

"The Bulletin" December, 1999

President's Message

I wish to extend very best wishes to all members and their families for a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and joyous holiday season from all the members of the Club executive and myself.

Thanks to Paul Johnson for serving as Nominations Chair and to all the Executive Committee members who agreed to stand and continue to serve the Club. Our first Executive meeting of the next millennium is on January 12.

A thank you also goes out to the many members who have promptly paid their annual dues. Payments received up to the November 23 meeting night are acknowledged in this mailing with annual membership cards and receipts. If you haven't paid yet, you may pay by mail or see the Treasurer, Harvey Farrow, at a Club meeting.

The President is in the process of collecting the e-mail address of all members. If you are now on the Internet, send an e-mail and let him know at petchp@ican.net. Phone calls are also welcome at **416-745-3067** (leave a voice mail message if you can't get through.)



Notice: Festive Times Ahead

The next meeting of the North York Coin Club will be held on **Thursday, December 9 1999**, at the Edithvale Community Centre, 7 Edithvale Drive.

It's time once again for the annual Christmas Party featuring the food, fellowship and fun which have become a tradition of our December meeting. Notice that we will be sitting down to the food and starting the meeting at **7:30 p.m.**, sharp! To supplement the purchased Chicken Chalet food, we also appreciate whatever family specialties (salad, cookies, cake, etc.) you may be able to donate to the "pot luck" buffet table. Because the room will be set up for dinner, we're sorry but there will be no dealer tables at this meeting.

Harvey Farrow will accept last minute reservations or cancellations up until noon on Tuesday, December 7. See more details on page 3. Please do contact him to reserve or cancel because we need to know how many dinners to buy.

If you want to participate in the optional gift exchange, please bring along a numismatic or non-numismatic gift with a value of around \$6-\$7. Exchange of gifts is sequenced by a draw.

In place of a Question of the Month, Paul Petch has promised us an entertaining non-numismatic "Festive Season Trivia" quiz. We've got copies of the quiz for everyone, so bring along a pencil with a good eraser!

Coming Events

CAND The Canadian Association of Numismatic Dealers January 22-23, 10am-5pm at the Ramada Inn, 150 King St. E. Hamilton. Admission \$3 adults \$2 seniors, young collectors free. Contact: Terry MacHugh (905) 318-6458 e-mail scoins@netaccess.on.ca

Niagara Frontier Coin Club Semi-annual Show February 12-13, 10am-4pm at BPO Elks Lodge No. 346, 1805 Factory Outlet Blvd. (3rd Ave.). Niagara Falls, NY. Contact: Glenn W. Fails (716) 284-9116

Ontario Numismatic Association 38th Annual Convention Triumph Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel, April 14-16. Hosted by the North York Coin Club

Next Meeting: Christmas Party, December 9, Starts at 7:30 p.m

Meeting News from the November 23 Meeting

The 447th meeting of the North York Coin Club was held on Tuesday, November 23, 1999 at the Edithvale Community Centre, 7 Edithvale Dr., Willowdale, Ont.

The President, Paul Petch, opened the meeting at 8:00 p.m. and welcomed 28 members and 2 guests. Mr. Mark Argentino, #505, was welcomed as a new member. For the on Time Attendance Draw, Del Murchison was present to collect the \$2.00 pot. The Mint Box was passed to 1 junior.

It was with great sadness that the Chair noted the passing of Dr. John S. Wilkinson, a past member of the Club who had been granted Honourary Membership. Paul Johnson advised he had attended the funeral service which was a fitting tribute to him. It was well attended by many numismatists, including Mrs. Alice Wilkinson's long-time friend Mrs. Pittman, John J. Pittman's widow.

Nominating Chairman, Paul Johnson, was called upon to present the new Slate of Officers for the year 2000 and 2001. He reported the following have agreed to stand:

Directors: Rick Craig, Roger Fox, Basil Latham
 Treasurer: Harvey Farrow
 Secretary: Lucille Colson
 Second Vice: Albert Kasman
 First Vice: Marvin Kay
 President: Paul Petch

There being no further nominations from the floor, the Nominations Chair declared election by acclamation and thanked those who willingly agreed to stand. Appointed positions will be forthcoming in the New Year.

Ron Zelk will continue to serve as Past President.

The Christmas Party is on Thursday, December 9th. The new menu appears to be attracting more members.

Reservations will be accepted by Harvey Farrow up until December 7th. The meeting will open at 7:00 and dinner will be served at 7:30. Donations to the buffet table will be gratefully received. Following a short business meeting, the fun evening will include a \$6 to \$7 gift exchange, a Christmas Trivia quiz and the Lucky Draw.

The Chair's listing of the recent and coming events brought lots of response from the floor. Roger Fox reported the Niagara Falls New York coin show was well attended, was worthwhile, entertaining and friendly but he found very little Canadian material for sale. Dick Dunn said the Waterloo Show was very quiet. He also mentioned that he found the Bank of Canada auction was the largest he had ever attended and bid prices were much higher than estimate. Paul Johnson said the total take was approximately \$750,000. Roger Fox's close comments on the Nuphilex Show in Montreal got everybody talking.

The Chair thanked Rick Craig for his hard work on the Convention Medal and passed around a trial strike on polished pure copper. The other varieties will be commercial bronze with reeded edge and silver.

Guest speaker for the evening was our newest member, Mark Argentino. On opening, Mark explained his subject "Polymer Banknotes" was a new project for him and, although he was able to present a video tape and considerable data received from Australia, he was still very much in need of further information. He distribute handouts for the members to follow (this is reprinted in this issue of *The Bulletin*) and he briefly described what polymer notes are. It is being used to produce currency in 15 countries.

Mark's sincere but easy going manner soon elicited much worthwhile interaction from the floor and a good time was had by all. Mark was

Question of the Month

The November question provided a picture of a coin for you to identify. Ancients enthusiast Del Murchison correctly identified the piece and related its story for the members. See all the details in the article on Page 8.

presented with a Certificate of Appreciation and a hearty round of applause.

Marvin Kay, in response to the evening's topic, presented 2 polymer notes related to medicine. He also had on hand a P.O.W. book with a money chit that he found inside and material on a recent Dora de-Pédery Hunt retrospective exhibit of her medals that he had attended.

Ted Boxall spoke briefly on an Upper Canada Village medal put out in honour of the men who fought and fell at the Battle of the Chrysler Farm on Nov. 11, 1813.

After the general energetic verbal involvement, the members relished Roger Fox's refreshments with many thanks.

The Listed Auction of 20 lots was ably run by Bob Porter with the assistance of Basil Latham and brought a commission of \$9.30 and donations of \$6.00.

Lucky Draw winners were: Jeffrey Heifetz(2), Italo Villella, Bob Porter, Len Kuenzig(2), Harvey Farrow, Ben Walters, Ron Zelk(2), George Fraser, Roger Fox and Dick Dunn. The draw run by Ron Zelk brought proceeds amounting to \$31.00.

There being no further business, and definitely no further time, the meeting closed at 10.02 p.m. Thanks to all the people who stayed to lend a hand stacking chairs and folding tables to quickly clear the room. Being a good tenant keeps the free meeting space available to the Club.

CBC NEWS - Collectors bid for central bank's rare bills

TORONTO — Got change for a \$25 bill? Well, collectors paid far more than two tens and a five for some rare money at a Bank of Canada auction this weekend.

About 9,000 unusual bank notes were up for grabs at the sale on the night of Saturday, November 13 which attracted bidders on the Internet from as far away as Barbados.

Some of the bills given top billing:

A \$25 note issued only once in Canadian history. It commemorated the 25th anniversary of King George V and Queen Mary's ascension in 1935.

A \$500 bill issued during the Great Depression but discontinued because of limited demand.

A \$1,000 bill issued in 1954 but recalled after some people claimed there was a devil's face leering from the Queen's hair, just above her ear.

Collectors spent hours slowly flipping through the money, inspecting it under magnifying glasses and holding it up to lamps before deciding what to bid on.

Some of the buyers were dealers, attracted by the rareness as well as the pristine condition of the notes.

"I have some customers who will not collect anything unless it's totally uncirculated," said Dave Hill, a dealer who wants to make money from the money.

Others were private collectors, with plenty of enthusiasm but limited savings who hoped to snatch up something unique.

"I'm on a budget ... I have to be careful," said Morris Kosowan, who

came from Alberta for the auction. "I hope I get some good deals."

bidding was frenzied, and some of the money fetched more than expected.

For example, the \$25 bill went for more than \$2,900, while the \$500 notes sold for at least \$3,000 each.

In the end, the Bank of Canada wound up with about \$1 million for boxes of paper that it said were just taking up space in the vaults.

"(The notes) would have probably been destroyed because they didn't serve any purpose," said Graham Esler, chief curator of the central bank's archives.



A few of the bills sold were never intended for circulation, which made the event even more unusual. These included special notes used to check the colour and patterns on other currency. When the auction finally began the

Last Call for December Meeting Food Selection



The Club has decided to go back to Swiss Chalet for food for our meeting on December 9.

We are making a few changes this year to bring some variety to those members who may be tired of the quarter chicken dinner. This year there are three dinner choices:

1. **Quarter Chicken Festive Dinner Special** with white or dark meat (includes the chocolate bar like last year) member price is \$6, the Club pays the balance. This is increased \$1 over the price we have maintained for many years, but Swiss Chalet raised their price several years ago, so we are catching up.
2. **Chicken Pot Pie Dinner** member price is \$6, the Club pays the balance.
3. **½ BBQ Back Ribs** member price is \$8, the Club pays the balance.

With each dinner you get sauce, roll, plus your choice of

- A. **French fries**
- B. **Baked potato**
- C. **Rice.**

Please select \$6 for chicken or \$8 for ribs, stating your choice of 1/2/3 and A/B/C to Treasurer Harvey Farrow. You should notify Harvey by phone at **416-923-5545** or

POLYMER BANKNOTES by Mark Argentino

What is Polymer?

Some think that polymer notes are a paper and plastic laminate, or that they are all paper except for a clear window which many include as a security feature. This is not the case. A basic polymer note is created from a plastic substrate (think of this as the foundation) which starts as a long roll of clear plastic film rather than the traditional fibrous rag banknote paper. In simple terms, the clear substrate is processed through the following steps:

- 1) *Opacifying* - two layers of ink (usually white but they can be different) are applied to each side of the note, except for an area(s) that is deliberately left clear;
- 2) *Sheeting* - the opacified substrate is cut into sheets suitable for feeding into printing presses;

- 3) *Printing* - traditional offset, intaglio and letterpress processes are used; and
- 4) *Over-coating* - notes are coated with a protective varnish.

More sophistication can be added by including unique security features at different stages of production.

Who produces Polymer Notes?

Australia is the first country in the world to have all of its banknotes printed on polymer rather than traditional rag based paper substrate. Australia currently produces polymer notes for seven other countries, namely: Thailand, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Kuwait, Samoa, Singapore, Brunei and Sri Lanka. Recently, New Zealand started introducing polymer currency for their circulating notes.

Other countries with polymer notes are Haiti, Isle of Man and Costa Rica. To date (as far as I have been able to find out) there are 15 countries that have issued at least one polymer note. In addition to above, they are: Taiwan, Romania, Malaysia.

Benefits of Polymer Notes

Increased security was the primary objective in developing polymer notes, but there are other significant benefits which have been derived from polymer notes such as:

- The increased durability of notes -- experience in this regard has been a quadrupling of the average life of old paper series. Potential printing cost savings are clearly apparent.
 - Polymer notes are cleaner than
- (Continued on page 6)*

Antarctican \$1 Note

The Greek name Antarktikos derives from "opposite the Bear", Arktos being the Great Bear (or Big Dipper) constellation above the North Pole. While the Greeks only imagined the continent, the first human to encounter the Antarctic realm may well have been a seventh century Raratongan traveler, Ui-te-Rangiara who, it is said, "sailed south to a place of bitter cold where white rock-like forms grew out of a frozen sea," according to Polynesian legend.

Currency

In 1996, the Antarctica Overseas Exchange Office Ltd. began issuing currency for Antarctica. The purpose of this project is to generate funds for research and humanitarian projects for the most fragile continent, Antarctica. A limited issue of 20,000 bills was made and assures collectors that this is one of the rarest and most unique holdings.

British American Banknote Co, used four color lithography on wove paper with numerous security features such as the glimmering hologram in producing this fine work. Other security measures include microprinting of the word 'Antarctica' across the bill using various languages, unique serial numbers, and a special security 'zone'. The actual note size is 7 1/8" wide x 3 5/8" high.

History

The search for Antarctica was the last great adventure of global exploration. It's an epic tale spanning centuries of high adventure, from the "unknown southern land" of the ancients to the first recorded sightings of the continent in 1820. Antarctica was finally explored, and plundered, during an Age of Discovery by whalers and sealers who ventured into icy waters below the Antarctic Convergence. Then came an Heroic Era, when the

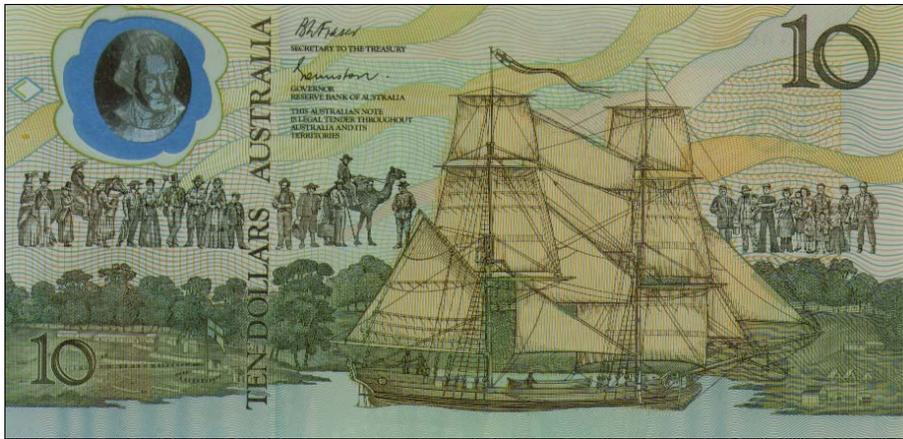
great explorers such as Robert Scott, Ernest Shackleton, Douglas Mawson and Roald Amundsen ventured ever deeper into the vast whiteness of the interior, in search of the final "holy grail" of discovery, the South Pole. With the coming of the Mechanical Era, airplanes replaced huskies as the vehicle of choice for conquering a continent.

Finally came the advent of the Scientific Era, and the lessons of the 18-month-long International Geophysical Year (1957-1959), which shed the light of knowledge on Antarctica. The land's history reaches a pinnacle with the signing of the Antarctic Treaty, protecting the last continent for future generations and centuries.

Recent Times

Ernest Shackleton's dream of crossing the continent was finally accomplished

(Continued on page 7)

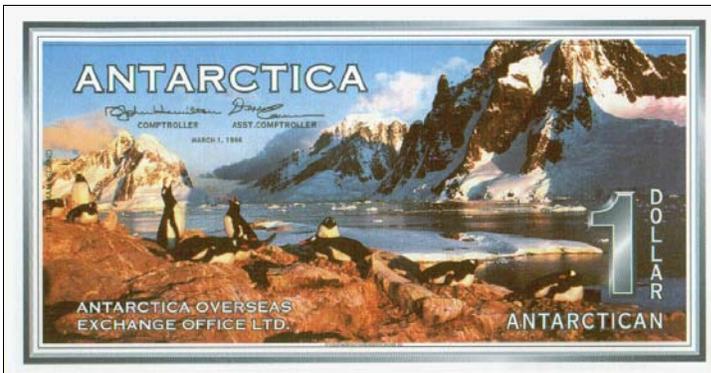
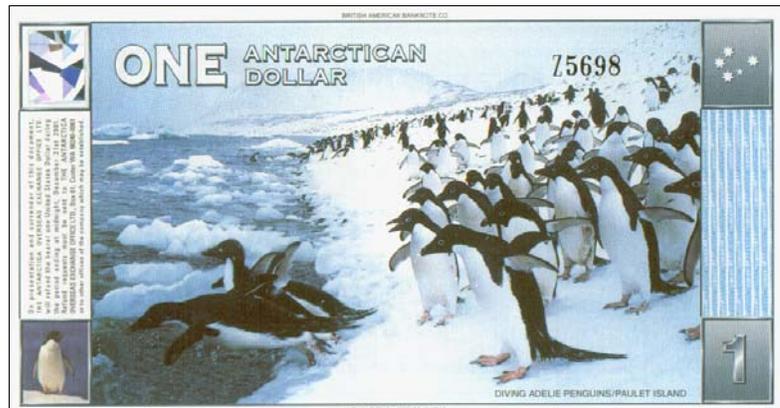


Captain Cook is shown in the OVD with his ship Endeavour

Australian polymer note of 1988 marking the bicentennial of British Settlement



Antarctica Overseas Exchange Office Ltd. 1996 series \$1 note (series Z — 6,000 issued)



Diving Adelie Penguins on Paulet Island

(Continued from page 4)

paper notes, they function better in machines such as ATM's and note counting equipment, and at the end of their day the waste can be recycled.

- They are highly resistant to tearing.
- The unique substrate is non-fibrous and non-porous and prevents absorption of moisture, sweat and grime so that polymer banknotes stay cleaner, resulting in limpness and soiling being inappropriate as sorting criteria.
- They have good fold characteristics
- They have an extended lifetime — experience in Australia has shown 4-5 times the life of their paper predecessors in the low denomination notes

Early Anti-counterfeiting Methods

The potential of optically variable devices (OVD's are a thin overlay that changes colour when tilted) was identified in the early 1970s. Many different types of OVD's were developed and experimented with, but the one the most effort went into was the class of OVD's called diffraction gratings. With the focus on OVD's, interest moved to substrates made from laminates of clear synthetic polymeric materials. These were considered a more suitable carrier for such optical devices, given their greater stability and smoother surface characteristics.

Once work on such substrates started, it was quickly realized that they offered many additional security and other advantages, just not possible with paper. Immediately obvious was the ability to opacify most of the note with print while leaving a portion clear. This meant that devices like OVD's would be seen from both sides of the note, and the surrounding transparent area could be an important security feature in its own right. Also, the substrate could be permanently embossed. If embossing was done in the clear window, this could create a further unique security feature. A laminate also offered the potential to incorporate features inside the note such as OVD'S and threads.

Anti-counterfeiting Features of Polymer Notes

The advantages we see arising from polymer notes in the fight against counterfeiting are:

- Making it more difficult, time consuming & costly to counterfeit by increasing the range of skills & steps required
- Making it easier to recognize a counterfeit;
- Providing a platform for new and varied security features which can be introduced when needed.

Polymer substrate offers considerable advantages in security enhancement and there is no doubt that polymer notes are relevant for other note issuers and printers around the world.

Common Anti-counterfeiting Printing Techniques Found on Polymer Notes

The clear window feature is one of the best anti counterfeiting features. As the same printing processes are used for paper and polymer banknotes, all security features printed on paper can also be applied onto polymer.

Techniques used to print polymer notes, include:

- intaglio (raised printing on a note)
- offset and letterpress printing for features such as tonal portraits (flat

printing)

- latent images (thin flat layer of ink)
- micro-printing (seen only with magnification)
- intricate background patterns (complicated designs that are not easily reproduced)
- see-through registration (in the clear areas of the polymer note)
- visible or invisible fluorescent or phosphorescent features (glows under UV or other lighting)
- the use of "metallic", metameric or metachromic inks (magnetic properties picked up by sensor)
- Braille for the visually impaired

The polymer substrate is also an excellent surface for the application of creative and special OVD'S, as it enhances their colour shift characteristics.

The Future for Polymer Notes

The challenge for the future is to continue to make polymer notes better in terms of bringing on line the more sophisticated security features, which polymer substrate allows, and leaping even further ahead of the counterfeiters.

The future looks very bleak indeed, for counterfeiters, that is.

You may contact Mark Argentino at his email address: marksels@trigger.net



A polymer note from Singapore

Antarctican \$1 Note

(Continued from page 4)

in 1958, not by ship or sledge, but using more modern means by the Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition led by Britain's Vivian Fuchs. A New Zealand support team, led by the conqueror of Everest, Sir Edmund Hillary, established the route from Ross Island to the South Pole using converted Ferguson farm tractors. Fuchs's main party, which began at the Weddell Sea, reached the Pole two weeks after Hillary and continued to the Ross Sea with the party of New Zealanders.

The Antarctic Treaty

In 1948 the United States first proposed that the Antarctic be ruled either by a United Nation's Trusteeship, or by an eight-nation organization, but neither of these ideas caught on. It took 60 secret meetings to finally bring together the nations concerned with the Antarctic at the time to Washington D.C., in talks aimed at having the continent set aside for peaceful scientific use only.

The Antarctic Treaty was finally signed on December 1, 1959 by twelve nations, and came into force on June 23, 1961, after it had been ratified by all parties. The treaty comprised some 14 Articles that the nations were prepared to agree upon for successful co-existence in the Antarctic.

Since then, 28 other nations have become signatories. Seven of the original 12 nations were claimant states, but under the Treaty all claims are held in abeyance and no new territorial claims can be submitted. The Treaty now has been in place for 36 years and in this time it has served as an unprecedented example of international cooperation.

The Treaty bans any military activity or nuclear testing, and limits national programs to scientific research. Its sphere of interest includes all land and iceshelves south of 60° S. (The high seas south of latitude 60° S are subject to International Law). The Treaty also

ensures the free exchange of information and scientists between countries, and gives nations the right to inspect the operations of other countries.

The thirty-nine countries which have become signatories to the Antarctic Treaty represent over 80 per cent of the world's population, including the super powers as well as many developed and developing nations. There are several levels of membership of the Antarctic Treaty: currently there are 25 full "Consultative Parties", nations which are engaged in substantial scientific research activity. This is usually interpreted as maintaining a year round station on the continent. Among the Consultative Parties are the twelve original signatories: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Chile, France, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Other nations which have since gained Consultative Party status include: Brazil, China, India, Italy, Poland, South Korea, Sweden, West Germany, East Germany, Uruguay and most recently Finland and Peru. There are an additional 14 non-voting nations or Non-consultative Parties which, though not conducting any substantial research, agree to ratify and abide by the terms of the Treaty. These nations include Bulgaria, Canada, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Greece, Hungary, the Netherlands, Papua New Guinea, Romania and Spain.

The Articles of the Treaty may be summarized as follows:

- Antarctica shall be used for peaceful purposes only; any military measures are prohibited.
- Freedom of scientific investigation in Antarctica and co-operation as applied during IGY shall continue.
- Plans for scientific programs and the observations and results thereof shall be freely exchanged; scientists may be exchanged

between expeditions.

- All national claims are held static from the date of signature. No future activity of any country during the life of the treaty can affect the status quo on any rights or claims to territorial sovereignty.
- Nuclear explosions and disposal of radioactive waste are prohibited in Antarctica.
- The provision of the Treaty applies to the area south of 60°S.
- Any contracting party may appoint observers. They shall have complete freedom of access at any time to any area of Antarctica, with the right to inspect any other nation's buildings, installations, equipment, ships or aircraft or to carry out aerial observations.
- Regular consultative meetings of the active signatory nations shall be held.
- Contracting parties shall ensure that no activity contrary to the Treaty is carried out.
- Any disputes between contracting parties shall be resolved by peaceful negotiation, in the last resort by the International Court of Justice.
- The Treaty shall remain in force for a minimum of 30 years.
- These articles provide the legal details of ratification and deposit.

In the years since the signing of the Treaty, consultative meetings have reached agreement on more detailed measures, including the protection of wildlife and special areas of biological interest. Other subjects on which unanimous agreement can be reached are constantly under review. The inspections by national observers have been carried out in a spirit of friendly

The Tribute Penny by Bob Levy

This is a denarius of the second Roman emperor, Tiberius. Tiberius was the step-son of the first Roman emperor, Augustus. Upon the death of Augustus in A.D. 14, Tiberius, at the time fifty-five years old, became emperor. He had been a very able military commander and was a sound administrator, although he was not terribly popular with the Senate or the Roman people. Tiberius was not too imaginative when it came to

coinage designs, using only a small number of designs when compared to the hundreds

of types employed by his predecessor. This coin, with the obverse design of the emperor, Tiberius, and reverse design of his mother, Livia, seated as Pax (Peace), was mass-produced throughout Tiberius' reign. The most notable event occurring during this time was the ministry and crucifixion of Jesus of Nazareth. This coin type is commonly known to history as "the tribute penny of the Bible" due to an association with Jesus. Imagine a specific history of the coin pictured here.

After being struck at the mint in Lugdunum in Gaul, in the year now known as A.D. 28, it soon circulated to Rome. It could have been given in change to a poor man who, unaccustomed to having denarii, decided to hold on to it for as long as he could. You could say he was "saving it for a rainy day". Perhaps this man had heard of the teachings of one Jesus of Nazareth in Galilee who, unlike many of those claiming to be the long-awaited messiah, claimed to be the "son of Man". Deciding to seek out this Jesus, he began a long trek to Galilee. But, being prone to sea-sickness, he had no choice but to take the arduous land

route as opposed to the quicker sea route. He would have passed through Salona in Dalmatia, Thessalonica in Macedonia, Perinthus in Thrace, Pergamum and Ephesus in Asia, Tyre in Phoenicia, and finally on to Capernaum in Galilee. It was there that the traveller would have first met Jesus.

Jesus had been baptized when he was thirty years old, and had chosen Capernaum near the Sea of Galilee, now known as Lake Gennesaret, as his



headquarters. Jesus' mission, was to announce that the Kingdom of God was coming. He stressed in his teachings that people should love God and their neighbors, treating others as he or she wished to be treated. Soon after the traveller arrived at Capernaum, Jesus moved his ministry south to Jerusalem in Judaea. As Jesus travelled, many followers were attracted by his parables and teachings.

One day Jesus was asked in a crowd of people by a Roman soldier if tribute, which was a tax of one silver denarius at that time, should be lawfully paid to Caesar, who in this case was Tiberius Caesar, the emperor on the coin's obverse. If Jesus answered "yes", that tribute should be paid, the Jews, of whom Jesus was one, would label him blasphemous to God. If Jesus answered "no", that tribute should not be paid, the Romans would label him treasonous to the emperor. "Show me a penny," asked Jesus. The traveller reached into his pouch and pulled out his coin. Jesus gazed at its obverse. "Whose image and inscription is upon it?" "Caesar's," came the collective reply. "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are

God's." All marveled at the answer, for neither side could be offended. The incident of "the tribute penny" has now become one of the more well-known of Biblical stories. What happened next is a matter of historical record.

This Kingdom of God seemed a good idea to many people, and Jesus' followers continued to grow. His ideas caused much consternation among the Jewish leaders, however. They were upset that Jesus changed accepted religious practices such as the Sabbath laws and feared Jesus' popularity would encourage a rebellion against the Roman Empire, leading to the destruction of the Jewish nation by the formidable Roman legions. He was arrested on April 6, A.D. 30, and tried by the Jewish council on blasphemy charges since, when asked if he were the messiah, he would not deny it. Jewish leaders demanded the death penalty, and let Pilate know that the gathering mob would most likely riot if Jesus were not put to death. Pilate then sentenced Jesus to die on a cross, the common form of Roman execution. On April 30, Jesus was crucified on a hill outside of Jerusalem called Golgotha.

At the time of the tribute penny incident, there were a number of people who were claiming to be the messiah. Jesus was not the only one crucified for his beliefs, or for other reasons, for that matter. It was a common occurrence back in the harrowing times of the A.D. 20s and 30s. One must remember that during this period of the reign of Tiberius, there were many mysterious tragedies within the emperor's own family, and treason trials were an all-too-common event. The times were rife with executions by various means, including many crucifixions. Tiberius died at the age of seventy-eight on March 16, A.D. 37.

Reprinted from the book 'From the Coin's Point of View'. This particular article has been positioned on the last