley Terrace, Melbourne.

TAUB. Yesha Yahu No. 567  
61 Milton St., Elwood, S.3.

NOMINATIONS FOR  
MEMBERSHIP:

ABBOTT. Lewis Leslie  
9 Hamilton St., Gardenvale.

BECK. John  
20 Windsor Cres., Paisley, Nth. Altona.

BRANAGAN. Leo, Patrick  
Boundary Rd., Mt. Eliza.

FLETCHER. Stuart Roe J.M.  
192 Poath Rd., Hughesdale.

FORD. Christopher Simon S.M.  
11 The Close, Beaumaris, S.10.

GOODMAN. Jean (Miss)  
40 Alandale Rd., Eaglemont.

HAMPSHIRE. John  
5 Rose St., Richmond.

HICKS. Robert L.  
1918N 54th St., Milwaukee Wis. 53208 USA.

KALDOR. Robert G.  
1 Ellerslie Place, Toorak.

McDOWELL. John, Robert, Joseph  
C/o C.S.L., Poplor St., Parkville.

NOMINATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP - cont.: MILLER. Clive McDonald  
271 Belmore Rd., Balwyn North, E.9

PRITCHARD. Paul Andrew  
118 Rene St., East Preston.

REVYE. Hugh  
15 Rimula Rd., Corio, Victoria.

RYAN. Lawrence Joseph  
386 Wellington St., Collingwood.

SIMPSON. Colin Robert  
13 Park Rd., Glen Iris.

THORNYCROFT. Walter F.T.  
70 Albert Rd., Sth. Melbourne.

VIETS. Charles Stuart  
36 West Chalmers Ave.,  
Youngstown, Ohio, U.S.A.

WINTERBINE. Reginald G.  
161 The Parade, Ascot Vale.

Applications to remain on the table for  
one month.

PUBLICATIONS:

The Canadian Numismatic Journals for  
November and December 1964, Vancouver  
Numismatic Society. Numismatic Bulletin  
Vol. 5 No. 1 Catalogues from Riverwood  
Auctions N.S.W., J. E. F. Stamp & Coin  
Co., and Downies Auctions.

SYLLABUS ITEM:

Vice-President, R. Stewart spoke on the  
works of Andor Meszaros, the famous  
sculptor and artist. His description of the  
medallions of this artist was very illumi-  
native.

Mr. Stewart exhibited many of these works.  
The paper is being published in this issue.

TENDER SALE:

Our most successful tender sale was held.

GENERAL  
BUSINESS:

The Council has decided to hold meetings  
bi-monthly. In addition to that held on the  
third Friday, a meeting will be held on the  
first Wednesday of each month. (Commenc-  
ing 3rd. March.)

GENERAL  
BUSINESS - cont.:

The Geelong Coin Club has been formed and their inaugural meeting will be held at Geelong on 26th February and your executive has been invited to attend.

Members are informed that the Treasurer still has some gilt replicas of the Holey Dollar Medallion on hand, for sale at 3/- each.

CLOSURE:

The meeting closed at 9.00p.m.

BIMONTHLY MEETING

1st Bimonthly Meeting held on Wednesday March 3rd. 41 members and visitors were present. As this meeting had not been publicised we hope for larger attendances in future.

Mr. R. Stewart gave us a running commentary on meetings held in other states. At times this talk was rather amusing but gave the impression that most members who attend these meetings are investors and not collectors in the real sense.

This to my mind is a very sad state of affairs for the numismatic field. We older members can think back when collecting was for pleasure and not profit.

As stated earlier in this journal the Geelong Group have started a new society - their first meeting was held on Friday February 26th 1964 when approximately 12 N.A.V. members accepted their invitation to attend. A most enjoyable evening was held.

Members elected as office bearers were:

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| President:       | Mr. Carey                                |
| Vice Presidents: | Messrs. Jones & Darby                    |
| Treasurer:       | Mr. Reveye                               |
| Councillors:     | Messrs. McGregor-Dowsett, Lamb and Olsen |

Our own President Mr. Ray Jewell acted as Chairman of this first meeting.

NEW COIN CLUB

By the time this number of our Journal is published it is hoped that a new Society will have been formed in the Eastern suburbs.

A meeting has been convened for March 11th, 1964 at the Guild Hall, St. Silas' Church of England, Osburn Ave., Nth. Balwyn at 8pm. and thence the second Thursday in each month.

NEW COIN CLUB - cont.:

All collectors interested are invited to attend these meetings.

DIE VARIETIES BY GABOR HOFFMANN ESQ.

Mr. Gabor Hoffmann, a comparatively new member in our association was kind enough to supply the following paper - which shows what can be achieved by a little effort and research.

Your editor would like to see some more of our members follow suit.

Mr. Hoffmann in his article writes:

"I am sure there is no need to tell about the thrill when a collector finds a rare coin.

Going through many hundreds of pounds worth of coins I was lucky enough to find amongst hundreds of varieties, a few important ones. Some of these have not as yet been listed in any catalogue.

At present it is hard to value them as it depends on how many may be found in the future.

The first is an interesting, yet valueless overdate, the 1943 over 1942 sixpence - apparently the 1942 master die had been re-cut to 1943 because every 1943 sixpence, regardless whether it was struck at Melbourne, Denver or San Francisco mints is an overdate.

The next interesting variety is among the large circle 1946 Florins - on the reverse are 2 dots by the left star and two dots between the word "Australia". I have found this variety with and without die-cracks over "Australia".

The next variety is the 1943 San Francisco minted Florin with a filled "S" mint mark, and the die on "3" is either recut or an overdate "2". I would like to hear some opinions on this.

Then we refer to a really doubtful one - the 1946 sixpence. It is difficult to decide whether it is a "6" over "4" or over "5" or whether it is a chipped die. Nevertheless it is a very interesting variety.

The one legged emu on the 1926 sixpence due probably to a filled die, is another interesting piece in the variety series.

There is a scarce variety in the 1946 Perth shilling. Long oval dots between legend on the obverse.

DIE VARIETIES BY GABOR HOFFMANN ESQ. - cont.:

In the December issue of the "Coin Review" an article appeared depicting the 1916 long 6 variety half penny with some theories on the long 6.

In my opinion it is not a re-cut or chipped die as the coin under a microscope clearly shows the horizontal stroke of a "5" on the top of the "6". I would also appreciate some opinions on this variety.

Probably one of the most important is the 1943 Indian penny without the mint-mark "1". Tests show that the oxide where the mint mark should be was the same age as any other part of the coin. I doubt if any collector would have bothered removing the mint-mark twenty years ago. More likely it is due to a filled die and it is an extremely rare coin.

The last on my list in the 1933 over 32 half penny. This overdate has two varieties.

On the first the curvature of the 2 is clearly shown above the top curve of the 3. Out of 150 1933 half pennies I found only eight of this type.

The other variety is very similar to the 1933 over 32 penny - it also has a tip hanging out from the 3. Of this variety so far I have found only one specimen - it could turn out to be a real rarity".

Mr. Hoffmann was kind enough to bring along several illustrations of die varieties but unfortunately we cannot publish these. I hope to be able to pass them round to members at our next meeting on 19th March, 1965.

The Editor.

ANDOR MESAROS - Sculptor and Artist

By R. Stewart Esq.

To many Numismatists, both in Australia and abroad, the name of Andor Meszaros is almost a legend - a name to Coin, Plaque and Medal collectors, as well as sculptors, that is as famous as Lipton gave to tea.

To those collectors who have only the Commonwealth 'bug', I earnestly advise a very careful study of his work, and observe the classical beauty of these creations of Medalllic Art.



ANDOR MESZAROS - Sculptor and Artist - cont.:

For those unaware of his identity, Andor Meszaros is a Hungarian by birth who has lived in Australia for some 25 years and has many famous statues to commemorate his name.

Among these is one for the Sydney Womens Hospital which has since been reproduced on Medallions, the contentious Darwin Court Sculpture and many others.

Most of his pieces are greatly sought after by overseas collectors and among the many admirers and collectors of his art, is our Prime Minister, Sir Robert Menzies.

Possible the most famous of his medallions are those in the 'Stations of the Cross' series.

Whilst the twelfth of this series is now being modelled, only 8 have been struck to date. They are a very limited issue, (75 Silver and 75 Bronze) but occasionally can be purchased.

Most of Andor Meszaros' medals are struck by PINCHES of London, whilst a few have been struck in France.

An interesting point here is that the Government refuses to recognize these as works of art, the claim being that this work can be done equally well by local firms. Accordingly the Government has placed a Custom Duty and Sales Tax on these importations totalling 52%. I was shown strikings by local firms and Pinches and to my mind there is no comparison in quality.

I asked Andor Meszaros just how he gets the inspiration that enables him to express his feelings in these Medallions. Whilst I watched and listened to him one is inspired by the depth of his feelings. He freely gives his time and shares his knowledge to all who seek his advice.

Andor Meszaros endeavoured to give me some idea of the many artistic talents that one combines as a Sculptor, Architect and Artist and how it is necessary to strike a balance between emotion, feeling and thought and YET COMBINE THESE with perfect balance.

Among the many Medallions that I have seen showing profiles of great men, the one that impressed me most was the one he designed to the memory of one of his friends, now deceased.

This man was known by many far and wide in Melbourne. He was

ANDOR MESZAROS - Sculptor and Artist - cont.:

Jimmy Watson 'Mine Host', of Carlton, a man greatly loved.

Of the Specimens displayed tonight: -

The First shows Andor Meszaros in profile at the age of 58 years. This was done by his son Michael, who seems to be blessed with his father's talents.

2. A Medallion in two sizes as given to mothers at the Sydney Womens Hospital.
3. Our own N.A.V. Medallion commemorating Federation and Separation.
4. An Olympic bronze struck for the XVI Olympiad in Melbourne.
5. A blood donors lapel badge.  
There is also a larger medallion given to those who donate 12 pints of blood to this worthy cause.
6. Perhaps the most striking Medallion displayed is one of the 'Stations of the Cross' series. This depicts Christ carrying His cross to the Crucifixion, Veronica wiping his brow, and a soldier pushing her out of the way.  
By careful study of this piece, one can see behind these figures the face of Christ with eyes closed. It is a magnificent piece of artistic work.
7. A sectional award piece struck for 'The Develop Victoria Council'. The field is divided into 7 sections to depict a dream city and shows left to right - beautification by the Station, Culture by the Museum, tourism, industry by the crane, sporting facilities by youth, City amenities by light and Community self-help by figures at right. In the background is a portrayal of the dream city.
8. An interesting highlight is an unknown piece that was designed for a friend of Andor Meszaros but for personal reasons was never struck and the sample exhibited tonight is the only casting made.
9. This medallion has a religious motif and was inspired by the deep religious belief of the person responsible. During the 1960's he had a rather deep attachment to the Baha faith, the headquarters for Australia being in Sydney. The design was sculptured by Andor Meszaros based on the story of the Baha faith. The main feature of the temple in Sydney is a beautifully designed ceiling. Portrayed in the glory of glories, the earth is shown nestling in a cushion

ANDOR MESZAROS - Sculptor and Artist - cont.:

of flowering leaves, representing the Growth of Life, Earth, Love, Creation and even of War.

On either side of the earth are the galaxies, which are set in the UNIVERSE depicting the immortality of the Soul. Set above the earth and the stars, written in Persian language, in its predominant guarding position is the symbol of GOD.

My Sincere Thanks to Mr. BERNAL and to Mr. ANDOR MESZAROS . . . FOR THEIR KINDNESS FOR MAKING IT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO SECURE THE FOREGOING INFORMATION.

The Story behind the Decoration. BAVARIA - contd.

by W. E. Curran, E.D., F.R.N.S.

SERVICE ORDER OF ST. MICHAEL.

This Order was established on September 29th 1693, through the efforts of Joseph Clenens, Grand Duke of Bavaria and Elector of Cologne, who wished to have an Order with which he could honor his associates, and loyal compatriots who were of the Roman Catholic persuasion, and as such it continued for nearly 33 years, until Ludwig 1st caused its Constitution to be amended, thus bringing it within the approved Bavarian Orders awarded for service to the state, and which were open to approved Bavarian nationals or persons of other nationality.

In 1855, the classes of the order, viz, Grand Cross, Commanders and Knights, were enlarged, the Grand Cross members were increased from 24 to 36, Commanders from 40 to 60 and Knights from 300 to 320.

This action became effective under the Order promulgated by King Maximilian, dated 24th June 1855. At the same time, the three Classes of the Order were augmented by the formation of a Grand Commandery, and a Knights 2nd Class. The Order was also to take precedence of the Order of the Bavarian Crown which had been established in 1808.

The Jewels or Insignia of the Order consisted of a Grand Cross in dark blue enamel, gold etched, and in the cases of the Grand Cross and the Grand Commanders, bore in the centre an oval medallion, displaying the figure of St. Michael standing on a dead dragon, bearing a shield on which the words "Quis ut Deus" are inscribed

SERVICE ORDER OF ST. MICHAEL - cont.:

in gold. (The medallion on the Knights Cross, 1st and 2nd Class, is round, gold bordered with the same motto.) Golden wavy rays surround the medallions, the round medallion bearing the word VIRTUE on the reverse.

The letters P (rincipis) F (averis) P (atriae) are placed on the arms of the Crosses, which are surmounted by a crown topped by an Orb. The Cross was worn suspended from a dark blue ribband with a rose colored stripe towards the edge. The wide ribband or sash of the Grand Cross was worn crossing the right shoulder.

As from April 4th 1844, the Star of the Order was worn by Knights Grand Cross, on the left breast, a smaller Star being worn by Grand Commanders on the Right breast. This Star in silver, consisting of 8 points, bore in the centre a cross inset with pearls set in gold, the letters P.F., P.F., in gold on the arms, and a smaller dark blue medallion with inscription in gold as on the Cross of the Order.

A neck chain, only worn on solemn occasions, consisted of dark blue medallions with white and blue links, all in enamel and gold edged.

MILITARY SERVICE ORDER - Bavaria

This Order was established by virtue of a Decree made by King Ludwig II, dated July 19th 1866, as an award for bravery whilst on war service, and to reward those on whom the higher military Order of Maximilian Joseph had not been conferred.

The Military Service Order consisted of 5 Classes. Grand Cross, Grand Commander, Commander and Knights 1st and 2nd Class - these latter being holders of the Military Service Cross of the Maximilian Order.

The Insignia of the Military Service Order consisted of a white enamel Maltese Cross, gold edged, with a centre medallion of dark blue enamel bearing the initial letter "L" surmounted by a crown, both in gold. The inscription "MERENTI" with golden scrolls before and after is on a buckled border surrounding the medallion, Flame rays, also in gold between the arms of the Cross which hangs from interlocked "L's" which form the loop for the ribband of white with two sky blue stripes at the edge. The reverse of the medallion bears a lion in blue enamel surrounded by a white enamel band on which the date 1866 appears, also in

MILITARY SERVICE ORDER - Bavaria - cont.:

gold. Holders of the Grand Cross wore the wide ribband of the Order over the right shoulder.

The Star of the Order, worn on the left breast by Knights Grand Cross is silver with a silver Cross outlined in gold superimposed. Grand Commanders wore a similar but slightly smaller Star, the obverse of the Medallion forms the centre of the whole.

SERVICE ORDER OF THE BAVARIAN CROWN

King Maximilian Joseph established this Order in a Decree dated May 19th 1808 to reward those who in a civic capacity or in some outstanding manner had contributed to the glory and advancement of the Fatherland.

Originally consisting of three Classes, Grand Cross, 24 Commanders and 100 Knights. But by a decree announcing the amendment of the Constitution dated October 8th 1817, the latter two Classes were altered to 40 and 100 respectively, and on May 24th 1855 a Grand Commandery was raised and added to the original three classes.

The bestowl of the Knights Cross invested a Bavarian national with a personal nobility, which carried with it a hereditary right similar to the Maximilian Order.

The Insignia of this Order consisted of a double Cross in white enamel, the rays of a star appearing between the arms, the edges being in gold, the whole surrounded by a green enamel wreath. The centre Medallion bore a gold crown on a background of blue and white lozenges, the armorial tinctures of Bavaria outlined in gold. A border, outlined in gold bearing the words "VIRTUS ET HONOS" surrounds the medallion, the reverse of which bears the inscription "MAX. JOS. BAIIOAIAE" on a red background and in the centre a portrait of the King. The whole is surmounted by a Bavarian Crown and loop for the ribband which is sky blue with a white edge.

The wide ribband of the Order is worn by Knights Grand Cross over the left shoulder.

The Star of the Order is silver and is worn on the left breast by Knights Grand Cross, Grand Commanders wearing a smaller star.

The centre of the Star consists of a green wreath surrounding the Medallion as on the Grand Cross.

SERVICE ORDER OF THE BAVARIAN CROWN - cont.:

The neck chain is similar to that of the Maximilian Joseph Order excepting that the letters V.P.P. replace the V(irtuti) P(ro) P(atria) of that Order. The Medallions are gold with an inner oval in white enamel surrounded by a green wreath.

Of the many Bavarian Orders, the Crosses of the Service Order of the Baravian Crown, are probably the least attractive.

There are several medals and lesser Orders, such as the:-

1. Maximilians Medal
2. Ludwigs Medal
3. Service Cross for 1870/71
4. Royal Ludwig Order
5. Maximilians Order for Science and Craftsmanship
6. Medal for Lifesaving
7. Bavarian Ladies Order, and the
8. Order of St. Elizabeth.

These will be dealt with in later issues of the Journal.

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THE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION  
OF VICTORIA

Established 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 monthly publication containing articles and items of interest  
to all Numismatists

Stimulating research into the currency of Australia

Encouraging correspondence between members throughout the world