



TWIN CITY ANCIENT COIN CLUB



Rodney O. Olson.
President.

Chas. J. Gustafson, Hon. Sec.
1078 Carrie Street. (226 5801)
West St. Paul. Minn. 55118.

Jim. A. Buelow.
Hon. Treasurer.

January, 1973.

Happy New Year everyone! and I hope your various benefactors treated you well in the give and take season just behind us. However, whatever happened, I hope your best days of '72 are your worst days in '73. Regarding our little Christmas gathering, I think I can say it was a success, 23 members showed up for a drink or two, followed by a pleasant enough supper, and from what I could gather, coin topics did not dominate the conversation. Except for a little gossip on a recent European auction, and a dribble or two of tipped ancients on the tablecloths (these were coins, not members, I hasten to add) the chit chat was nicely social. Jim Buelow felt that we had a quorum of sufficient magnitude to spring loose a tribute or two to the assembly, and as a consequence paid for hors d'oeu-vre for all! This from club funds! What a magnificent Quaestor he's turning out to be.

As far as this month is concerned, our old friend Mr. Howard Brin, who has recently returned from the Holy Land, will give us an interesting talk on the recent excavations, supplemented I hear, with some very interesting colour slides. This of course, will be at the usual place, and at the usual time, and to be uniform, at the usual day, i.e. 1276 University Ave. St. Paul. at 7.30 PM. the 25th of January. Rear entrance, downstairs, with plenty of parking at the door, as extra information for any possible newcomer, who of course, is very, very welcome. After Mr. Brin is finished, we will follow with a coffee break, and then we hope, a little fun. The proclamation is; bring money, ancient and modern, for we are about to have an auction. Bring all the ancients you want to sell, for one reason or another, and we'll see what Messrs. Gustafson and Buelow can do for you. Also coin books, catalogues, etc. Make a nice neat list of your offerings, mark the items carefully so they will not get in a mix up, and with coins, attribute and reference as much as is possible. Be ready to display the items when we open, so there's time for a good look, and remember, place a sensible reserve price on everything. If it works out well, we'll do it again, but anyway it is probably a good idea to count on filling the second half of next month with the same thing, as this will allow everyone a chance to prepare items, and also give a January absentee a second chance.

With the new year ahead for us, and the hopes of strengthening our club uppermost in our minds, there comes the task of talking about the dues for 1973, and the various improvements we hope to incorporate in the TCACC. First of all, we are asking for \$3.00 for the year of '73, with the exception of those who joined after the Summer recess, and for those, it will be \$1.50. This sum will take care of dues up until January 1974. In addition, some time early this year, you will be provided with a membership card, which in return, will act as your receipt for dues, and hopefully, in time, provide you with some additional benefits to be discussed later. Of course, you will also receive our newsletter, which thru recent entreaties may become more attractive to you as time goes on, especially if I have the opportunity to use copy from some of our talented members. One important point to add, no newsletters will be mailed to members after the February issue, unless the member has

joined the roster of paid up members, and non-payment will in fact signify to your Treasurer that you wished to be considered a member no longer. Remember, payment should be made to Mr. Gustafson's address, preferably by check which you can make out to the club. Anyone who may have paid up already should make note of this with Jim Buelow, to make doubly sure their dues are credited in full for the coming year.

A wellwisher and friend from out of State has highly recommended a new offering in the field of Roman coin books. "Roman Coins" by Richard Reece, 3 Pounds net, ex London, from 1970 Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, EC 4. Not much else in the way of information, but for around \$8.00 it should be worth the gamble. It can also be obtained from Canada it seems from General Publishing Co. Ltd, Toronto. # ISBN0-510-06151-6. Thanks for the info Mr. Klug, and yes, we would welcome your addition to our growing club.

It is perhaps appropriate to talk a little of Janus, in this first month of the year. The ancient doublefaced god of Rome, he was deity of all beginnings both spatial and temporal. As god of spatial beginnings he presided over all gates and doors, and as god of temporal beginnings, over the first hour of the day, the first day of the month, and the first month of the year, hence our name January for this, our first month. Said to be the "most ancient" of the Kings of Rome, he was also the founder of the town of Janiculum, this built on the highest of the seven famous hills of Rome, and known today as the Monte Gianicola. We are told he was also the offspring of Coelus and Hecate, and after deification, his blessings were sought for the start of each day, month and year. He was also revered for bringing to his people the knowledge on how to divide the year, the use of navigation at sea, the principle of money use, the basic rule of law and justice, and the building of temples. As protector (Mana or Numen) of doors and gateways, he was represented holding a staff or a sceptre, with a key in the left hand, and as god of the rising sun, he was depicted as having two faces, or a double head, looking to sunrise and sunset, "east and west" to which ability was added the gift of reviewing the past, and foreseeing the future. Numismatic historians point to numerous references to this ancient deity on coin types, among them a beardless Janus on a first brass of Pompey, with a ship's prow on the reverse, which probably alludes to the belief that the teaching of sea skills was a Janus gift to the plebs Romana. Strangely enough, double headed coins similar to the Janus head are also to be seen on issues from the Etrurians, Syracusans, and the Athenians, but after some research, the only illustrations in these series I have found are to be seen in the Pozzi catalogue, but I also noted from this wonderful treasure house of ancient coin pictures, that the Isle of Tenedos created a fine group of Janiform heads. There is an exceptionally nice head on a Tetradrachm, showing a bearded and unbearded head together. Although these alien issues are generally regarded as having some allegorical link to the same root source, I believe that no sure proof of this has been established. But perhaps the most interesting facet of Janus lore revolves around the famous temple of Janus, which was erected in the Roman Forum, and as we are told, remained open during war, and closed in times of peace. Said to have been built by Romulus after making peace with the Sabines, it of course, contained the statue of Janus. The royal edict concerning its opening and closure was proclaimed later by King Numa, and it was during his reign that it was first closed. The next closing marked the end of the second Punic war, under the consulship of Titus Manlius, and in the years of conquest and expansion that followed, it was obviously open a great deal more often than it was closed. The somewhat restrained Augustan period managed however, to close it no less than three times, and later Tiberius managed to record this historical fact, at least once. Perhaps the most famous coin issue with allusion to this ceremony is a brass of Nero, whereon the actual temple is shown in great detail, not only with closed doors, but also inscribed thus to commemorate the event; PACE, P.R. TERRA MARIQ. PARTA IANUM CLVSIT. "After having procured peace for the Roman people, on land and on sea, he, the Emperor, has shut the Janus". Later, the relatively benign reign of Trajan, gave him the opportunity to "shut the Janus", and then to enlarge and embellish the temple site. Finally a last reference to this ancient ceremony occurs under the Emperor Constantius (Gallus) circa 353 AD. Many other issues were struck of course, in the interim, one of which is a curious brass of Hadrian, actually depicting Janus with four faces, although the coin engraver shows but three in view, and as far as I can discover, there's no explanation for this strange "Janus Quadrifons"

Ironically, a Pertinax silver coin shows Janus standing, with spear in hand, and with the comforting legend "IANO CONSERVAT"! But apparently such a cosy wish and suggestion did not work too well for the new Emperor. Far from being his "preserver", poor old Pert succumbed to assassin's swords only 87 days after reluctantly accepting the purple.



.....
You should know that the Rev. Gustafson is addressing the Maplewood Coin Club this Jan.23rd. the subject being, "Coins of the Bible Days" meeting starts at 7.30 and I understand any of our members are welcome as guests. Chuck will also be displaying related coinage, so your support would be a nice thing for him. The club meets at Frost & English streets, about 5 miles north of the Capitol building in St. Paul. Try to make it, it will be interesting

.....
Under the title "Archaeology of the Mediterranean", the University of Minn, is displaying some fine exhibits at the University gallery, which by the way, is on the 3rd floor of the Northrop Auditorium. This begins on the 17th of Jan, and runs thru to 27th of Feb. I believe admission is free, and the subject matter covers; 1. Greek Architecture, Bassai, Halieis, and Perivolia. 2. Khirbet Shema, Israel 1972. 3. Diocletian's Palace, Split. 4. The "U of M" Egyptian expedition. 5. Nichoia, excavations in SW Greece. Inter-connected with this display, the "U" has a series of lectures as follows; 22nd Jan, Excavations at Nichoria, Greece. 30th Jan, Greek temples: Discoveries and rediscoveries. 12th Feb. The god's father, Ay: From scribe to Pharaoh in four reigns. 21st Feb. Restoring an ancient Synagogue: Khirbet Shema. Finally, 25th, Feb. Diocletian's Palace at Split. All lectures will be held at the Murphy Hall Auditorium, and start at 8.00PM. Refreshments follow the lecture, and the exhibition Gallery is open daily from the 17th Jan, with special evening viewing on lecture nights when you can visit up until 10.15 PM. Of course our friend Otto Schaden will be taking the rostrum for the talk on Ay, and I'm sure the whole series will be fascinating.

.....
Last call for the proposed trip to Europe this coming Fall, frankly I think I goofed, I'd thought the idea would bring a shoal of replies, at least to obtain further information as the idea gelled, but right now we don't have enough interest to qualify for a family plan ticket, even if we all went under the same name. Therefore unless you reply this month, I must ask you to consider the whole thing dead, and for the few who did reply, many thanks, I wish we could have done it.

.....
I think that should about wrap it up for this month, do your darndest to come along this month, not only to give Mr. Brin the attendance he deserves, but also to indulge in our very own "Coinagora". Remember also, this is your club, and as previously mentioned, can only be as interesting as you wish to make it. Don't be bashful, give us your ideas on how to make it a winner. Ancient coinage, and the related study and collection is one of the most interesting and rewarding hobbies one could have, but I'm sure scores of people are scared away because they expect it to be stuffy, and only supported by old fuddie-duddies, plus a few entrepreneurs from the coin business. As you know, this does not have to be true, but only you can dissipate the belief, by active, and cheerful participation.

.....
H.G.G.

"If a man is moderate and contented, then even age is no burden,
if he is not, then even youth is full of care."

Plato.



TWIN CITY ANCIENT COIN CLUB



Rodney Olson.
President.

Charles Gustafson.(Sec)
1078 Carrie Street(226.5801 Tele.)
West St. Paul,Mn.55118.

James Buelow.
Treasurer.

February.73.

What a completely nice evening! A fine slide display by Mr. Brin, a very interesting commentary, a coffee break, and a coin auction. The slides of the south Temple area of Jerusalem were superb, and I for one, was amazed at the size of the stone slabs that went to make the walls. The scale reconstruction of Jerusalem of 66 AD was most interesting, and of course, Mr. Brin's personal enthusiasm and descriptive abilities made it an outstanding hour. Following coffee, we went right into the auction, and had a real surprise. It was conducted wholly by Jim Buelow, and if he was not already a success in his own profession, I would have to add, he'd missed his calling. He was able to handle the job with a verve and sense of humour that added fine leavening to the commerce, and I can report that every offered item was sold, with the majority bringing about 25% over reserve prices. However, the main point is, we had fun, and almost everyone went home with something new...new?-ancient! Oh well. Now, since we've found we have a real Pro amongst us, we want to add that we will auction any ancients, or related items, any meeting, any time. It's a good way to dispose of those under par coins. If you can't make it, mail them in to us, attributed, graded, and with your reserve price. The club will hold back 10%, as it did this time, and a check for the balance will be mailed back within 4 days of club night. Insure them on the way in, and if we can't reach your reserve, we'll stand the cost of returning them.

.....
Please remember, this is the last newsletter to go out, unless you have paid for 1973. Mail your check to Chuck above, to ensure your steady flow of this fantastic, erudite, publication. Don't miss a step in your climb to ever greater knowledge in the world of ancient numismatics! If you're broke, squander a little less on fancy coins, live in an attic for a while, and mail the 3 bucks in. do ut des.

.....
Remember the "Voice of the Turtle"? the one time literary anchor for all ancient coin collectors hereabouts? Its progress from a near pamphlet, to a glossy little slick, is worth remembering, and even more important, is the lesson we should derive from its sudden demise. Edited, and mostly written by John Hartman of Minneapolis, this little magazine, which I believe first saw light of day locally, was actually the voice of the somewhat ambitiously named Ancient Coin Club of America. At first the future seemed to augur well for this well produced little book, but the rocky road was apparently too much for its authors and mentors to travel, because slowly, things went amiss. As it continued to grow in the early '60s, the efforts to produce a more professional edition grew overly intense, finally leading to the publication responsibilities being shifted to Chicago and the Argonaut Press. John meanwhile, either by design or circumstance, was left to fill out the non-commercial pages. This brings up the question, just how much can one man do to produce on a stable and steady basis, especially to supply a fine flow of both interesting and educational material.? I must admit JEH surely tried, and of course, by now the Turtle was supplemented by a large group of advertising subscribers, but dominated, quite naturally, by its mid-wife, Argonaut Press. Chapters of the growing ACCA were forming around the country, and for a while, things were looking dandy for all concerned. Argonaut started a recruitment of members to the Turtle by appealing to its customers in general, and things got slicker and slicker, but sad to say,

duller and duller too. Towards the end, one edition of 32 pages was made up as follows: 17 pages of 'ads, $8\frac{1}{2}$ pages of book listings, many in German, French and Italian, 1 page of club news, 1 page of opinion, and the balance of $2\frac{1}{2}$ pages were given to articles! But by now the Turtle had retitled itself, somewhat pretentiously I feel, as the "North American Journal of Numismatics" and was proudly boasting of an international readership, which we were then told, proved the little Turtle, had in reality, become the "International Journal of Numismatics" the old title had also become "inappropriate" being desirable only to "a small number group"...not "too anxious to call attention to themselves, or have their blissful pursuits disturbed by the intrusion of scholarly material". In a further clarion call, the Editor proclaimed "without arrogance" and with "humility" that, in the study of ancients, he was now convinced that the publication proved the "American approach" (not explained) "superior to the European tradition". Without adding comment, I must report that things grew worse for the poor little Turtle, and apparently the "American" approaches were full of pot holes, because one day, the Argonaut Press folded without warning, and the Turtle, alias the NAJA, alias the IJM, was alas, no more, tho I believe a nucleus of membership formed what is now the ANA. What are the lessons we learn then? Obviously one is, don't bite off more than you can chew, Secondly, don't try to get too big and lose your control, but above all, try to stay interesting to the largest possible reader group....and, don't get pompous or dull. I looked recently at some old Turtles, and frankly towards the end, they were becoming as dry as dust. John must have run out of both ideas and contributors, and the Turtle became little more than a vehicle for Argonaut. I appeal therefore to every reader, don't let this happen to us. Think seriously about the ways you can participate. If you really feel you cannot write an article, at least send us some suggestions, complain items, advise, requests, etc. etc. Maybe the Turtle died because a turtle is a voiceless animal, so let's hear from you...I wonder how many of the old Turtle readers are reading this little survival sheet?

It is with profound pleasure, that I introduce to these pages, an old friend and fellow collector, Cal Woods, who was in fact, one of the Founding members of the ACCA, No. 6. I believe Cal, if my memory serves me correctly. Cal has somewhat specialized in the late Empire coinage of Rome, and wishes to greet you all, with the added promise to meet us, as soon as his business schedule allows it.

THE FOUR EMPERORS CONSTANTIUS.



CONSTANTIUS I
AD 305-306



CONSTANTIUS II
AD 337-361



CONSTANTIUS GALLUS
AD 351-354



CONSTANTIUS III
AD 421

The beginning collector of late Roman coins will be able to distinguish among these four rulers by following this simple guide.

The appearance of Constantius I on his coins is so completely different from those of his namesakes, that the most casual inspection should be enough to identify them; the short cropped hair and beard along with the "tough guy" appearance is a dead give-away. It is not so simple to distinguish among the three latter rulers, but these are the principle differences. (A) The title of Augustus (AVG) appears on the coins of Constantius II but not on those of Constantius Gallus. (B) The bust of Constantius III has the appearance of being more full faced than Constantius II. (C) The mint marks, COM, COMOB, & RV appear on the coins of Constantius III, but not on those of the two earlier rulers. (D) In the absence of these characteristic marks, the silver coins weighing about 1.40 grams are those of Constantius III, (the smaller silver coins of Constantius II do not fall below 1.92 grams) (E) The names FL CL (Flavius Claudius) appear only on the coins of Constantius Gallus. (F) The title of Junior, (CONSTANTIUS IVN) belongs to Gallus alone.

(G) The names FL VAL (Flavius Valerius) are found only on the coins of Constantius II. (H) Those coins with a bare head and having the names FL IVL (Flavius Julius) have been assigned to Gallus. (I) All coins with a bare head, and the legends DN. CONSTANTIVS NOB CAES and CONSTANTIVS CAES are attributed to Constantius Gallus. (J) The neck of Constantius Gallus is usually longer than that of Constantius II. (K) No bronze coins are known for Constantius III; his gold and silver are very rare and expensive. Gallus and Constantius II struck in all three metals, and none are really scarce; and their bronze is quite common.

C.C.W.

.....
 ANCIENT GREEK COINS. G.K. JENKINS. (Keeper of the Dept. of Coins & Medals. British Museum.) Printed in Switzerland. 300 + pages. Numerous plates, B&W. & Colour. 7 Pounds sterling. A beautiful book as might be expected, organised into 6 chronological periods and geographical locations, plus an excellent glossary which could have been longer. The first reaction to this book is to comment on the many superb coin reproductions, that appear on a variety of colour plate backgrounds, vivid crimson, green, blue, and black, all lend dramatic impact to gorgeous Greek coinage. Many silver issues are shown on fine semi-matte, which is most effective, but most interesting of all are those coins laid on a dead black matte finish. This has the result of almost lifting them into an extra dimension. Little could be said critically about this book, the impressive resources available plus the author's own solid professional background combine to add a wonderful book to an area already well served. But whatever your level of study has taken you to, this wonderful edition will take you further along that rocky, but profoundly beautiful road of ancient Greek numismatics. A word of caution concerning the black matte pages, however. The finish is so easily marked, that even a restless fingernail will leave a permanent scar on the finish. Years ago, publishers could afford to interleaf with a fine tissue, and preserve these pictorial treasures, but now.... Oh well, take care. One singular disturbing trait, a frequent lack of description of a coin reverse, but in summary, I believe this book to be the second best buy of volumes in its category, i.e. a fine mixture of scholarship and beautiful plates. The first being the gem, "Greek Coins" by Kraay & Hirmer, also conceived in England, but born on the continent, at around the same price, an even greater bargain. One sad note, a pity all the beauties in the gallery are specimens far beyond the reach of you and I.

.....
 Good news dept: Kent Froseth, of Numisco Sales, is offering a nice discount to all club members who wish to order books on our hobby, contact him at the shop 7th Street (103) downtown Mpls. or call 338 0637. Out of town members also eligible, mail him 25% of retail with your order, and he will bill you for the balance when the book arrives. When you get your membership card, you will have to quote him your number.

.....
 I'm about to rub my lamp again, and see whether we can have a dealer surface, and offer us a break on coin purchases, under a similar check system. Let's all concentrate on this wish together, say, at 11.30 PM. Feb 28th. The power of suggestion.....

.....
 Next meeting will be at 7.30 PM as usual Feb. 22nd. same place, and if you don't know where by now, call Chuck for a map, or directions. Program, at the moment, in the air, but a promise of a meeting worth your while. Hope to see you there.

.....
ANCIENT ARTS.

P.O. BOX. 2728.
 Buffalo.

Amherst station.
 New York. 14226.

BRUCE. B. BRAUN.

Ancient coins at reasonable prices. Greek, Roman, and Medieval. Free lists.

I also carry a large and varied supply of artifacts from the ancient world at prices you can afford. Mention the TCACC.

.....
 I can endorse Bruce's words, we bought a beautiful pair of Greek earrings from him, at much less than the usual figures you see on these items these days.

H.G.G.



TWIN CITY ANCIENT COIN CLUB



Rodney Olson.
President.

Chas. Gustafson. Hon Sec.
1078 Carrie Street. (Tel. 226 5801)
West St. Paul. Minn. 55118.

James Buelow.
Treasurer.

MARCH. '73.

Sorry to be running a little behind times this month, but I've been experiencing one of those "that should'nt happen to a.....etc". In particular, this has been of some concern to me, as our March meeting will take place a week later than usual. This is a special concession to our Rev. who is currently off on what appears to be his annual trip to the Holyland. and since he is not expected back until the normal meeting night, or even worse, some hours later, he has asked us for this little favour. Therefore, all ye who attend, please note, same place, same time, but one week later; March 29th. New visitors could call the above number for directions a few days ahead. Incidentally, at this meeting Chuck does intend to regale us with his first hand account of the trip, and hopefully, have his colour slides back in time to supplement the entertainment. Coffee, etc. on hand as usual, plus any coins you wish to offer by auction. Films will also be shown.

For the month of April, we have been extremely fortunate in having the professional skills of one of our newer members displayed and demonstrated for your edification. Mr. Eskill Broberg, professional photographer of the University of Minnesota, will illustrate by actual usage, how to photographically record your coin collection. The equipment he would recommend, lighting, background, exposures, filters, and film materials, all will be touched upon. He will also give special advice to those without the sophisticated hardware, which obviously will produce the finest results, but at the same time, may not be necessary for your purpose. It is recognised by all of us, that in these tormented times, our precious coins are no longer safe in the home, and as long as they stay there, neither are we. Therefore, most of us have seen to it that a Bank vault is the unfeeling recipient of the collection, while we do little else but live with the memories of the coins we once handled, taking only dubious comfort as their value skyrockets. Some extra comfort then, may come from owning a nicely catalogued and illustrated stockbook, which at the least, will allow you a look, even if you can't touch! Mr. Broberg has a very sympathetic interest in our hobby and problems, working quite often with ancient artifacts in the Classics dept: He suggests that you bring along a favourite coin, and he will be glad to photograph it for you, your only cost being a nominal one for materials. It should provide a very interesting and instructive evening, so do come along, April 26th.

Last month's meeting was not one of our best, in my opinion. We somehow ended up with little to offer except the possible auctioning of a few coins, so I was offered the chair, the intent being that we should have an open and informal discussion on ways and means to improve the club. Well, a week before the meeting, I was informed by the dwellers in my corporate ivory tower, that I was expected in Chicago the day of the meeting, and, as I had made so far, no preparation for the job ahead, I was frankly a little relieved. Foul fate, however changed company plans that week, and Thursday found me in town, and ending up, facing an empty chair with an empty head....Some exploration was begun, I may add on the above subject, and it seemed we quickly divided between those who thought we should try to grow by one means or another, and those who thought that growth itself might be fatal to us. Logically of course, growth should mean more strength, and it seems that there should be an awareness that we have some kind of a duty to 'hand on' as it were, the fruits of our collective skills to those who are just uncovering the delights

P.S. Meeting on March 29th is cancelled, meeting will be held on regular time, March 22nd.

of our hobby, But it is a sad reflection on our times, that we found those among us who feared growth, not perhaps without reason, for surely the wrong recruits could lead to a real disaster. So we went back and forth, and it became obvious after awhile, that no further gain could come out of the debate, and so the issue tapered off, unresolved, except for the realisation that there is a real nervousness about these days. It was agreed that I should have more help putting these sheets together, not only for the sake of relieving me, but also to lend much needed variety. I regret to report however, that, to date, the Postmaster General has not found it necessary to increase the delivery staff in Zip code area. 55409.

I am pleased to mention that our President Rod Olson has offered the following notes on his favourite subject, the coins of the Seleucids,...simply titled;
One of my favourite coins.....King Molon.

In 228 BC, after the death of Seleucus II in Asia Minor, the Seleucid Kingdom was thrown into a turmoil from which it was never to recover, heightened still further, after the death of each successive King, until its final collapse in 83 BC. In 228, the new King was Seleucus III, but his reign was a short one, being assassinated during an expedition against Attalus of Pergamum. On his death, his far more famous brother Antiochus III ascended the throne of Syria. Antiochus, at the age of nineteen, was endowed with a dynamic and ambitious nature, and at once, set about the task of meeting the many problems besetting this troubled land. His cousin, Achaeus, who had also proclaimed himself a King, continued a war against Asia Minor, whilst Antiochus prepared for a war against the Egyptians, with plans to wrest Coele-Syria and Palestine from them. More immediate trouble was at hand however, as revolt broke out in Media, (now Persia or Iraq) this led by one, Molon the satrap. Several armies were sent in to put the revolt down, but all were defeated by Molon, who by now had captured the eastern capital and all Babylonia, declaring himself King, and striking some rare copper coins. Nemesis was just around the corner however, as Antiochus soon arrived with his main armies, utterly defeating Molon, who immediately committed suicide. The BMC lists two coins minted in Molon's name, both bronzes of similar size, the one I own has the head of Zeus on the obverse, with Apollo in Chiton and holding a lyre on the reverse. The two vertical fields contain the inscription; "ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ ΜΟΛΩΝΟΣ" or King Molon!. The coin is .85" in dia. and well worn, which perhaps indicates that it circulated outside the Kingdom, as it is doubtful that a traitors coin would be tolerated within. The other coin listed has the head of Apollo on the obverse, with Nike, on the reverse, standing left, holding a wreath. Both are of course, quite scarce, and I have only seen one for sale in the last seven years, but...as is the case with all bronzes, one could show up any day.



R.O.

Two Roman soldiers are standing, looking down from Hadrian's wall. "Who are those people?" asked the newly arrived recruit from Rome. "The Picts and the Scots" replied the veteran. "How can you tell the difference between them?" the new arrival then asked. "Oh we just throw out a few Sestertii.....the Picts never get there in time" replied the oldtimer.

You may have read Rex Warner's fine translation of Caesar's War Commentaries, and if not, I can thoroughly recommend it, but have you read his other offering, "The young Caesar" which of course deals with the Dictators rise to power in Rome's bawdy, amoral, and deadly dangerous society. Warner makes reference in one chapter to the journey of Caesar to the ancient Kingdom of Bithynia, and his delicate friendship with its Monarch, which apparently raised much comment and gossip at the time. However, one part of the account of his visit

which I found most interesting, was supposedly made by Caesar and concerned a coin that came his way. Whether the record is factual or pure author's imagination, is of course, open to conjecture, but I find it interesting enough to repeat. Certainly the remarks are of interest to we coin buffs, one way or the other. Caesar was referring to the local society, and how close a King, or any distinguished citizen, was to assuming the status of a Diety, and I quote from Book 2, Chapter 1. "There was, for example, a very beautiful coin, minted by one of the early Kings of Pontus, which came into my hands, and which I kept for some time as a souvenir. The figure on the coin was that of a youth wearing a short cloak, and either feeding or crowning a little stag with vine leaves. Above his head was a thunderbolt, and at his side, a crescent moon and some stars. I never received a satisfactory account of this figure. It was said to be Hermes, or the King's Tyche, or young Zeus (as would be indicated by the thunderbolt) or a son of Zeus called Aion, and worshiped in the Far East. And, according to one account, it was not in the proper sense a deity at all, but a man, either shortly to be born, or born already, who was destined to reform the world and finally to be received among the gods." What do you think of it? Disregarding the religious implications for a moment, and considering only the remarks concerning the coin, I feel that there were at this time, many more beautiful coins to be seen, but of course if these were indeed the words of a newly arrived Roman to the Eastern world, the heavy relief and human scene as here depicted, would have offered his eyes a pleasant contrast to the uniform and more sterile issues of his homeland. Regarding the religious reference to a "man destined to reform the world", well....it makes one want to write to Warner to find out if this is pure author's license, or.....



.....

ANCIENT COINS.
P.O. BOX. 7015.

HARVEY HURTT, PROPRIETOR.
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA. 94707.

Our auctions of ancient coins have slowed down due to a lack of consignment material. Consignments are needed if the sales are to continue. Meanwhile, as a service, we sell Spink and Seaby books at London prices, post paid.

H.H.

.....

Joel L. Malter & Co.
P.O. Box 777.
Encino, California. 913.

Quality ancient coinage & fine artifacts.
The Journal of Numismatic Fine Arts.
Subscription. \$6.00 per annum.

Special inquiries welcome.

J.M.

.....

"It is not good for all your wishes to be fulfilled: Through sickness, you will recognise the value of health, through evil, the value of good, through hunger, satisfaction, and through exertion, the value of rest."

Heraclitus.

.....

See you soon, H.G.G.



TWIN CITY ANCIENT COIN CLUB



Rodney Olson.
President.

Chas. Gustafson. Hon Sec.
1078 Carrie Street. (tel. 226 5801)
West St. Paul. Minn. 55118.

James Buelow.
Hon Treasurer.

APRIL. '73.

Being out of town, which seems so often to be my fate these days, I cannot report at first hand on last months happenings, I hear two fine films were shown, through the kind co-operation of Otto Schaden, and this was followed by a short but spirited auction, wherein I found my wife snagged a nice Greek AE, so all in all, it seems it was a nice evening. But as previously announced, I think the April meeting should turn out an even greater success. Confirming once more, Eskil Broberg will be "in the chair" so to speak, and will show you how to place your precious collection on file, in the form of a photographic record. Dont forget to bring a favourite coin, and Eskil will do the rest. Meeting night; Thursday, April 26th, place, 1276 University Avenue. St. Paul. (The rear entrance of the Penn Mutual Bldg) Plenty of parking in the yard. Now, on the following month's agenda, we have another prize winner coming up! First the Rev. Gustafson will be recounting the details of his recent trip to the Holy Land and Egypt which I understand, he will supplement with some fine pictures, and then after coffee break, a very special auction! Mr. Harvey Hurtt, of Berkely. Cal. has sent us a nice batch of Roman coins to offer the club members. This group has something for everyone, and generally, the average condition is above those so often listed these days. Also among them are some rarities, which would enhance any collection, so dont forget to show up. For our out-of-towners, I am listing the coins, together with my opinion of condition, and for a guide on value, the current retail selling price. Mr. Hurtt was gracious enough to want to set no reserve, but in fairness to him, bids would not be accepted at less than 50% of this figure. A too high bid, would be reduced to 10% over the next best, so you cant go wrong. Mail your bid to me, before the May meeting, and help us make this a success, it may turn out to be the start of an exciting new trend in our club's activity.

It is perhaps out of line, to toss a bouquet within the confines of my own abode, but feel tempted to do so. My wife Carroll offers the following article for your pleasure, and in addition, I think, deserves a special commendation for the exceptional art work with which she has supplemented her notes. Thank you Carroll, I hope you start a trend.



CORINTH.
Stater 400-338 BC.

THE CORINTHIAN HELMET.

MESEMERIA.
Diobol.
500-350 BC.



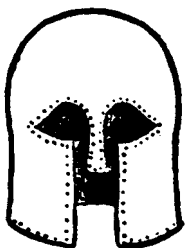
Of the eight types of helmets used by the ancient Greeks, several appear on their coinage, and one of the most common is the Corinthian helmet, being one of the few to be referred to by name in the ancient writings. Although it is found on the coins of more than thirty cities, from one end of the Greek world to the other, it is probably best known by the staters of Corinth itself. First seen on a vase painting, and a

bronze statuette of the 7th century BC. this helmet was a remarkable one, almost indestructable, being beaten out of a single sheet of bronze (a feat which required an exceptional skill by the smith).

It was in constant use and development during its approximate 200 years of active life, but always retained the same fundamental shape. The early version was little more than an inverted, slightly oblong bowl, with a roughly T shaped opening for eyes, nose and mouth. It was completely lined, apparently with leather, which was held in place, by a series of rivets along the entire rim. In time, the cheek sections were elongated to protect the throat, with the sides being notched for the shoulder, also the neck section was turned up for comfort, with the sides sometimes cut out for the ears. As time went on, it became very graceful, and this later type is the helmet so often seen in Greek classic art. It had a narrow nose guard, pointed and almost flush with the cheek pieces, and the whole crown section was set off from the rest of the helmet by a prominently formed ridge, running from above the forehead, diagonally down to the nape of the neck, adding both style and strength to the design. Below this, the neck guard was recessed inwards, then curled out and upwards, and by now, the lining had been replaced by a leather cap, the neck flap of which can be clearly seen on the staters of Corinth. A crest was often used, being positioned in at least four different ways. It laid directly along the crown from front to back, or from side to side, as shown on the small silver coins of Mesembria. Then there was the high type, with the crest curling forward at the top, or the helmet had a small bar on the crown, as seen on the Corinthian stater, this for the attachment of some sort of flowing plume. Whether flowing free, or sheared to a bristle, the material was almost certainly horse hair, black, white, and undoubtedly coloured with various combinations.

This famous helmet was indeed many things, a fine defence, a grand ornament, and a good tactical device too, making the wearer appear taller and more frightening to an enemy. During the 7th, 6th, and 5th centuries BC. the Greek city states were often warring between themselves, as well as with their perennial foes, the Persians, and although other helmets were in use during this time, no other type enjoyed such long, and far reaching popularity. They were worn by the armed levies of the independant city-state infantry, citizens, part-time soldiers, and very formidable foes. They were the famous hoplites! With the helmet in battle position, covering almost the whole head, from the collar bone upwards, the wearers hearing, as well as his peripheral vision, was greatly impaired, but it did provide excellent protection, and in their famous close packed phalanx, the only way to go, both physically and honourably, was forward!

During more relaxed moments, it was pushed back from the face, as is seen on the coins, and I have heard that, pushing back created a slight vacuum, which helped to keep it in place. This should not be too surprising, for the helmet, as well as the rest of the Hoplite's panoply was made a perfect fit. He paid for his own arms and armour, from a wage of around one drachm per day, and from what I have read, it seems that an unembellished Corinthian helmet would have cost him between 10 to 15 drachms. But as it was his, between the wars it would hang, with his other equipment, on the wall, and because of its perfect fit, it was not passed on after death. With the demise of the owner, the armour was usually dedicated at a famous sanctuary, such as Olympia, and then ritually "killed". The Corinthian helmet was "killed" by bending back the cheek pieces. By the early 5th century BC. it seems to have fallen into disuse, due to the growing popularity of the open faced and lighter Attic helmet, which can be seen on many coins, including those of Thurium. However, after more than 200 years of active use, this very frightening, but graceful helmet was further perpetuated for more than 400 years by a constant flow of Greek art. Vase paintings, bas-reliefs, statues, coinage, all paid respects to this formidable headgear, which personified, perhaps more than any other item, the ancient Greek warrior.

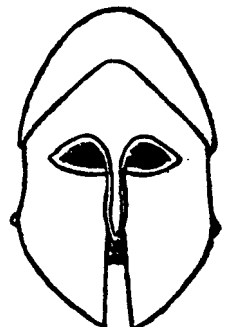


Early
type.



THURIUM.
Stater. 440-420 BC.

Later
type.





The Greek warrior donning armour.

C.A.G.

(The above inspired by an Attic red figure kylix of the early fifth century BC.)

Bib: Arms & Armour of the Greeks.A.M.Snodgrass.Münzen u.Medailen.Auction.XXVI.Oct.1963.

The Harvey Hurtt coins.

Estimated retail.

Augustus.C.40.Hd.Augustus.Rv.Caius Caesar galloping,leg.eagle,2 stds.(pierced)F+/F.....	30.00
Drusus & Tiberius. RSC.2a. The two heads. Rough fabric.Rare.....	VF+/VF+.....200.00
Vespasian.RSC.94h.Hd.right.Leg.Rv.Pax Stdg. F+/F.....	15.00
Tr n. C.301.Hd.right.Leg.Rv. FortunaStd .on curule chair.Hn.of Amalthea. VF/F.....	25.00
Hadrian. C.874.Hd.right.Leg.Rv.Justice stdg.....	VF/VF.....25.00
Antoninus Pius.C.77.Hd.right.Leg.Rv.Felicity stdg.....	XF/XF.....25.00
Septimius Severus. C.580.Hd.right.Rv.Emp on horse.....	XF/XF.....30.00
Julia Mamaea. C.81.Hd.right.Rv. Vesta stdg.....	XF/XF.....30.00
Julia Maesa. C.45. Hd.right.Rv.Felicity stdg.....	XF/XF.....25.00
Gordian III. C.97.Hd.right.Rv. Fortune Stdg.....	VF/F.....10.00
Philip I. C.120.Hd. right.Rv. Emp.seated on curule chair.....	XF/VF.....15.00
Otacilia Severa. C. 43.Hd. right.Rv. Pistas Stdg.....	VF/XF.....15.00
Trebonianus Gallus. C.2.Hd.right.Rv.Emp. on horse.Obv.badly pitted.....	VF+/VF+.....20.00
Volusian.C.77.Hd.right.Rv.Pax Stdg.....	F+/F+.....20.00
Saloninus. C. 21.Hd. right. Rv. Jupiter presenting Prince with Vict.(Pitted).XF/XF.....	20.00
Aurelian. C.1.Hd Right.Rv. Vabalathus.....	XF/XF.....20.00
Diocletian. C.2.AE Follis.Hd.right.Green.pat.Rv.Genius stdg.....	VF/VF.....10.00
Maximian I. RIC 10b.AE.Follis.Hd.right.Rv.Genius stdg.Pat.....	VF+/VF.....10.00
Constantius I.RIC 102a.AE.Follis.Hd.right.Rv. Moneta with scales.Pat.....	VF+/VF+.....12.00
Galerius. RIC.112b.AE.Follis.Hd. right.Rv. Moneta with scales.Pat.....	VF/VF.....11.00
Maxentius.C.42.RIC 113.AE.Follis.Hd.right.Rv.Aquileia.....	VF/VF.....10.00
Constantius.II.C.341.Hd.right.Rv. Wreath.leg.Flan crack.....	VF/VF.....25.00
Julian II.C.163. Hd.right.Rv.Wreath leg.....	VF+/VF+.....25.00
Julian II.C.1.AE.15 mm.Genius std.Rv.Stdg fig.with lyre.Commem.....	VF/VF.....12.00
Julian II.C.53.AE.15 mm.Vic.stdg.Rv. Jup seated.Ant. commem.....	VF/VF.....12.00
Aelia Flaccilla.AE.C.4.RIC 55. 22 mm.Hd.right. Rv. Salus..stdg.....	VG/VG.....30.00
Eudoxia. G.8.AE.14 mm.Hd. right.Rv. Eudoxia enthroned.....	VG/VG.....20.00
Maprus Maximus.C.3.RIC 26a.AE.21 mm.Hd. right.Rv. Emp.with kneeling fig.....	VG/VG.....15.00

(Denarii or Ants. unless otherwise stated)

Remember;written bids to me.H.G.Gibson.4012 Aldrich Ave.South.Minneapolis.Minn.55409.

Have a nice day,

H.G.G.



TWIN CITY ANCIENT COIN CLUB



Rodney Olson.
President.

Chas. Gustafson.Hon.Sec.
1078 Carrie Street.(Tel.226 5801)
West St.Paul. Minn. 55118.

James Buelow.
Hon.Treasurer.

MAY. '73.

I could'nt believe it! Returning to the Twin Cities, the Friday following the club's Thursday meeting last month, I received a full report of the preceeding evening's events. Apparently, I not only missed a fine instructive session from Eskil, but a lot of fun too. Did I hear right? an auction of trees? I thought I was missing a joke at first, but once more I was assured, that, for the club's benefit, sundry fauna were indeed up on the block, and with great success. This was due in the main to Jim Buelow's special style, if such a term can be used to describe his hilarious efforts which imparted the right degree of levity into the job of extracting cold cash from cool customers. Thanks Jim, I think you have earned a special place in our regard, and to Tom Mowery too, a very special thanks for your unusual, but nevertheless, most generous offerings.....Eskil Broberg, for the inconvenience of bringing in so much equipment, and working so hard and well to explain the techniques of coin photography to the group, thank you also, I am sure that many will benefit from your efforts.

.....
As previously mentioned, this month of May will bring a better than average meeting also, Thursday, May 24th. 7.30 PM. the usual address, 1276 University Ave. St. Paul. (at the rear of the Penn Mutual Bldg) The Rev. Gustafson will open the meeting with a short discussion concerning his recent return trip to Egypt and Israel, especially as it affected his coin quests....Following that, coffee, etc. and a review of the coins offered by Mr. Harvey Hurtt, of California. Thirty minutes later, these coins will be offered for auction. Starting bids will not be less than 50% of estimated retail, and mailed in bids will be introduced as they fit into the floor bids. Don't forget to show up, the success or otherwise, of this venture is dependant upon your support. You can start a regular pattern from some of our supporting out of town dealers, or you can bury the idea for ever! Please come along, May 24th. 7.30.

.....
THE ANCIENT INCUSE COIN.

Those intriguing coins of the late medieval period known as "bracteates" (Latin. Bractea a thin plate of metal) which have as a reverse, a mirror image of the obverse, are often advertised as the coins that float. This idea did not originate, as most people believe, in the late medieval times, but rather in the earliest days of the classical period of ancient Greece....The rich and warm land of southern Italy, known as Lucania, lying south of Campania and intersecting the toe and heel of the peninsula at the instep, was settled by Greek colonists in the 6th century BC. The major city of the area was Metapontum, and this city's coins betray the interest of these settlers in their prime activity, agriculture.

The type used by Metapontum from the earliest times is the ear of barley, beautifully worked on their coins, with fine radiating lines from the ear. Often in the field, is a tiny field mouse, or a locust along with META, the ethnic of the city. Later the obverse gives way to Demeter, the goddess of the harvests.

The coin illustrated, one of the earliest incuse issues of Metapontum, shows the use of the obverse in relief, and the incuse reverse. At first sight, it would seem that the metal had been struck from a single die with such a hard blow, that the obverse die shows through on the reverse, as in the bracteates, but a closer examination will reveal that an intricate, interlocking reverse die was actually used to create the mirror image appearance. Thus, our coin not only shows the superb artistic skills of these early engravers, but their high degree of technical accomplishment as well.



Calvin. C. Woods.

.....
 Since it has never been the intent of our club to "make money" as it were, but rather to collect those dues necessary just to keep us on our feet, (cash for stamps, envelopes, etc, with a little aside for a Summer picnic) our Hon. treasurer informs me that henceforth, a 5% commission only, will be charged for our auction services, instead of the earlier established 10%. This makes the service a little more attractive for all, so..bring in, or mail those coins.etc.to St. Paul's finest and funniest auctioneer! Jim Buelow. c/o. The Rev. Gustafson.....(Trees?)

.....
 JOURNEY TO ISRAEL AND EGYPT.

Israel and Egypt in March this year, was another outstanding tour, comparable to our trips in past years. In this short report, I wish only to share a few experiences related to our numismatic hobby. They occurred within the land of Israel, a truly great place to further one's knowledge of ancient coinage. The visit to two outstanding museums devoted to numismatics was almost worth the price of the trip. The Kadman Numismatic Museum at the northern edge of Tel-Aviv, had a great many interesting displays including pre-coinage money, copies of reliefs from various world museums related to numismatics, an Assyrian money-weighting scale (a copy) and many ancient coins arranged by geographical region, and by various fields of collector's specialties. The museum presents the history of money from its beginning to the present day, with special emphasis on the land of Israel. Its collection includes over 50000 items, mostly coins of every date and origin, but also banknotes, medals, stamps, weights and measures. Also, although I somehow missed this section of the museum (or perhaps, they did not have them out on display) they have an important numismatic library of over 3000 books, pamphlets, and journals. The exhibit is arranged in the form of an inverted "U". On the righthand side, were exhibits of primitive money, and of Greek coins; on the "upper bar" were exhibits of Jewish coins and coins of Palestinian origin; and on the left side, were exhibits of the foreign empires that had ruled over the land of Israel for the last 2000 years. I purchased one book at this museum entitled, "Essays in Jewish Numismatics". Needless to say, there were gorgeous coins on display, and I even saw a hoard of Tyrian Shekels, some of these were still in the jar in which they had apparently been unearthed. Another outstanding experience occurred in the old city of Jerusalem while I was in the process of purchasing ancients in the Arab shop we usually frequent. After the purchase of a beautiful Bar Kochba AE, and a few other coins, I met in the same place a Franciscan monk who frequents this Arab dealer once a day, looking for ancients of his interest. He told me that he had a collection I might want to see. Following him to a Franciscan monastery in the Old City and progressing into a couple of inner rooms I gazed upon ancients as I had never seen before. Here was table after table of ancient coins, from every city in that part of the world, arranged within each city by emperor. There were literally thousands of coins in that collection. The monk was

its curator, receiving money from the church to keep up the museum, and he was also an author of numismatic works. Although I did not learn his name, he was most likely Spykerman, a well known numismatic writer. This man spoke very highly of the reliability of certain Arab dealers in the Old City, and noted, that the man I had frequented would never sell a fake to his customers. This was, to say the least, a great comfort to me.

Just outside the Old City, still in Arab Jerusalem, I purchased the Greek BMC on Palestine, "Coins and Archaeology" by Lloyd R. Laing, and two out-of-print books by Stewart Perowne, one entitled "Hadrian" and the other, "The Later Herods". Jerusalem is a great place to buy books in the ancient history field, including numismatics. One can see that the trip to Israel, and also Egypt, was very profitable educationally, hopefully the reader can make the same journey some day. Yours truly will probably be going again next year, and I'd love to have you come along.

Charles J. Gustafson.

Space did not permit me to add, last month, what has become, a listing of those dealers, who are, in effect, supporting our little club. If you find among them, one whose listings you have not yet received, please write and get on his mailing list. Remember, in these days of escalating prices, the more lists you receive, the better will be your perspective as you splurge.

I issue price lists of better quality Ancient and Foreign coins for sale at 2 month intervals, and I am constantly looking for coins I can buy. Let me know if you have coins for sale. If you want to buy coins, send for a free copy of my latest list.

CHRISTIAN BLOM.

'phone, 914. RO 9-0421.

10 Broadway.

Hawthorne.

N.Y.

10532.

ANCIENT ARTS.

Ancient coins and fine antiquities.

BRUCE BRAUN.

FREE LISTS.

P.O. Box. 2728. Amherst Station. Buffalo. New York. 14226.

ANCIENT COINS.
P.O. Box. 7015.

HARVEY HURTT. PROP.
Berkeley. Cal. 94707.

We are especially interested in acquiring coins of the late Roman period, from the monetary reform of Diocletian, through the pre-reform coinage of Anastasius, for the purpose of building a definitive collection by mint and officina markings of every issue. H.H.

(Write for a free copy of my next listings.)

Alex G. Malloy.

P.O. Box. 38.

So. Salem. New York. 10590.

Write for a free sample list of our ancient coins, medieval coins, ancient art, and antiquities.

When in New York City, do visit our gallery at 595 Madison Avenue. (57th Street)
Hours. Monday - Saturday. 10.30- 5.30.

H.G.G.



TWIN CITY ANCIENT COIN CLUB



Rodney Olson.
President.

Chas. Gustafson, Hon. Sec.
1078 Carrie Street. (226 5801)
West St. Paul. Minn. 55118.

James Buelow.
Hon. Treasurer.

June/July. '73.

With official Summer already with us, and many members with thoughts far removed from indoor activities (such as tabletop ancient coin research) I have called this issue before our Fall opener in Sept, the June/July sheet.... I personally feel that our little group strengthened and became more cohesive in the recent months behind us, and wish to assure all members, that it is your officers intent to keep up the good work, seek out the kind of people and subjects that will continue to make our club interesting, and will also endeavour to make this newsletter more informative and attractive. On this last subject, and forgive me if I seem to be 'flogging a dead horse' only you out there can make it more attractive! If you feel you cannot make a worthy contribution, as far as an article is concerned, you can still write and ask for coverage on a specific subject, and if it is within our powers to help with an article, or just with some basic information, you will be served.

.....
Thank you Chuck, for taking us on a poor man's tour of the Holyland and Egypt, with your colourful slides and comments at our last meeting. More's the pity we could all have been with you, and I'm sure that before next year's plans are completed, more of our membership will want to avail themselves of your travel bargain. Thanks too, to our Hon. treasurer who did his thing once more on the Harvey Hurtt coin auction, as well as a small number of member's coins, which followed. Only two of Harvey's coins remained unsold, and I think about three of the others, and this was 'nt bad, as some of our strong bidders were missing, for some mysterious reason. All in all, a good night, as a few of the coins went for a song.

.....
From a meeting recently called by your officers, it was agreed to try to bridge the long Summer gap with another picnic, and those of you who were able to attend our last, you will probably remember it was well worth the time. The agreed date is Aug. 11th. and the time will be from 5.00 PM. to...? It will be held at Rod's place in Edina, and all further information will be provided by calling one of the 'phone numbers listed below. All members are welcome, but it will be necessary to have a head count before we can plan, as arrangements for catering must be tied into the attendance figure. If anyone wishes to contribute any goodies, mention this when calling, as Carroll and Joan Olson have been delegated to control this dept: So.....call before you forget, and let's have a few hours of fun together, we'd love to see you.

.....
On a somewhat disturbing note, I must add that the upward spiral of ancient coin prices shows no evidence of slowing, and it is becoming obvious to all of us, that the genuine collector of normal means, is being rapidly squeezed out of the market. I would really recommend that all members make a list of those coins they really want, and work very hard over the next few months, to get them into their collections. Time is running out for most of us, and although today's prices give you enough agony, I forecast that next years prices may take you right out of the market. The better ancients are already going right into the vaults of the cold speculator, sad as the fact may be.

Mr. Franz Pick, of investment advisory fame adds some startling facts to this trend, he claims that through the year '72 to now, tapestries and carpets jumped 45% higher in value at auctions in the U.S. Chinese art, .50%, porcelain, .65%, etchings, .75%, firearms, up 175% and coins...225%! In all cases of course, these items are in the rare category. Remember too, this is not all gain, the same source states that in this 32 year period of worldwide inflation, the flight from currency itself has caused huge debasement, for example, the US \$ is claimed to have lost 68% of its worth since 1940 on money markets, but actually has only 28% of its 1940 purchasing power. The difference of course, is because other currencies have also lost ground. This is why Mr. Investor finds our coins so attractive. Virtually unbreakable, because of their small bulk, easily transportable, and negotiable in almost any city on earth.

The natural law of supply and demand has also added another discomfort to our hobby, and this concerns the hardening attitude of some dealers. I recently had cause to gently protest over an error in attribution. (The correct attribution indicated the coin should have had a lower price) Not so however, I was told in effect, "the price stands". So, on principle, and somewhat reluctantly, as I liked the coin, I mailed the full consignment back without further comment. Now, I know I didn't damage the dealer, he really doesn't need me, at least, not for now. After all, if investors can, and will pay more than we collectors, why bother with us? Of course the day may come when we could become a valued customer once more, and it will then be up to us to remember the good and bad treatments. Another complaint reaching my ears a few days back, was over the perennial argument on grading. apparently the credibility gap is widening month by month. There's only one obvious course to follow. Buy only from those who grade properly, steel yourself to send back that coin you've always wanted, if the grading has inflated the value even higher. Let's face it, it's bad enough without piling on the agony. Fortunately, there are a few shining exceptions to this ugly trend still existing, and it's up to you to fully patronise them, and let them know why! I'm tempted to mention my own list, however, I cannot do so, without the implication that all omissions from the list would denote the guilty, and as I'm sure that I'm not acquainted with all the good dealers, such an action would be patently unfair. Wheeeeeee..caveat emptor!

ROMAN MINT MARKS.

At the time of Augustus, imperial mints were established outside of Rome, Spain, Gaul, and to the East, and most of the Emperors who followed and reigned long enough to avail themselves of these facilities, used them to the full. In fact, with the growing power and breadth of Empire, mints were always being added. However, the issues from Rome's 'outer Empire' as it were, can only be distinguished by style, carrying no letters, or other ciphers to aid the collector. However we should be indebted to his Highness, Emperor, Gallienus.-Publius Licinius Valerianus Egnatius, because, during his reign, 253-268.A.D. actual mint marks began to appear on coinage. Herewith below are some of the more common markings to be found, generally in the exergual area of the reverse.

Ciphers.	City.	Modern.	Ciphers.	City.	Modern.
A.AL.ALE.	Alexandria.	Same.	AMB.AMBI.	Ambianum.	Amiens.
AN.ANT.	Antioch.	Antikiya.	AQ.AQVIL.	Aquileia.	Aquileja.
AR.ARL.	Arelatum.	Arles.	C.CL.	Camulodunum.	Colchester.
CON.CONS.CONST.KONST.	Constantinople.	Istanbul.	CVZ.CVZIC.CYZ.KYZ.	Cyzicus.	Kapu Dag.
K.KAR.KART.	Carthage.	Nr.Tunis.	H.HER.HT.HTR.	Heraclea.	Eregli.
L.LL.LN.LON.	Londinium.	London.	LD.LG.LUG.LUGD.	Lugdunum.	Lyons.
MD.MED.	Mediolanum.	Milan.	N.NIC.MICO.NIK.	Nicomedia.	Izmit.
N.NAR.	Narbo.	Narbonne.	OST.	Ostia.	Same.
RAV.RV.	Ravenna.	Same.	R.RM.ROM.ROMA.	Rome.	Same.
SD.SER.SERD.	Serdica.	Sophia.	SIR.SIRM.	Sirmium.	Sremska Mitro
S.SIS.SISC.SM.	Siscia.	Sisak.	TE.TES.TH.TS.OES.	Thessalonica.	vica
T.	Ticinum.	Pavia.	TR.TRE.	Treveri.	Trier.

A word of caution, variants occur to this chart. L will sometimes stand for London, and sometimes for Lyons. An extra letter will often be added to increase your fun, and this applies often to the Roma issues. But I hope this will help the beginner.

Joel L. Malter. & Co.
P.O. Box. 777.
Encino. California.

Quality ancient coinage & fine artifacts.
Also, The Journal of Numismatic Fine Art
Subscription. \$6.00 per annum.

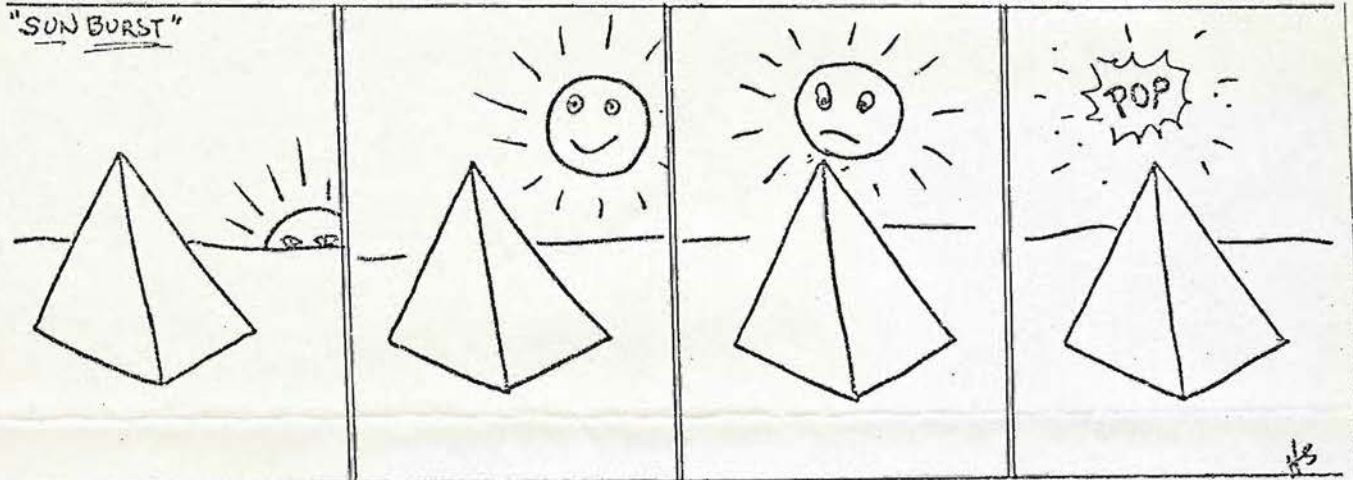
All special enquiries welcome.
J.M.

.....
(Joe has just produced a new coin catalogue called "Constantinople Fine Arts".#1)
(issue contains some fine material,above US average photographic records, and a)
(nice selection of ancients at most pocket levels.Write Encino.Calif.Box.1795.)
.....

Ancients,Rome,
Greece, and
European Medieval.
Reasonable prices.

Francis J. Rath.
P.O. Box. 84.
Youngstown. New York.
14174.

Consignments accepted for
retail,or auction.
Write for my listings.
Reasonable prices.



Getting back to the picnic, for a final word. any of the numbers below will produce the necessary information to get you there in good shape, 'tho no guaranties are to be offered maintain this condition. Please do not leave the decision making to the last minute, it will make catering plans so difficult, and may create a minor famine. Jim Buelow. 646 8841. RevGustafson. 226 5801. Joan Olson. 929 6688. Carroll.Gibson. 824 2824.

.....
That's about all, until September, have a really nice Summer,

H.G.G...

"Fair Greece,sad relic of departed worth!
Immortal,though no more; though fallen,.great!"

Lord Byron. 1788-1824.



TWIN CITY ANCIENT COIN CLUB



Rodney Olson
President

Charles Gustafson Hon. Sec.
1078 Carrie St. (Tel. 226-5801)
West St. Paul, Minn. 55118

James Buelow
Hon. Treasurer

SEPTEMBER '73

Your normal editor being taken-up with a trip to the land of his birth, jolly 'ol England, and with the press of business affairs, the one who has been called "honorary secretary" pens this letter. My title is, in fact, honorary, as Joan Olson and Carol Gibson handle the secretarial work in mailing out our monthly chit-chat, and that is about all the secretarial work involved in the T.C.A.C.C. They, along with their husbands, and Whitney Lindwall, who mass produces the letters, deserve a generous vote of thanks. We appreciate all who make the growing Twin City Ancient Coin Club possible. We have one of the most fascinating hobbies in the world and a club which enhances our enjoyment and knowledge of the hobby can hardly be promoted enough.

Oscar and Carol Gibson will fascinate us with slides of their recent trip to England at the September meeting. The date is the 27th (Thursday) and the time, as usual, is 7:30 P.M. at the Penn Mutual Life Insurance Building on University Avenue in St. Paul. (entrance in the back). Among those places visited by the Gibson family were The Department of Coins and Medals in the British Museum; The Heberden Room (devoted to coinage) in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford; Spink's, Seaby's, and excavations being conducted at the Roman town of Corinium (modern Cirencester) and the Great Pavement of a Roman villa in Woodchester, Gloucestershire. In the Ashmolean Museum Carol asked to see some coins from ancient Thurium in Lucania. Their guide brought out 5 trays containing about forty coins each! Oscar related to me that they were quite disappointed in Spink's and Seaby's. They had very little to choose from and what they had was not in very good condition. Their best pieces, which were not all that great, were reserved for the A.N.A. in Boston.

Finch Booker was probably the only one from our club to make that august gathering in Boston, which he described to me as a very crowded madhouse. The approximately 200 dealers had little time to chat due to the demands of countless customers. As Oscar indicated in a previous letter coin collecting has become an investor's market. At our own recent Minnesota State Fair a coin investor's brokerage had a booth at which one could purchase \$1000 bags of silver coins to be held for investment. I accused the broker of driving up the price of coins for collectors. He defended his position on the ground that wise stable investments were always legitimate especially in the light of today's conditions. A bag of 1964 silver, valued in the late 60's at about \$1350, has now gone over the \$2000 mark. He also said that investors have one foot in the stream today; tomorrow, they will have both feet solidly in the market. We go the way of ancient Rome in the 3rd century A.D. with the hoarding of silver even to the point of melting it down for a greater value than that on the coin face.

Finch Booker also attended the A.N.A. school on Counterfeits in Colorado Springs this summer. He will be bringing a report at one of the meetings and also, when they arrive, the A.N.A. slides on Roman Republican Coinage. Another speaker scheduled is Eschol Broberg, club member, and photographer for the Messenia, Greece, expedition. He will report via slides on the excavations at Messene in which staff personnel of the University of Minnesota were involved. Incidentally, there will be a book auction at our meeting this month. Tom Mowery will sell a few and the Gibson's likewise with the usual percentage going to the club. Perhaps you have something to add to the sale.

A Coin From Apameia, Phrygiae

Our lead subject this letter concerns a very interesting piece from the little known city of Apameia, Phrygia, in what is now west central Turkey. The city was founded by the Seleucid ruler, Antiochus I (280-261 B.C.), and named after his mother, Apama. The basic information about the town comes from Head's *Historia Numorum* where you can certainly find it for yourselves. However, let me summarize the pertinent information.

The city superseded an older stronghold and royal residence named Celaenae which occupied the mountain heights above it. Because the city was situated near the sources of the Maender River and certain tributary streams converged nearby, the site was a central point from which trade routes radiated in every direction. Trade goods arriving from the East were packed in chests to be forwarded to the various seaports of the Ionian Coast: Ephesus, Pergamum, etc. The city derived a nickname in the process from the Greek word for chest: *kibwtós*. The word "kibwtós" is the identical word used in the Old Testament for the famous ark of Noah. In fact, this city had a tradition, perhaps (Head thinks) due to a Jewish element in the city, that the mountain above the town was Ararat and that the Ark after the flood had come to rest there. During the Roman Imperial period one of the reverse types on Apameian coins is a chest or ark (*kibwtós*) inscribed ΝΛΞ, floating on water and containing two figures and to the left, in front of the Ark, the same pair, standing on dry ground, and on the top, a raven, and above it a dove flying with a branch in her beak. Head believes this reverse was probably copied from some painting in the city.

The writer has talked to Joel Malter about the coins of Apameia in the hope that he would have one in stock. Unfortunately, Joel informed me that the coins of Apameia were not minted in great abundance (at least, the local autonomous coinage, as the city contained a Seleucid mint), and that he had only seen two or three in his life. One can only imagine the price tag that such a piece would demand.

Now, Apameia is, in fact, far west of the real mountains of Ararat which are on the Russo-Turkish border. The ancient name for this border land, a perennial foe of the ancient Assyrians, was Urartu. The greatest mountain of this range of mountains is now called Mt. Ararat. This colossal peak, snow-capped the year around, reaches into the sky 16,916 feet. So large is the mountain, itself, that to circumnavigate its base requires three days on horseback. Now the interesting fact about Mount Ararat is that it has been the scene of sporadic ark exploration in recent centuries and with some interesting results.

As most of you know, a great flood sometime in the distant past is remembered by many peoples all over the world. Among the places where the story of a great flood is remembered are the Fiji Islands, Brazil, Hawaii, Egypt, Alaska, and Sumatra. There is a story of a great flood even among the wild Indians of the upper Orinoco River in Venezuela. I've seen a chart of forty-one flood stories with a comparison made as to what details they had in common with the Biblical account. There can be no doubt that there was a great deluge in antiquity. The main question today is how extensive was this event. It is germane to note with reference to the material to follow that most of the flood stories include the provision of an ark.

The record of the explorations on Mount Ararat have been written up by a present-day scholar, John Montgomery, who, incidentally, has climbed the mountain in question, in a book called, "The Quest For Noah's Ark". The volume, among other things, covers what explorers and ancient writers have said about the Ark and Mt. Ararat from the ancient Babylonian priest Berossus to our present day. Summing it up in a few words, there is a strong tradition that Mt. Ararat was the true resting place of Noah's Ark after the waters of the flood resided.

Let me cite an example or two of what has been recorded about the Ark by the writers of history. Their remarks will be excerpted just to give a key sentence or two.

1. Berossus, Priest of Marduk at Babylon-about 275 B.C.

"But of this ship that grounded in Armenia some part still remains in the mountains of the Gordyaeans in Armenia, and some get pitch from scraping (it) off, and use it for amulets. (Alexander Heidel, The Gilgamesh Epic and Old Testament Parallels, 2nd ed., 1949, pp. 116-119)

2. Josephus, Jewish historian-A.D. 37-100

"The Armenians call that spot the landing-place (anobateriov..tov tohov-see Liddell & Scott large lexicon, 7th Edition) for it was there that the ark came safe to land and they show the relics of it to this day. (Josephus, Jewish Antiquities I, 89-95; see also Antiquities XX, 24-25. *In my copy of Josephus the first quote is found in Jewish Antiquities, Book I, Chap. 3, Sec. 5.)

3. Epiphanius of Salamis (315-403 A.D.), monk and Bishop of Constantia

"Do you seriously suppose that we are unable to prove our point, when even to this day the remains of Noah's Ark are shown in the country of the Kurds?" As you may know, the Kurd's live on the mountain's lower slopes today. (Oehler's Corpus haereseologicum II/1, Berlin, 1859, pp. 94-95)

4. Chrysostom, patriarch of Constantinople, A.D. 345-407

"Do not the mountains of Armenia testify to it, where the ark rested? And are not the remains of the ark preserved there to this very day for our admonition? (Migne, Patrologiae cursus completus...series graeca LVI cols. 287-88.)

I have only quoted authors in the ancient field- that of our interest.

The most interesting information of all comes from those who have reported that they actually saw and touched the vessel. Discounting on the grounds of historical objectivity the 4th century A.D. story (often repeated) of a monk who obtained a piece of the ark by supernatural means, we come on down the centuries to recent times when the thought of climbing such a holy mountain was not considered impious.

(1) A monk in the 17th century living as a hermit on Mt. Ararat presented to a surgeon who healed him of an infirmity a piece of wood claimed to be from the Ark. The doctor obtained a signed statement from the monk containing the following: "I, myself, entered the Ark and with my own hands cut from the wood of one of its compartments the fragment from which that cross is made."

(2) In the 19th century Archdeacon Nouri, head of the Nestorian church of Malabar, South India, a reputable man, world traveller, versed in many languages, communicated his exploration of Mt. Ararat to Frederick G. Coan, a missionary to Persia with whom he spent a winter about the year 1900. A part of his account is as follows: "At last his trial was rewarded and he stood overwhelmed and awed as he saw the old ark wedged in the rocks and half-filled with snow and ice. He got inside where careful measurements coincided exactly with the account given in the 6th chapter of Genesis."

(3) Living on the East coast in our present day is an Armenian who claims he was taken twice to the ark by his father when a boy living in the Ararat region. John Montgomery includes in his book a transcript of an interview with this man.

(4) In 1916 a Russian airman flying over Mt. Ararat claimed that he observed on one of the slopes of the mountain the remains of an ancient vessel. The

Czar at once organized an expedition which claimed to find the remains in question and which brought back a description of them which confirmed their identification. The report of the expedition, unfortunately, was lost in the Bolshevik revolution of 1917. Many have lampooned the findings of this expedition. However, the results of the research of one investigator have yielded (a)"verifications from relatives and acquaintances of soldiers who were actually on the expedition (b) corroborating information from the author of the original Russian article." Mr. Montgomery spent an afternoon with this author before his decease.

(5) In the late 1930's a New Zealander, Hardwicke Knight, observed the tops of massive rectangular beams above the Lake Kop area on Mt. Ararat.

(6) In the late summer of 1952 George Greene, an American oil pipeline and mining engineer, on a reconnoitering mission for his company, using a helicopter over the northeastern slopes of Mount Ararat, looked down and saw a strange object protruding through the ice. Thinking immediately of the Biblical Ark, he seized his camera and took photographs. After returning to civilization and studying the pictures, he was convinced that they were photos of the Ark. When these pictures were blown up to 8x10 size, the laminated sides of the structure were visible. Montgomery says of George Greene's findings: "The pictures revealed that the boat rested in a 'fault' on the mountain side; and that a high cliff protected it on one side and a sheer dropoff on the other. The glacier in which it was buried had only partially melted away, but about a third of the prow was plainly visible from the air." George Greene attempted to organize an expedition to the mountain, but his attempts were met with indifference on the part of those he wished to enlist. As a result, he then left for British Guyana where he hoped to make a fortune in a mining endeavor. Oddly enough, 10 years after he photographed the Ark he was murdered for his gold and none of his personal possessions have been recovered. However, there is, at least, one individual alive who saw Greene's pictures and verifies the find. The ark is perched as Greene indicated and is flat-bottomed matching the type of ark pictured on the coins of Apameia.

(7) Probably the most historically objective evidence is found in the report of the French amateur explorer, Fernand Navarra, who in 1952 saw the outlines of a vessel under the glacial ice. In 1955 he returned to investigate his find. He was let down through a crevice in the huge glacial ice. After digging down a short distance, he encountered only a dirt moraine and thought for a moment he was the victim of deception in 1952. However, he was encouraged to dig further by those on top of the glacier. When he had broken through the dirt, he came upon a large, tooled beam which he could not loosen. However, he was able to cut a piece of the wood away. It was later analyzed in two different laboratories. The age of the piece according to one determination was 5000 years. Another laboratory considered the fossilized wood to derive from "an epoch of great antiquity". Navarra states: "If the piece I found is indeed from the ark, it belonged to its internal structure, not to its outside panelling or superstructure, which everything leads us to believe were broken apart and dispersed long ago." It is, of course, possible that the hull may yet be intact if we take into account the other sightings.

In this short article, of course, we cannot present all the traditions and evidence, but as I went through the book by Montgomery, and I didn't read all the ascents which went only to the top of the mountain (which the author includes although they are not germane to the subject), I became convinced that something is there on the slopes of Ararat. Most likely, it is the Ark of Noah.

It is strange that more isn't being done towards the confirmation of such a discovery. The author, John Montgomery, recently interviewed on the "Dialing For Dollars" television show in our area, plans a third expedition to the mountain. One problem is that Turkish officials have not been very cooperative with foreign exploration. Too many of Turkey's rich archaeological treasures have been removed to distant lands. In addition, non-Moslems have a tougher time in this area near the troublesome Russian border. We will await the findings of future expeditions with real interest. -C.J.G.



TWIN CITY ANCIENT COIN CLUB



Rodney Olson
President

Charles Gustafson Hon. Sec.
1078 Carrie St. (Tel. 226-5801)
West St. Paul, Minn. 55118

James Buelow
Hon. Treasurer

OCTOBER '73

Our thanks to Oscar and Carol Gibson for an excellent trip to England via colored slides of great beauty and for the informative, succinct tape accompanying. The latter was employed due to Oscar's busy schedule which kept him out of town on club meeting night. Carol was present to remark, however, and answered questions prompted by the pictures and commentary. This same press of business has kept Oscar occupied for this month and therefore your "honorable secretary" steps in again. Don't think this is going to continue to happen as Mr. Gibson assures me that this is his last far-reaching business month in the foreseeable future.

On tap this month is Eschol Broberg, club member, and official photographer for the University of Minnesota expedition to Messenia, Greece. His report with the use of slides promises to be another highlight in our TCACC year. You won't want to miss this glimpse into the ancient world! The time and place is the same: 7:30 P.M. on the 4th Thursday (Oct. 25th) at the Penn Mutual Building on University Avenue in St. Paul.

In addition, thanks are also due to Finch Booker for his brief report (cut short due to the lateness of the hour) on the A.N.A. school at Colorado Springs which he attended last summer. He also has a set of A.N.A. slides picturing "The Coins of Christianity" which we hope to see in November. Our December Christmas party will feature the movie version of the Gibson family trip to England.

Four of our club members (Rod and Joan Olson, Otto Schaden, and myself) are attending The Hoyt Memorial Lectures delivered by Dr. Tom Jones, Regent's Professor of Ancient History, entitled, "The Twilight of Antiquity", on Tuesday evenings at the University of Minnesota. One-half of these lectures are still to be given and you may purchase tickets for individual sessions at the door. Call me if you are interested in more information about it. Otto Schaden and yours truly are also enrolled in Dr. Jones' Ancient Numismatic Seminar which runs throughout the school year. As we all know, there is no substitute for reading, studying, and learning all we can about our most fascinating hobby. Incidentally, a current, very informative book to obtain about the Ancient Numismatic field is "Coins and Archaeology" by Lloyd R. Laing, London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson (5 Winsley Street W1), 1969. In it you will find chapters on coin production techniques, chronology, hoards, coins from excavations, the scientific analysis of coins, coin typology, etc. For instance, in the chapter on Chronology you receive information on ancient dating systems, magisterial dating, die links, sequence marks, stylistic dating, epigraphy, overstrikes, countermarks, metrology, and typology.

Art McCracken, TCACC member and dealer, just returned from a buying tour in England and France. He reports a scarcity of quality ancients and sky-high prices. Interestingly enough, Roman gold is now selling higher than Greek.

Our lead article this month comes from TCACC member, Dick Horst, which is produced in its entirety. We commend the author for his original contribution on the grading of nomisma (vomisma: ancient Greek name for "coin"- "numismatics" derived from it).

GRADING ANCIENT COINS TO SAVE POSTAGE or
YOU DON'T ALWAYS GET WHAT YOU PAY FOR

by

Richard L. Horst

The subject of coin grading is always controversial with diverging opinions on present vs. proposed new standards which never seem to get off the ground. At the risk of offending a few people, I will define coin grading as that inexact science which segregates coins into a finite number of categories according to the wear relative to its as-minted state. Some will immediately notice that this definition does not relate to rarity, scarcity, or value. The author has been a coin collector for over 20 years, this period dating from his first regular purchase for collections, and through experience evolved his own set of grading standards. It has often been said that when an equally knowledgeable buyer and seller grade the same coin they should not, on the average, differ on the grade by more than $\frac{1}{2}$ a regular grade category.

In today's market a $\frac{1}{2}$ grade difference can result in a price differential of 25% or more, a full grade difference may put the price out of sight, while anything greater may be risking financial disaster.

Many ancient coin lists arrive throughout the year, so the author picked one to play an interesting game which he called, "Outguess the Cataloguer". It's easy to play, all one has to do is to pick out your favorite illustrated dealer's list and turn directly to the illustrations of your particular coin series (no fair looking at the descriptions or prices). Without OOhhing and AAhhing over the merits of any particular, grade to your personal grading standard both obverse and reverse of 20 or more coins and write your grade above the illustration. Now turn to the catalog description and write below the illustration the cataloguer's grade. At this point you might try what I did. I concocted the following numerical grade equivalents:

Numerical Grade Table

<u>Condition</u>	<u>Rating</u>	<u>Condition</u>	<u>Rating</u>
Good	0	Very Fine	3
Very Good	1	Extremely Fine	4
Fine	2	FDC	5

The in-between grades such as "About(or almost) GRADE" and "GRADE +" were reckoned at $-\frac{1}{2}$ and $+\frac{1}{2}$ respectively and added to the regular grade.

The numbers were chosen to make the arithmetic simple and could be modified with different weightings per grade or more or less grades. Next a table was made up listing the number of each coin, the equivalent number of the obverse and reverse grades according to my grading and the cataloguer's. Each coin was given an average numerical grade and the difference between the cataloguer's grade and mine was called positive or overgrade if he was higher than me and visa-versa. Rather than describe the arithmetic necessary as the next step, I will describe my results with a group of 24 Roman Imperial bronzes (Sestertii, Asses, Dupondii). Here the term overgraded is not used necessarily in a derogatory way but compares the cataloguer's grading with my personal standard. In 16 cases or $\frac{2}{3}$ of the time the coins were overgraded $\frac{2}{3}$ of a grade category; in the other 8 cases or $\frac{1}{3}$ of the time the coins undergraded $\frac{1}{3}$ of a grade. Overall the standard deviation was $\frac{2}{3}$ of grade difference.

So far nothing to be too alarmed about, but remember we are over the rule of thumb of $\frac{1}{2}$ grade so we should be wary. I decided I should take a closer look at the data to see if there was a plausible explanation for the differences. Ten coins were pre-Hadrian while the other 14 were of Hadrian or later. A count was

made of the coins which were over the $\frac{1}{2}$ grade difference, (those at $\frac{1}{2}$ grade or less being excluded) in each period category. The results were startling but for those who know the series, not unexpected. Five of the first 10 pre-Hadrians were overgraded, while only 3 of the other 14 were overgraded. In other words you stand a 50-50 chance of purchasing an overgraded coin in the first group and also twice the likelihood of one in the first group being overgraded when compared with the second group. Only another statistician would rule out bias on the part of the cataloguer. Those familiar with these coins know that pre-Hadrian coins are more difficult to obtain in decent condition than those of a later date. Since the supply in nice condition is less, naturally the prices are higher. This is all the more reason for the collector to exercise caution lest he let his own grading standards slip.

Try this game on your favorite dealers list, just be sure you are taking a large enough sample (20 or more) to be fair. If you notice a trend toward pronounced overgrading, you will save postage of returning overgraded items by not ordering in the first place. After all you are the one who has to look at your coins until they are sold to someone else, you should be happy with them.

On a one-time basis, the author will handle the arithmetic for any reader who so desires, but you have to do your own grading. To facilitate this, number the coins by lot number in a column, put your obverse and reverse grade in adjacent columns leaving an empty column for an average, then fill in the next two columns with the cataloguers grades, finally leave three empty columns for calculations making sure each column is properly labelled. Send the completed table along with your own numerical-grade equivalent table if you desire to the author c/o Twin City Ancient Coin Club. It is not necessary to mention any dealers names under this system unless you so desire. R.L.H.

.

I issue price lists of better quality Ancient and Foreign coins for sale at 2 month intervals, and I am constantly looking for coins I can buy. Let me know if you have coins for sale. If you want to buy coins, send for a free copy of my latest list.

CHRISTIAN BLOM

Telephone: 914-769-0421

10 Broadway

Hawthorne, New York

10532

.

Ancients, Rome,
Greece, and
European Medieval.
Reasonable prices

Francis J. Rath
P.O. Box 84
Youngstown, New York
14174
.

Consignments accepted
for retail, or auction.
Write for my listings.
Reasonable prices.

Joel L. Malter & Co.
P.O. Box 777
Encino, California

Quality ancient coinage & fine
artifacts. Also, The Journal of
Fine Arts. Subscription: \$6.00/annum.

All special enquiries welcome.

Browsings In Ancient Numismatics

Contributing Source: Life And Leisure In Ancient Rome, by J.P.V.D. Balsdon,
St. Louis: McGraw-Hill, 1969.

In ancient Rome there were no government bonds or equities; wealth, inherited or acquired, was invested in real property where it was safe. Emergencies were handled by having a certain amount of money out at loan which could be called in easily if one needed ready cash. Money was loaned in Rome on good security by

private individuals or money-lenders at a lower rate of interest than banks loan today- sometimes as low as 4%, although in the provinces it was higher, normally 12%.

Wealth was measured in sesterces (the Sestertius coin-Art McCracken told me that these coins are currently the rage with English collectors). To be a town councillor you required 100,000 sesterces, 400,000 to be an Eques, and one million in the Empire to be a senator. Nine to fifteen million sesterces represented comfortable wealth for a senator. The wealthiest men known to us possessed 400,000,000 sesterces.

At the other extreme legionaries (soldiers) received 900 sesterces a year in the early Empire (part of which went into savings) and 12,000 sesterces when they were discharged. According to the New Testament a general laborer (cited in one parable) earned 4 sesterces a day (of course, equal to a denarius). Unfortunately, for the poor, grain, the foundation of living, cost something over 3 sesterces for a modius (a sixth part of a bushel). However, Dr. David McDonald, club member, and teacher of Ancient History at Illinois State College, informed me that in Pompei, about the year 79 AD, a middle class family could live comfortably on 6 or 7 sesterces a day.

Except for times of temporary economic crises, prices were fairly stable in the late Republic and early Empire (soldier's pay was unchanged for a hundred years from Augustus to Domitian, then raised by a third and stable another century until Septimus Severus). After that a galloping inflation set in which makes it impossible to compare figures of income and expenditure. This is why it is difficult to make intelligent comparisons with respect to Diocletian's famous list of prices. From my view of the price list, all we can say is that it must have been tough on the poor in the late Empire.

Hotel-keepers, as a class, in ancient Italy were not well-spoken of. They probably made good money. Varro suggests that a farmer whose property bordered on a main road could substantially increase his income by building a hotel and restaurant on the road (taberna deversoria). An inscription from Aesernia in Samnium gives the specimium of an itemized bill:

Pint of wine, bread:	1 As
Other food	: 2 Asses
Girl for the night	: 8 Asses
Hay for mules	: 2 Asses

This bill has amounted too over 3 sesterces already- better leave out that "girl for the night"- she's expensive in more ways than one. This inscription is from H. Dessau, Inscriptiones Latinae Selectae. I don't at present have a date for the inscription.

On the other hand, in Cisalpine Gaul in the 2nd Century B.C. when food was extremely plentiful and cheap, Polybius (2,15,4-6) tells us that the traveller agreed on terms with the inn keeper on arrival. You could stay for ½ an As a day, everything included.

Cicero bought his own way-side shack- it was little more than that- so not to be a nuisance to his friends for thirty to fifty thousand sesterces. The price of homes was high then as in our present day.

C.J.G.



TWIN CITY ANCIENT COIN CLUB



Rodney Olson.
President.

Charles Gustafson. Hon.Sec.
1078 Carrie St.(Tel.226.5801)
West St. Paul. Minn. 55118.

James Buelow.
Hon. Treasurer.

November. '73.

First, an apology for the belated appearance of this November issue, truth is, business pressures these days, are leaving me with precious little weekend time for other than necessity chores, and unless more help shows up, from the club as a whole, there must be some drastic revisions made to this newsletter schedule. On a more pleasant note, my sincere thanks to the Rev. Gustafson for pitching in as he did, for two months in a row, never have I needed help so much, and Chuck came thru wonderfully, and with what I thought were two of our best newsletters.

Now, with the Holidays almost upon us, you should know that another Xmas party is planned for this year, and unless a last minute disaster occurs, we will be booking our own table at the Lexington, Grand Avenue. St. Paul. for 7. 30 PM. Dec. 28th. Apparently, if we book a private room, as we did last year, we are quite restricted in our choices of meals, and with varying tastes, and pocketbooks, it seemed a better idea to opt for our own table in the main dining area, and avail ourselves of the full menu. We can, and probably will, request a partition, to ensure some degree of privacy, and I expect Jim will offer a nice large Hors d'Oeuvre tray for us to enjoy with our drinks, prior to our meal...After the meal, all members present will be requested to submit their names for a nice Xmas raffle, with three very fine prizes to be given away. Remember, although we encourage you to bring your wives, girl friends etc. this draw will be for paid up members only. We have had several welcome visitors to our club meetings recently, and by paying the annual dues of \$3.00 to Jim, they can of course, get their names in the hat. Now to the important part, we must know how many will attend, and I am asking all those who intend to show up to call one of these numbers before the 20th. Dec.(824. 2824,)or(929, 6688,)

As most of you know, we Gibsons enjoyed a trip to England this late Summer, and it is my regret that I was unable to attend the Sept. meeting to supplement the slides we took in August. I hope you enjoyed them, and that the tape proved adequate to the task. Thanks also, to Chuck once more, for helping out Carroll with the presentation. The weather,(always a worry) proved ideal, and we achieved about 85% of our objectives, so, all in all, it could be considered a successful journey. What a Mecca England is for someone deeply interested in Archaeological work. Hundreds of Roman sites for example, with scores and scores still untouched, so many in fact, that when one is sometimes discovered, as in building or roadwork excavations, work is only halted for a few brief months to cull some artifacts, date, and identify the building sites., record and photograph, and the work continues. Sadly enough, generally burying for the foreseeable future, any hope of further research. Callous as this may seem, there appears little alternative, the island has too many people and too little space, for any serious effort to preserve these remnants of the past, unless of great historical worth. Remember, the Romans were in Britain for over 300 years, sometimes building on fresh sites, but quite often enlarging on contemporary settlements.

This then, preceeded by the iron age relics, and followed by Dane, Viking, Saxon, and Norman invasions has left a very rich legacy, something like a fancy french layer cake, most attractive to the eye and mind, but for most, much too filled with calories to digest, except in small portions....For those of you who may wish to look deeply into this ancient opulance, the Director General, Ordnance Survey, Romsey Road, Maybush, Southampton. SO9 4DH. England., offers a fine selection of Ordnance publications. We bought one, entitled "Roman Britain" for less than \$3.00, which pin-points all known sites up to 1956, and also containing a wealth of extra material on related subjects. The mind will boggle on viewing the mass of markings all over the map, and you'll be tempted to rush out for a 'plane ticket and perhaps a metal detector. Just to illustrate how plentiful and commonplace the remains are, we did visit a small town, purported to contain some Roman remains, and were told that the only remains, in situ, was a fine Roman pavement in mosiac. However, unfortunately, it was in someone's house, in fact, it was the floor of his kitchen! We were further told he did'nt appreciate callers. This quaint story deserves belief, as it was told us, (straight faced) by the custodian of the local museum, a dear old lady in her late '60s, and apparently not addicted to fishing stories....As far as our coin buying expeditions are concerned, we really drew a blank, but this we expected, we can but rarely afford US prices these days, and England, 'tho cheaper than West Germany or the King of them all, Switzerland, is still about 30% higher than here. We took a varied batch of Greek and Roman coins with us, to use as possible trading items, should we spy, or covet something exotic and out of our reach, but sad to say, most of our coins were more attractive than the commercial offerings on display, so they all came back with us. We did buy a nice Roman Republican in Spinks, overpriced I felt, but we rationalized by considering it a souvenir, anyway it was one I've always wanted.

On an ordinary shopping spree, enriched by the current IRA fun game of leaving bombs around in the stores, we found an intriguing basement shopping Arcade in New Bond Street, and low and behold, a little shop with some Roman artifacts for sale. We ended up with a nicely patinated fibula (again overpriced, but bought by the same rationale). Finally, and trying not to feel like a satisfied homing pigeon, the trip was well worthwhile, the flowers seemed prettier and more profuse than usual, and it looks as if I will have to take a Mid-Winter journey one of these years, to reduce the distinct Anglophile tendencies in Carroll. One amusing anecdote before closing, on the Roman site in Cirencester, Carroll picked up a very badly decayed nail, and since the official word has it, that no settlement had been known in this area since the Romans, she logically concluded that this could be a Roman nail. By the way, she was able to bring away from the diggings a nice piece of red tile from the Roman hypocaust (they were throwing small fragments into a dump). So, armed with her treasures, she was determined to get something from the horses mouth, so to speak, and decided to take the nail to the British Museum on our next call. (We had set up an appointment with Mr. Carson, in the Coins and Medals dept:) So...the nail went with us, and after the Carson session, and sundry enquiries, she entered the Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities, and apparently after telling her story of its origin, was side-tracked to the Roman Britain dept: With this directive, we started our search for the said dept: with but an hour before the staff packed up for the day. This was quite a task, plus some needed persuasion to inspire various uniformed attendants of the importance of our quest, and then to operate strange little elevators that led to tiny secret rooms, but finally we were ushered into the said dept: Politely enough received, and listened to, but another blank, it seemed no one in such a speciality was around, in fact he was "out to tea!", ah! I was home indeed, no matter that the day was almost at an end, "out to tea", so the advice was, if we really wanted to know something about that nail today, it was recommended that we return hot foot to whence we came, explain why we were back, and throw ourselves on the mercy and wisdom of the Dept: of Greek & Roman Antiquities. I was ready by then to forget the whole thing, but Carroll is made of sterner stuff, so clutching her very precious nail, we charged back through the press of August visitors, en route for base one. This time I stayed outside again, spending about 20 minutes listening to the woes of one of the guards, who was spending an hour each night looking for bombs from Ulster.

Finally, I became impatient and curious, and peeked into the Holy of Holies, just in time! Carroll was walking down a corridor with a strange expression on her face, she was holding in front of her, an ornate dark red plush cushion, and reposed thereon, dead centre and looking very small and crummy, was her little nail! Some of my original doubt dissolved on seeing the regal treatment the nail was getting, and I returned to my wait with more patience...Finally she reappeared, looking somewhat chastened I thought, and I hastened to ask the verdict. "He brought it back to me", she started, looking a little put out, and said, "it's a nail!, what more can I say?". ..I felt a mite sorry for her, this was not the way it should have ended, and I'm tempted to believe that the visit was not treated with the interest and respect it deserved. I'm sure they're overloaded with this sort of thing, but still.....Of course, it was also closing time, and maybe he had completely missed his teabreak, due to an unending succession of rusty nails, but still..

Eskil Broberg, (you see, I know how to spell your name) I almost forgot to thank you for your very interesting slides in October. See what you can rake out of the old U of M, I bet they have many delightful items we would enjoy, and thanks again.

.....
ANCIENT ARTS.

Ancient coins and fine Antiquities.

Bruce Braun.

Free lists.

P.O. Box. 2728 Amherst Station. Buffalo. New York. 14226.

Alex G. Malloy.

PO. Box. 38.

South Salem. New York. 10590.

Write for a free listing of our ancient coins, medieval coins, ancient art, and varied antiquities.

When in New York, please visit our galleries at 595 Madison Avenue. (57th Street)

Hours. Mon-Sat. 10.30 - 5. 30.

Did you hear about the archaeologist, who believed in teaching his children the artifacts of life?

See you on Thursday November 29th. same place, same time, when I believe the chair will be taken by Finch Booker, with a program of ANA slides. It should be worthwhile.

HGG.

P.S. We still have the nail, any offers?.

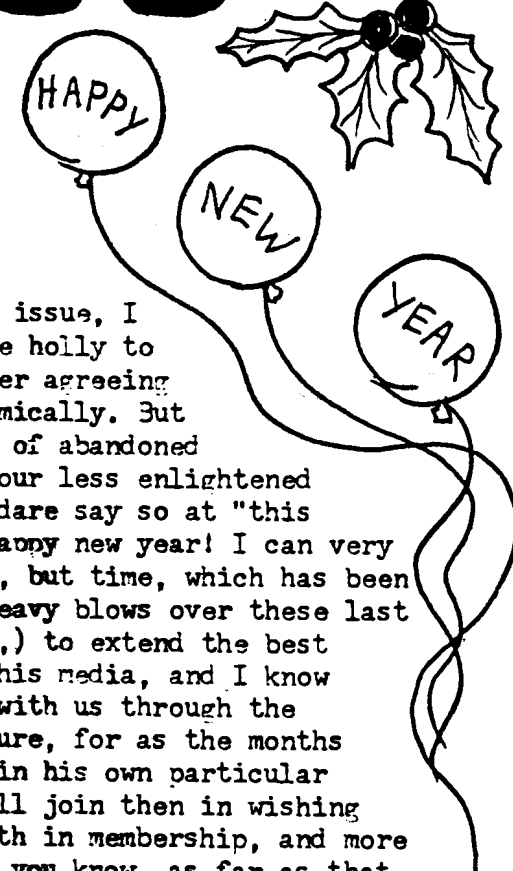
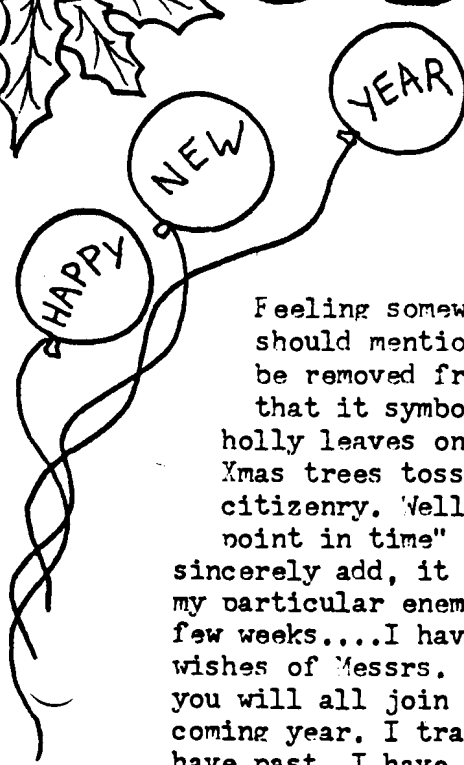


TWIN CITY ANCIENT COIN CLUB

12/73



December. 1973.



Feeling somewhat shamefaced at the lateness of this issue, I should mention that my first step was to ask for the holly to be removed from this front page, Carroll and I earlier agreeing that it symbolised the season both neatly and economically. But holly leaves on Dec 31st? a little like the sad sight of abandoned Xmas trees tossed in the gutter each year by some of our less enlightened citizenry. Well, as you see we compromised, and if I dare say so at "this point in time" we wish you a merry Christmas, and a happy new year! I can very sincerely add, it was intended as a Christmas newsletter, but time, which has been my particular enemy for so much of this year, dealt me heavy blows over these last few weeks....I have been asked,(or should say, was asked,) to extend the best wishes of Messrs. Olson, Gustafson, and Buelow, through this media, and I know you will all join with me, in hoping they will continue with us through the coming year. I transmit their message with special pleasure, for as the months have past, I have got to know them very well,. for each in his own particular manner has contributed much to our little club. Let us all join then in wishing that the coming year will give us a continued growth, both in membership, and more important, knowledge...Thinking about that for a moment, you know, as far as that goes, it could well be that in the days ahead, when ancient coin prices have almost driven us out of the market, this may be the catalyst that forces on us more time for study, and less urge for the coin hunting. I for one, have several pieces that deserve more attention, some unknowns, and many only partly attributed, and since the beginning, never enough time to completely catalogue our collection. Although I rarely find anything emanating from Washington these days, that I can agree with, I must concede that the statement concerning our multitude of shortages, and wherein we are reminded that we may end up with a better perspective, as well as a deeper appreciation of our blessings, contains much wisdom, and could well apply to our collection of ancients, however humble that may be. So...stop crying over that lost Nero, that sold for almost double its estimated retail, and get that book off the shelf.

The Christmas party went off, as planned, with about 22 in attendance, and the three book prizes went to Messrs. Wheelock, Schaden, and Gustafson. I had hoped for more, but dear old Minnesota may have caused some to stay near the hearth, we were riding on the tailings of a bad snow storm, and as a compensation, the bottom was dropping out of the thermometer. However, it went off quite well, and we Spartans are already looking forward to the next social.(I didn't see an ancient coin in sight, but today's prices in the eating emporiums, brought out "diver's talents".)

.....

The biblical period.

Abraham, (c.1500 BC) lived in a period of transition between the use of cattle and weighted quantities of gold or silver as a method of payment. In Genesis.21: 28-30, "Abraham set seven ewe lambs of the flock....." in connection with the payment to Abimelech in Beersheba. Gen.13:2 shows that wealth was measured both by cattle and metal. Abraham was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in golds." When he paid for the cave of Machpelah, he used 400 shekels of silver as payment. (Gen 23: 15-16). The shekel weighed 8.4 grams. The half shekel was also called the bekah. (Gen 24:22; Ex 38:26) The gerhah was a 20th of a shekel (Ex 30:13) Larger units were the kikkar which was 3000 shekels, and the maneh which was 50 shekels. These larger units were apparently used for accounting purposes rather than actual weights or coins. The shekel became a coin denomination during the second Temple period. (c. 400 B.C.E.)

Earliest Coins.

The earliest coins discovered in Palestine were Greek coins from Athens, Thrace, and Macedon from the second half of the 6th century and the first half of the 5th century. In the late 5th and 1st half of the 4th century, Palestine was under Persian rule, and Phoenician coins especially from Sidon and Tyre circulated in the north, and along the coastal strip down to Jaffa. During the 4th century a small number of minute coins with the inscription "Yehud" were struck, most likely under the authority of the Persian Governor. The design of these coins imitated Greek coins. During the 3rd century BC. Palestine was ruled by the Ptolemies and the mints were then located in Acre, Jaffa, Askelon, and Gaza. After the battle of Panias in 198 BCE, the Ptolemies were defeated by the Seleucids. They used mints in Acre, Askelon, and Gaza. These Greek coins were circulated until the first coins of the Hasmoneans were minted.

The Hasmonean Dynasty. (135-37 BCE)

The right to issue coinage was given to Simeon, the first independent Hasmonean ruler (142-135) by Antiochus VII, according to the account in I Maccabees 15:2-9. However, this right- along with many other privileges, was rescinded (I Maccabees 15:27) Furthermore, no coins of Simeon have ever been found. The bulk of the Hasmonean coins were of the small bronze denomination, the perutah, or dilepton. There were some half perutah or leptons also. Most of the emblems- the anchor, cornucopia, wreath, flower, star and helmet, were copied from emblems found on late issues of Seleucid coins. Undoubtedly, the first Hasmonean to issue coins was Alexander Yannai (103-76 BCE) All hasmonean coins bear Hebrew inscriptions, written in what was even then an archaic script. Some coins, in addition, have Greek inscriptions. The Hebrew legend almost always follows the formula, "(name) the High Priest, Chever of the Jews". The only place where the term "Chever of the Jews" appears, is on Hasmonean coins, so the meaning is somewhat unclear, but presumably it referred to a council or assembly associated with the ruler.

H. Brin.

.....

Thank you Howard. Let's have some more offerings, and on that subject, let me mention, that at our November meeting, some resolutions were passed, that may make my future writing chores more bearable. By a strong show of hands vote, it was resolved that the year 1974 should produce an experiment, and that we, the TCACC will offer a series of cash prizes for the best articles received. These articles to be from members of the TCACC, and over the course of the year 1974. Originally, it was thought that a prize of \$50.00 should go to the year's best offering, but this was amended to 3 prizes of \$30.00, \$15, and \$5.00, for the best three. Personally, I feel that the first should still be \$50.00, I know only too well the amount of work necessary to produce something worth reading.

I am therefore hoping that funds will allow a really nice cash award. You will be the judges, and we will probably arrive at the winner with a poll, after the November issue. This will allow the awards to be given at the Xmas dinner. 400 words for a minimum, with 1200 for a maximum. Subject of course, ancient coinage, or a related subject. Set your own boundaries, the content can be light hearted, easy reading, or heavily scholastic, remember the club members will be asked to state, which 3 articles, during the course of 1974, did they enjoy the most. If you feel it is imperative to supplement with any illustrative work, contact your officers, and we will help all we can. I will not be competing, not, I hasten to add, because of a mistaken feeling of superiority, but, as editing may sometimes be necessary, and since I am apparently placed in that unenviable chair, my position would be, at the best, somewhat delicate. At any rate, I will receive a fine enough reward in getting some meat into this under nourished carcass, we call a newsletter. So...go to it, choose your favourite topic, or special interest, get those books down off the shelf, or from the "U", take another look at the coins, and start note taking.

Remember, January's meeting will be on the 24th, at the same address, and the tentative plans are for a very interesting talk, Dave Sims, one of our members, being a Latin teacher, intends to expound on the Latin of the Roman years, its use in coin inscriptions, with the special meanings behind some of the legends. Bring your notebooks, you will probably have a good primer on reading those sometimes puzzling coins. 7.30. PM.

Greetings to the first two new members for 1974. Michio Shimizu, and Father Kelchak. May your stay with us be a fruitful one, both in friendship and knowledge.

Those of you with coins of Biblical interest, might want to get into touch with Rev. Gustafson. He has been asked to provide help to a Jewish organisation, that wishes, among other things, to have a small display of your type of coinage. He would like to discuss possible pieces, and hopes also for some help in explaining the exhibit. Please call him at ac. 612. 226 5801 if you want to help, he will provide all details. By the way, he has assured me the coins will be adequately protected with a police guard..

If Augustus Caesar had ever seen the results of an obscure part of his year 8 BC Census, he might have noticed the names; Joseph Ben Jacob: Carpenter. Mary Beth-Joachim, his wife, and Yesua, or Jesus: first born son. The chances are practically negligible that the Augustus ever saw this portion of the census. Even when Augustus was dying in the year 14 AD. he would never have heard of Jesus, an apprentice carpenter of Nazareth. How astounded Augustus would be today to know his own death is dated Anno Domini 14, (in the year of the Lord) instead of 767 A.U.C. (Ad.Urb.Condita) (from the founding of the city) and that instead of people greeting each other with the words, "Io Saturnalia" denoting the great year end festival of the Romans, they are saying to one another, the words, "Merry Christmas", and all because of an unknown subject born in his reign.

Merry Christmas, and a happy new Year!
Rev. Chas. Gustafson.

Thank you Chuck, and my regrets that your greeting left us so late, however, I'm sure that time will not lessen the meaning or the intent, and so, a Merry Christmas to you too, and the happiest of New Years to all in the TCACC.

H.G.G.

Ancient Coins.
P.O. Box. 7015.

Harvey Hurtt. Prop.
Berkeley. California. 94707.

Thanks to the success of Sale 11, we are planning sale 12, but we need consignments! Sort out those coins you may no longer want, and support the auction. Remember, what you have for sale, may be just what someone else wants. Do it now, and if you don't get my list send me your name, and address.

H.H.

TWIN CITY ANCIENT COIN CLUB

1/74



Rodney O. Olson.
President.

Chas. J. Gustafson. Hon. Sec.
1078 Carrie Street. (226 5801)
West St. Paul. Minn. 55118.

Jim A. Buelow.
Hon. Treasurer.

January, 1974.

If I may start out with a word of praise, I think January's meeting was a heck of a good start for the new year. Dave Sims, who held the stand, produced a fine concise lecture on the meaning of the Latin inscriptions, as found on Roman coinage, in particular, dwelling on the common abbreviations, and this in turn, well supplemented by some excellent ancient coin slides. The whole show must have given some impetus to some of our newer collectors, and also provided some extra value to some of us who should know it all by now, but too often living with mis-conceptions, sometimes on the most elementary level. Thank you Dave, I hope you come back again with more of the same. For those of you who missed this lecture, and also of interest to those who didn't, further along in this newsletter we have an article from Dave, on the same subject, a worthy beginning to our first competition year. Please remember to retain your '74 copies if you will, we will be asking you in December to name the winners, and don't let us down, someone will have deserved your interest, and the reward!

For February, we have the welcome return of Otto Schaden, naming him, if I may, our very own resident Egyptologist. He will be talking about two field trips to Nubia, both of which he participated in, enhanced also, I believe, with some fine colour slides, as most of this area is lost, perhaps for ever under water, there must surely be a note of sadness to such a review. Don't miss it, ... same place ... 7.30 PM. Feb. 28th.

After the January meeting, we held a small auction of coins, provided in the main, by Dave MacDonald and Jim Buelow, but I'm sorry to add, the response, to say the least, was generally lack lustre! Some coins never got off the ground! Those that did, rarely moved far from the reserve minimum. I know we had some of our stronger buyers missing that night, but nevertheless, the whole effort was a mite disappointing. I wonder if we should consider some ground rules to get back the earlier enthusiasm, these sales engendered? Suggestion! since we have no indoor meetings in June, July, or August, we are left with nine meetings per year. How about three months set aside for auctions? (these, of course in addition to any planned meeting) For example, January, April, and October? I feel there would be many benefits, more coins should show up through a natural accumulation, more time would be available for 'weeding out' and if we set up special months, it might ensure heavy attendance of the buyers, thereby making it worthwhile for a dealer or two to mail in some offerings. I would like this suggestion put to the vote in February, please think about it.

Under the aegis of the Minn. Soc; Archaeological Institute of America, Professor John E. Coleman will be giving an illustrated lecture in the Auditorium, Museum of Natural History. U. of M. 8.30 PM. Feb. 6th. The title, "Excavations at Elean Pylos". John E. Coleman, who holds his Ph.D. degree from the University of Cincinnati, is an assistant Prof. of Classics at Cornell U. He has worked in the field on the island of Keos, Greece, and is responsible for the publication of Kephala in Keos. He was the director of the salvage excavations at Elean Pylos, Greece, which were sponsored by the U. of Colorado on behalf of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens.

*Hi lower there.
Waiting for your letter.
Have fun and good hunting
Carol*

This site was threatened by partial inundation from a large storage dam. Most of the architectural remains date to the classical period...The lecture is open to the public, and there is no charge for admission. For those of you with time to spare, this may well be a most interesting evening.

.....

Some notes on Roman coin inscriptions.

All too often, students, even those who have diligently learned the rules of Latin grammar, experience initial difficulty in reading the legends of Roman coins. To forestall their chagrin and patent disappointment, I have developed a thumbnail sketch of Roman history with a discussion of some of the more common abbreviations of imperial titles and offices.

Historically the concept of King was extremely distasteful to the Romans, and to be labeled "kingly" was the political kiss of death for aspiring candidates. For centuries, Rome had been a republic in which annually elected magistrates had administered the state and commanded the armies with the help of the Senate, the body of ex-magistrates. There had also been an assembly of citizens to pass new laws and decide on war and peace. The change began during the first century BC, when the republican system failed to cope with the task of managing a growing empire and controlling the armies needed to defend that empire. Over the years, real power had gradually slipped away from the people of Rome and the Senate, and had become concentrated in the hands of about twenty families who then dominated the magistracies, the governorships of the provinces, and the influential priesthoods. A major factor in their monopoly of power and prestige was their successful exploitation of the social bond between patrons and clients; through this custom they had built up a network of dependance which tied to themselves, not only individuals, but cities and even whole provinces. Thus it was fairly easy for powerful individuals from these families to gain control of military forces and to use them in the violent struggles for supremacy. The last round in the long series of conflicts was between Anthony and Octavian, from which the latter emerged triumphant after the sea battle of Actium in 31 BC.

Supported by the army and the Senate, Octavian who was later to be called Augustus, took command of the State. Helped also by efficient propaganda and the talent of such poets as Virgil and Horace, he tried to ensure that there would be no return to the civil strife which had torn the republic apart. He embarked on a program of social and economic restoration, and the old patrician families personally lost their influence permanently. Positions of responsibility began to be filled by men of ability, regardless of birth. In the interest of stability however, Augustus felt it would be unwise to dismantle the old system completely, so he retained the Senate and preserved the magistracies, while keeping them firmly under his personal control. Officially, the republic was restored with Augustus as its first citizen, "princeps". Under him the Empire enjoyed peace and a growing prosperity. When he died in AD 14, the system he had created, the principate, survived, even though he was succeeded by a number of less able emperors, some of whom were eccentric and incompetent.

After the establishment of the principate, most emperors had to deal with similar problems: external wars, a large army to be controlled, officers and officials whose loyalty had to be retained, as well as a civilian population which had to be kept peaceable and content. To do all this required not only personal ability but also propaganda to best present the emperor to the world as a successful ruler, and as the legitimate successor to duly constituted authority. Coinage therefore, by its high visibility in daily life provided one of the best vehicles not only for parading the titles and honors of an emperor to common view, but also to convey official attitude.

Consider now a sestertius of Domitian. A realistic bust of the emperor is surrounded by the letters IMPDOMITIANCAESDIVIVSPAVGPMTRPPPCOS VIII. You will recognise Domitian, (Domitianus) and before that the letters IMP, short for "imperator". This title signifying his command of the armed forces; in practice he ruled the provinces through officers nominated by him, but took credit for any military successes they might have.

Following his name comes CAES (Caesar), a title which was derived from the family of C. Julius Caesar, the grand uncle and adoptive father of Octavian. Domitian was not a member of this family, but the title was a useful link with the past. In the next group of letters observe AVG (Augustus) first; another link with the past. This was the name given to the first emperor because it had strong religious overtones suggesting things sacred and venerable. This title is associated closely with DIVI VESP F; (divi Vespasiani filius) and P M (Pontifex Maximus) by which he announces himself as the son of Vespasian, regarded as divine (divus) after his death, and as the chief priest of Rome's official religion. Finally come the titles which record his concern for the Roman people. He had been invested with "tribunicia potestas" (TR P); this meant that he was given the powers of tribune, whose duty it was to protect the common people and who had the authority to veto senatorial action contrary to their (or his) interests. He was also "pater patriae" (PP), father of his country, which sounds comforting and secure, and had been consul eight times (COS VIII). Traditionally, the consulship represented the supreme command of the Roman state. Two consuls were elected annually who could not hold office again before the passage of a decade.

The reverse of the coin continues the message of security and prosperity with a female figure holding an olive branch and a horn of plenty, surrounded by the legend PAX AVGVST (A). Officially at least, the coin was issued by the senate as indicated by the SC (Senatus consulto). Although the abbreviations may vary in length (TR P, TRIB P, TRIB POT, TRIB POTES, and TRIBVN POTES are all known to exist), the ones discussed are the most common and the ones usually seen. Personal names, personifications, and propaganda deserve a fuller treatment than received here, if the subject is not to be exhausted, but I worry about the reader's patience.

D.Sims.

.....
Thank you Dave, and I don't think you have to worry. This was a nice primer, and I hope you have time for more. Talking of primers, will the seasoned collector forgive me for a moment, if I add a word or two to the new ancient collector....I'm sure you're puzzled at times by catalogue description, for example; Nero Den. Laur.hdr.R.Nero rad.std facing holdg.branch and Victory. C45.RIC42.BMC 60.VF/F.r.Translated; into a Nero issue, a denarius Laureated head, (shown wearing a laurel wreath or crown). Reverse side of coin; Nero is seen standing with head radiate, (a spiky headdress of radiate points) holding a branch and in the field of the coin, a figure (generally winged) of Victory. This coin will be catalogued under Nero in Cohen's wonderful work, #45. It will also be found in Mattingly & Sydenham's "Roman Imperial Coins", Nero, #42, and finally in the famous British Museum Catalogue; Nero Den# 60. The obverse is listed as very fine, with the reverse as fine only. This is a usual condition ratio, as the obverse is generally in better condition than the reverse. The obverse being the lower die to achieve the best relief (the ruler's head) while the reverse was the hammer die, which often became dished into a concave in an attempt to drive a fine portrait relief. The little "r" denotes the degree of rarity, reaching among the extremely scarce items into three or four "r"s. Recent years has seen a "scarce" condition noted, indicating a little less than a "r" state, but meant to suggest, well....almost rare! Don't bother with the rrrr types, you'll need a FHA loan. Perhaps some more on abbreviations in another issue, as space allows.

.....
The ugly head of 1974 dues is just over the horizon. March issues will be the last ones mailed, except to paid up members. Remember \$3.00 should be mailed to Rev. Gustafson and you can make your checks payable to the T.C.A.C.C. We are only asking for enough to cover costs, what else is available at cost these days? Seriously, what a bargain!

.....
Welcome to new members Tom Beniak and Don Erickson, stay with us, and help us build this little group of ancient coin collectors into a worthy club, as mentioned at the January meeting, I doubt whether there's more than a dozen such clubs around the country, and I know for a fact there's no such organisation in England. Help us keep this one alive and well please.

H.G.G.



TWIN CITY ANCIENT COIN CLUB



Rodney Olson
President

Charles Gustafson Hon. Sec.
1078 Carrie St. (Tel. 226-5801)
West St. Paul, Minn. 55118

James Buelow
Treasurer

March, 1974

Ὁ Γραμματεὺς τίμιος, Mr. Gustafson, τοῖς ἐν Συναγωγῇ τῆς Ἀρχαίων Νόμισματων, χαίρειν. Excuse the Koine Greek greeting but it is my way of acclimating you to the subject of next Thursday evening: Greek coin epigraphy. The foregoing translated is as follows: "The honorable scribe to those in the assembly of the ancient coins, greeting." Mr. Jean F. Aubineau, underwater diver and archaeologist, who was originally scheduled for this month, reports that his slides have not yet arrived from London. He has been rescheduled to the month of May. Richard A. Olson, professor at St. Olaf's College, one of the world's leading authorities on Parthian coins, will be with us in April.

This month's meeting will not be as previously announced in the Jewish Community Center, but rather in our regular meeting place at the Penn Mutual Building, 1276 University Avenue in St. Paul, at 7:30 P.M. Besides the discussion on Greek coin epigraphy, auction items of books and coins are especially welcome, and there will be a decision made on the club's participation in the American Numismatic Society and the American Numismatic Association. Art McCracken has received a new hoard of Greek ancients from England and hopes to have them available for viewing and purchase that evening. Be prepared for some stiff prices!

News and Musings. My wife and I and Otto Schaden saw the film, "Chariots of The Gods". Otto will insert an article next month showing drawings from Deir El Bahari refuting certain statements made about Egypt's monuments in the film.Did you hear about the theft of ancient coins in California three months ago. The grapevine tells us that most of the material has been recovered and that three men are in custody including someone from the Twin City area.Howard Brin reports that Joel Malter just returned from a buying trip in Israel. He was going to send Howard a batch of coins- now it is just a price list and no deals! The rising cost of our hobby is pushing all but the wealthy out of the market.David MacDonald has been rummaging the libraries of Chicago trying to finish for publication his work on the coins of Aphrodisias, Caria. He will publish in the Numismatic Chronicle of the Royal Numismatic Society.Yours truly is enjoying his new membership in the ANS which has just brought Numismatic Literature for March, 1974, to my home. Among the articles noted in the Greek section was an odd one affirming that the tribute penny Jesus saw was not the denarius of the Greek text but a bronze coin of Herod Philip. Way Out! I have also purchased a monograph from the society in which Colin Kraay, Margaret Thompson, and Otto Morkholm analyze about 2400 Greek coin hoards. This is an excellent work, but quite expensive.A number of our TCACC people are members of the ANA. I'm not going to attempt to publish their names at this time because some may be left out. Next month, perhaps, Oscar can communicate their identity.Finally, remember the transitoriness of all material things. Fifty years from now our collections will be in the hands of others, and to coin Ecclesiastes, who knows if they will be wise or foolish.

Our thanks to Mr. Otto Schaden, Egyptologist from the University of Minnesota,

and club member, for his informative presentation via slides on his excavations in Nubia. Our lead article this month is his reminder of that stimulating session.

Nubia

The area of Nubia covers primarily the lands between the first and third cataracts of the Nile, that is, from Aswan to roughly Kerma. The land, even before the old Aswan dams and the most recent new dam, was never a major agricultural area. Only limited cultivated areas existed along the Nile, and in many places the desert reached as far as the banks of the river. As in Egypt proper, the bulk of the population existed along the river. One should visualize the Nile as a thin ribbon of water cutting a path through the Sahara Desert.

Nubia was never really considered an integral part of ancient Egypt, though at various times it was under Egyptian influence and/or control. About 5000 B.C., the culture of Nubia and Egypt was identical. But as Egypt progressed into the "historic" period with the invention of writing, a more elaborate political structure, monumental architecture and the like, Nubia lagged behind. Within 400 years or so, Egypt's pharaonic civilization was in full bloom in the Old Kingdom or Pyramid Age. Meanwhile, Nubia slipped into a more primitive culture than had existed earlier. The Egyptians in the Pyramid Age eventually became interested in exploration and trade with their poorer neighbors to the south.

The next major phase of Egyptian history was the Middle Kingdom, ca. 2000-1770 BC. At this time Nubia had gained some strength, but fell under direct Egyptian control nonetheless. Of vital importance to the pharaohs was the discovery of gold in Nubia. In fact, the term "Nubia" is from the ancient Egyptian term nb or nbw, Coptic NOYB, which means "gold". To protect Egyptian interests in the gold and other products, a series of forts was set up between the first and second cataracts. Until the recent flooding of this area, many of these forts survived, and most have been excavated before their final inundation. Some of the slides in my presentation were from the ancient fort "Repulsing the Medjay", excavated by the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago in the early 1960's.

In the New Kingdom, ca. 1560-1000 BC, Nubia was still a main source of gold. Egyptian control reached as far south as Napata in the fourth cataract area. Nubia was quite "Egyptianized" then and only a few of the forts were in operation. A series of massive temples were erected in Nubia. Over a dozen of them date to the time of Ramses II (ca. 1290-1223 BC). Despite what appears to have been a busy temple-building schedule, it has been recently proposed that the population of Nubia was rapidly dwindling. By the end of the New Kingdom period, remains from Nubia are very scant.

In the late 8th century BC, Nubian rulers, still very Egyptian in culture and outlook, actually conquered Egypt. Their rule was not very long-lived, for the Assyrians had the same interest. The Assyrians drove out the Nubian rulers and held Egypt briefly. Meanwhile, the Nubians withdrew up river, that is, southwards, and became somewhat isolated from the events in Egypt. In this position, they continued their adopted Egyptian culture, but it gradually lost much of its Egyptian flavor and took on more local characteristics. In fact, there are more pyramids in Nubia than in Egypt proper, though they are of smaller size and cruder construction. This Nubian culture had retreated to the fourth cataracts and beyond, for when the Roman Emperor Nero sent some troops to explore the Nile south of Aswan, they reported seeing virtually nothing.

The Romans held Egypt since Augustus' time, and some of the Nubian tribes eventually became quite irksome to the Romans as Nubia became more populated in the 3rd-4th centuries. Foremost of these tribes was the Blemmyes. Numerous tombs and artifacts of a people now called the "X-group" may represent these Blemmyes. The term "X" signifies the unknown name of these peoples. Several groups, especially the Nobatai and Blemmyes, may be these "X-group" peoples. At any rate, the Nobatai were eventually Christianized and conquered the

Blemmyes. At this point, we are more in the realms of medieval history.

The new waters of Lake Nasser now cover the ancient shorelines of Nubia. Perhaps peoples will begin moving back to settle on the shores of the new Nubia. Some antiquities have been lost in the process, but without the Aswan dams, there would have been very little research in Nubia. Because of the threats of rising waters, Nubia has been more extensively excavated and studied than most parts of Egypt propre.

I have not yet had a chance to see the new Nubia, but I am most grateful that I have lived several winters of my life in the old Nubia.

-Otto Schaden

The following article is presented as an introduction to Greek coin epigraphy. Even those who have had New Testament Greek in Seminary, consisting as it does of mostly small letters, may have to become acclimated to the capitals for they are in predominance on the Greek coins. One should familiarize himself also with the forms of Greek case usage both in the singular and plural. One should be prepared to deal with abbreviations, a characteristic, as we all know, of the Roman coins. He should know the letter values of the Greek alphabet and have a knowledge of the variety of dating systems in the ancient world in order to date his pieces. He should realize that certain letters are not always represented in the same way. For instance, the C is often substituted for the Σ , sometimes the Γ for the full Π , and the V for the Y. The Greek coin collector should also recognize the various stages through which the Greek language passed from the classical to the koine. Finally, the Greek numismatist should know the Greek equivalents of the abbreviations and titles of the Roman offices so often represented on the coins. A standard Greek lexicon will help him identify these titles. The best in the business is the 7th Edition of Liddell and Scott with supplement, Oxford Press, 1968.

-C.J. Gustafson

Note: the above article would have been illustrated had not the needs of getting to press dictated otherwise. This Thursday we can explore it further.

TWIN CITY ANCIENT COIN CLUB

4/74



Rodney Olson.
President.

Charles Gustafson. Hon sec.
1078 Carrie St. (Tel. 226 5801)

James Buelow.
Hon Treasurer.

April. '74.

Right off the bat, my thanks to Rev. Gustafson for taking care of this newsletter over the last three months, or was it two? I have been in such a whirl lately, spinning around the country on the corporate merry-go-round, half the time, I don't know whether I'm coming or going. This then is the reason for my paucity of reportage, not intentional, but entirely unavoidable. For this reason, I am appealing once more for items of interest for members, from all and sundry; articles, comments, criticisms, questions, answers, appeals for help, want ads', or even 'have ads'. Just try to help Gus keep this thing going for the sake of all of you. We've built up a nice little group over the last couple of years, and I seriously believe that this humble sheet has contributed strongly towards that end, don't let it slip because I am temporarily out of time.

.....
This little club requires the humble sum of \$3.00 per person, per annum, we generally try to collect this sum from each member in the first three months of each year, in return, an annual membership card is issued, which acts as a numbered receipt. Due to the reasons already stated, which have also kept me from several meetings, we are lax this year, not only in collecting this fee, but also in handing out membership cards. If you have paid for 1974, please ask the Rev. Gustafson to complete and issue you with your '74 card. If you have not yet paid, please pay cash or check to either Gus, or Jim Buelow. Checks should be made out to the Twin City Ancient Coin Club. Normally we would make this the last issue of the year for delinquents, but due to my own neglect in lack of follow thru' the May copy will be the final mailing for those not paid up. No profit is sought, from these subscriptions, we need money for envelopes, stamps, and sometimes for copying exes. Anything left over is disbursed at Christmas time, for door prizes, refreshments, and (hopeful as always) a couple of nice awards for the best articles received this year of 1974. So please, get cracking, squeeze out that 3 bucks, and let's get this thing in business once more, it's your club, pay for it, and start using it.

.....
I believe last month's meeting was involved in a cancellation, which caused Chuck to pinch hit with a short address on the dating of early Greek coinage, and this was followed by a fairly successful auction, thanks to all that made this possible. I am informed that there is a nice treat in store for all attendees this coming Thursday. Dr. Richard Olson, of St. Olaf's College, Northfield, Minn. will be your distinguished visitor, and since I hear he is one of the foremost experts on the coins of Parthia, you should be in for a very special treat. Remember the date. April. 25th, same place, same time. Any visitors, or possible new members, always welcome. Just call the above number for further information.

.....
We have all noticed the plethora of paperbacks on the 'we're not alone theme' 'Gods from Outer space', 'Chariots of the Gods', etc. etc. I've counted over a dozen being offered, with more, I'm sure on the way. Fascinating stuff, much of it dealing with startling theories on early human contacts with other entities so long ago, it makes our ancient coin study look like a new upstart. What has caused this interest? and I would like to hear some ideas on the subject. Maybe it's the end product of our growing awareness of space, as a tangible frontier.

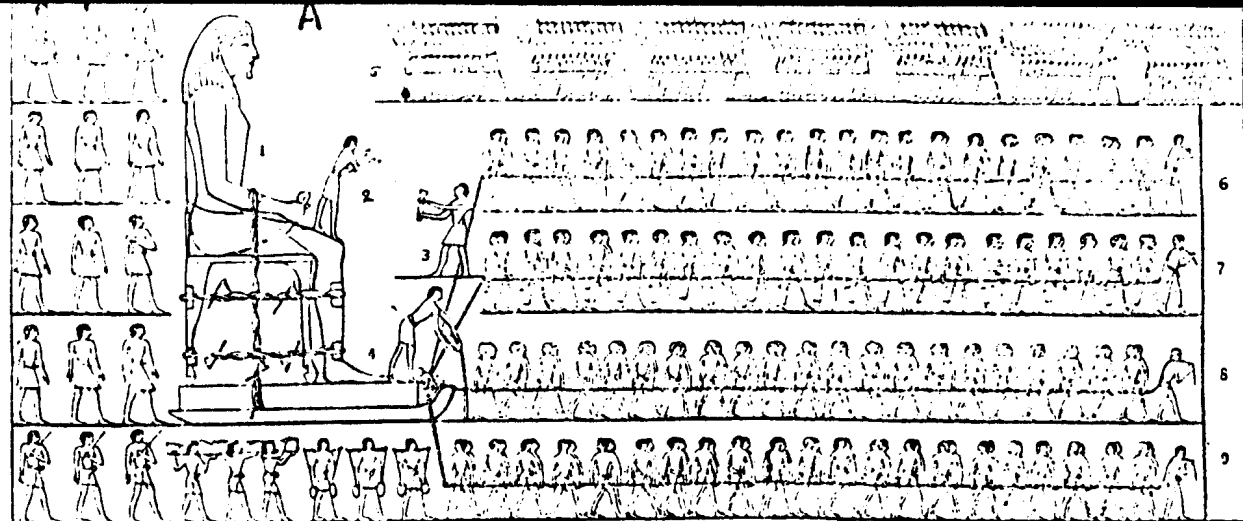
Certainly, today's technology has reduced much of yesterday's Sci Fi to an almost dull news item. Add to this the current craze and pre-occupation with witchcraft, the occult, plus the growing multitude of deviant religions, and it seems we have a ripe bed to grow a new pop art of this genre. I am not disagreeing with the theories, too many crackpot ideas of yesterday, have now taken their place in accepted scientific thought. I am ready to believe in flying saucers, as soon as I see one darn good photograph that I feel I can believe in, rather than the smudgy, 'shot on the run' things I am asked to accept. But back to Gods and Chariots; we do have a club member who is ready now to refute to some degree the evidence offered by Herr Erich von Daniken, certainly, only in the area of Egyptian study (in which he is well qualified to comment) but strong cautions as this, should cause us all, to accept literature of this nature with due and careful cautions.

CHARIOTS OF THE GODS ?

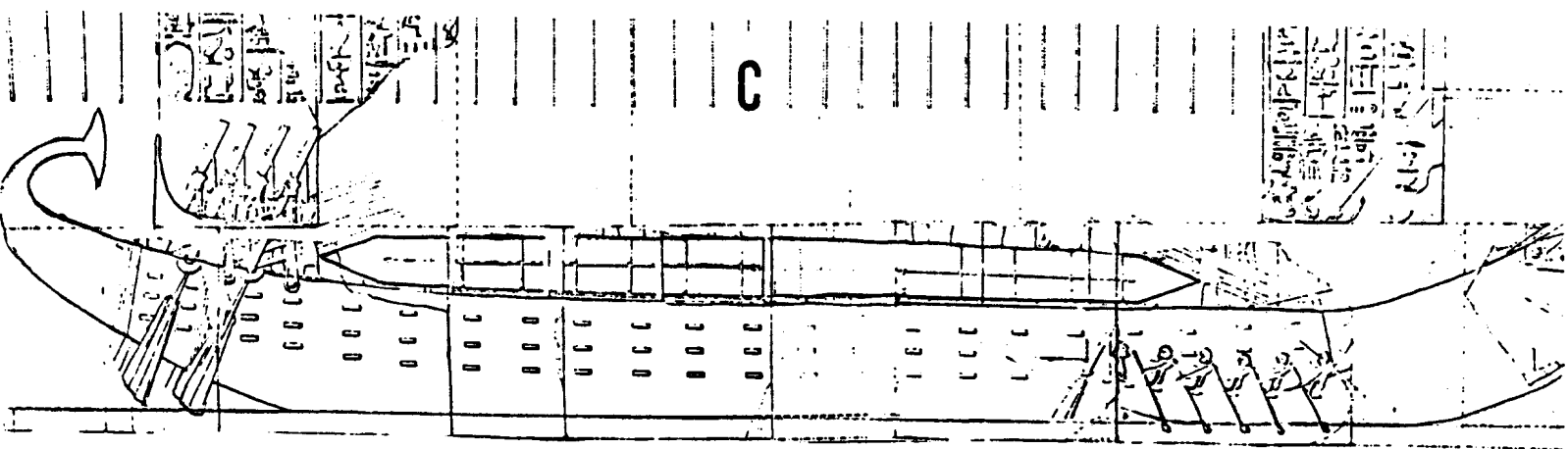
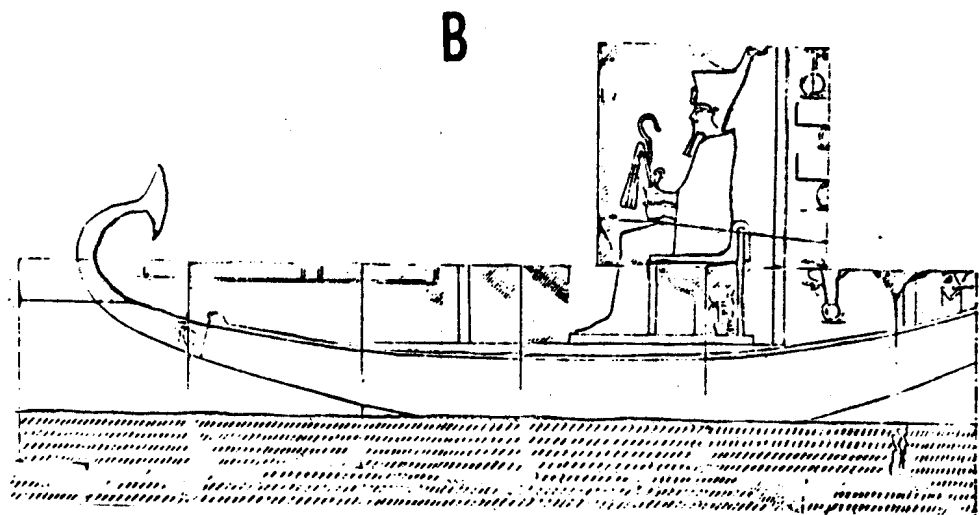
The recent craze in books, on TV and most recently, of full length feature film, (Chariots of the Gods) has attempted to prove, or at least, very strongly suggest, that much of what is considered "mysterious" in the ancient world, can be attributed to visits of ancient astronauts. The areas of the world covered by this film, are spread out considerably, but because of my close connections and studies of the ancient Egyptian world, I feel that I can only comment seriously on that aspect, and area of the film.

Egypt, even in ancient times, was considered something different from most other cultures. In part, this was due to the great antiquity of Egypt (as compared to the Greeks, in classical times, for example). Because of this, and other factors, many weird theories have arisen over Egypt and its monuments. These present attacks, on generally accepted ideas of research and archaeology, are in part a further extension of this feeling towards Egypt. Reasons for these new theories may be put down as sensationalism, or just something different, a new kind of anti-religious fervor, financial profit, a big joke, or a combination of these. Personally, I do not give much thought as to whether people are living on other planets, or not. Until I meet one, I'm willing to hold back an opinion. The authenticity of some of the items outside of Egypt, presented in the movie, might be doubted, but my comments and opinions must be zeroed in on the Egyptian elements. The great time estimated, ca. 600+ years, to build the Great Pyramid of Khufu (this was originally 480' high, 756' square at the base) ca. 2.3 million blocks of stone weighing an average of 2.5 tons each, would also have to be applied to Khafre's pyramid, which is almost the same size, and several of Smefru's. Pyramids of these three Kings, ca. 2600-2525 BC, would have required 1500-1800 years, if built one after the other. Very seldom did Kings finish the works of their predecessors. In all probability, the pyramids of these Kings were finished or virtually finished during their reigns. This is possible without outside interference. A small gang of workmen can move a 2.5 ton block. Ten to twenty men could move such a stone from the quarry to a barge. From there, they would be floated more than 95% of the distance from the quarry to the site. Many blocks were quarried at, or near Giza. If an average of 320 blocks could be moved per day, for about 20 years, the required amount would be reached. A tremendous effort, but not impossible. Recall in Herodotus's time, the current story was that 100,000 men were used. The movie omitted reference to the water transportation, leaving out a major element in the general scheme of the architects. This eliminates one of the "mysteries".

The movement of colossal stone statues and the long obelisks, was another major factor in the movie. Again and again, the narrator questioned how such massive stone objects could be moved hundreds of miles with primitive tools. Surely, he claimed, some means of levitation was introduced! But, a few glances at several ancient representations of activities show no spacemen with special equipment. Here, overleaf, the following illustrations virtually speak for themselves.



The scene above is from a Middle Kingdom (2000-1770) BC tomb. A wooden sledge, oil, with hundreds of men dragging a statue. This statue is cited elsewhere as being about 20 ft. high. The two scenes below are from the time of Hatshepsut, the famous female 'King', 1590-1468 BC. The first scene shows the transportation of a colossal statue by barge. A most important scene below that, depicts the movement of two obelisks. Of great interest, is the fact that one of these obelisks still stands today at Karnak. It is 97 ft. high, and of one piece of red granite, and weighs about 323 tons. A barge for the transportation of obelisks is mentioned by Hatshepsut's successor, and its dimensions are given as approx: 210' in length, and 70' wide, (even space for two obelisks, 100 ft. long, and placed end to end, as in the representation, which unfortunately, does not show everything to scale).



These scenes clearly indicate the simple, but toilsome methods used to transport massive stone monuments, but the use of the river made the movement of such objects feasible over long distances... However, the movie made no reference to these ancient representations,

and these representations eliminate all the mystery.
 One final comment concerns references to the great temple of Ramses II.(1190-1123 BC) at Abu Simbel. Slides, showing this temple were part of my recent talk,several meetings ago. In the movie, it was noted how all the latest scientific knowledge and equipment was needed to cut up and remove the temple to higher ground,while at the same time, noting the primitive means available to the Egyptians in the construction of it. Astronauts? Hardly, for they had overlooked the simple fact that the Egyptians only had to cut the temple out of the rock!..not move it. Sandstone is fairly soft, thereby making the original cutting relatively simple, but naturally, the recent dismantling and moving was very tricky.
 In summary, the ancient astronaut theorists have not done their research on Egypt.If their other evidence falls apart as easily, all they will have left are their profits. One final note: in the credits, the movie referred to the book "Chariots of the Gods" as a "Novel".

Otto Schaden.

Figure sources.

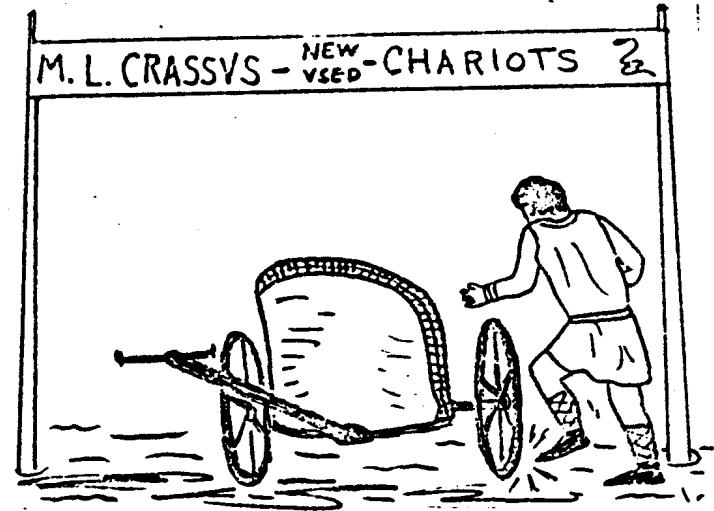
- "A".Wilkinson.Manners & Customs of the ancient Egyptians.Vol.II.P.305.
- "B".Naville. Temple of Deir El Bahari. V.Pl.125.
- "C".Ibid. VI. Pl. 153.

.....

Well, well,that's put them away...but I still want to know how huge limestone carvings cut from Mother earth, so huge, that workers on the ground would have to have lost all artistic perspective, and yet, this work done in England in the dawn of history,shows from 10000 feet up, a perfectly formed horse. I understand similar work can be found in parts of France. This I have seen,many times. How about the mile upon mile of perfectly accurate soil cuts, in true parallel, which can be seen from the air in some partsof South America? and there are so many many more thought provoking puzzles around man's beginnings. I know science must refute all that is not explained to their complete satisfaction, only from such firm base can we progress in a rational manner, and yet,we have surely so much to learn about our past. Let's hear from you out there, with the current dearth of coin subjects(don't rely on me,I've barely time to check my monthly bills)we need to start something. However, please don't attempt a mail delivery by flying saucer,or we'll have to start all over again.

.....

Talking of flying saucers,et al. plus the current rip off with gasoline;



H'm, I hope circumstances will bring me back into the arms of the club real soon,
 meantime,
 regards to all.

HGG.



TWIN CITY ANCIENT COIN CLUB



Rodney Olson
President

Charles Gustafson Hon. Sec.
1078 Carrie St. (Tel. 226-5801)
W. St. Paul, Minn. 55118

James Buelow
Hon. Treasurer

Sept. 1974

Dear Members and Friends,

The Fall season of the Twin City Ancient Coin Club commences this Thursday at its traditional place, The Penn Mutual Building, at 7:30 P.M. Highlighting the program is Steve Rubinger's presentation of his year-long research into the devaluation of the Roman silver coinage from Nero to Gallienus. Steve has previously given his findings in detail to the Numismatic Seminar held last school year at the University of Minnesota. Having been present on that occasion, I can assure the club of his knowledge and facility in the subject matter. After his presentation there will be opportunity for questions and comment. To increase our enjoyment, slides of our highlight boat trip on Lake Minnetonka last summer, in which 26 took part, will be shown. And, in addition, the Gibsons will offer a number of economical coins for auction.

Coming up in the next meetings are tentative plans for the following. Joan Fagerli, formerly of the American Numismatic Society, and author of a large monograph on late Roman and Byzantine coin finds in Scandinavia, has been contacted. Also, members of a war-gaming club from the University of Minnesota have been requested for another TCACC session. Incidentally, war-gaming is now the biggest hobby in England and it is beginning to catch on here. La Belle Alliance Military Miniatures, 8108 Minnetonka Boulevard, is a local center for this sport in the Twin City area. Sporadically, on a large gaming board, battles are conducted using large amounts of miniatures mostly of the 25 mm variety. An ancient battle is scheduled for the first part of November. If you like painting ancient figures for display, you'll find more in this establishment than anything else the Twin Cities has to offer. Also, the store carries books on ancient armies, ancient ships,

ancient battles, and war-gaming rules. Yours truly just completed the building of a Roman bireme purchased at the Squadron Shop in Elmhurst, Illinois, this past summer. Its deck now carries 17 painted 15 mm. ancient warriors including Roman archers, and spearmen, Gallic slingers and spearmen. The Gibsons have been painting some ancient miniatures as well. Maybe you'll want to get into the act.

There is not much else to report and in the interests of quick dispatch of this communique, one final comment: As you know, coin prices have risen astronomically. At a recent show I saw Athenian Owls selling for \$700 and \$800-the same coins could have been bought for \$200 and \$300 not long ago. What is the hobby coming to?

We'll see you at the meeting!

C.J. Gustafson

Oct '74(?)

TWIN CITY ANCIENT COIN CLUB



Rodney Olson
President

Charles J. Gustafson Hon. Sec.
1078 Carrie St. (Tel. 226-5801)
West St. Paul, Minn. 55118

James Beulow
Treasurer

Our second session in the Fall schedule occurs this Thursday evening at the traditional meeting place, 1276 University Avenue, 7:30 P.M. On the docket is our "resident" Egyptologist, Otto Schaden, who will bring an informal report on his last summer's activities in Egypt. Those of us who have heard Otto report on other occasions know we are in for a very informative evening and with time for questions following his presentation. November's meeting, to be held on the 3rd Thursday (Thanksgiving falls on the 4th Thursday), features war-gamers from the University of Minnesota. Judging from the great number of figures of all kinds: soldiers, auxiliary troops, supply wagons, etc., which I saw lined up on a counter of the La Belle Alliance Military Miniature store the other day, and, incidentally, that was just one side of the present Napoleonic battle being played there, I believe we are going to have another very interesting evening (Nov. 21st).

History when it is "relived" is the best way to understand it. According to a famous philosopher of history, R.G. Collingswood, you cannot really understand history unless you can see events through the eyes of the participating historical figures. Only then can you understand why they did what they did. When we "Monday-morning quarterback" we often interpose other factors which were not known to the historical person at the time. A famous example of this is the suicide of Cassius, who, chagrined at his own defeat to Antony, comes to this untimely end, unaware that Brutus had unexpected success against Octavian. Of course, there is one problem with Collingswood's idea. The problem is that we cannot know all the factors a particular person was aware of in any particular situation. A man may have had an attack of the gout that morning or he may have gotten up on the wrong side of the bed that morning and, consequently, just didn't act rationally. There may be additional things he knew about a battle or decision he had to make that will never surface in history. Yet, I believe through the hobby of war gaming, painting figures, and, perhaps, putting together certain historical models, we can come closer to the subject at hand. We must live in a closer way to the ancient world if we are to carry about the understanding of it with us. Because we don't have time-machines, a certain amount of war-gaming is an alternative open to us. A certain "feel" for the ancient world will allow us to immediately rule out many false ideas presented to us about it. It will also indicate how many things have not changed over the years.

To test your "feel" for or knowledge of the ancient world the following questions are offered as a test just for fun. Some are quite easy-others are more difficult. They are chosen from the field of social history: the everyday life of the people of Rome. Answers will be given at the meeting on Thursday. See how you do!

True or False

1. Public libraries were fairly common in the Roman empire.
2. Educated men bought books from book shops and had their own libraries.

3. One could check-out or borrow books from ancient libraries and even manuscripts.
4. Romans, in general, ate a heavy breakfast.
5. A Roman hour at the winter solstice was longer than at the summer solstice.
6. There were slaves hawking food and drink at the baths.
7. In the Roman summer the streets were packed with people and the shops were open at the 7th hour of the day.
8. Fish was an expensive luxury in Rome.
9. Most Romans were not able to swim.
10. Doctors in Roman society were usually Greek.
11. Teachers, in general, were well paid.
12. A son in Roman society was as much in the power of his father after marriage as he had been before it.
13. Romans usually had pie, ice cream, cake, and other rich desserts similar to ours.
14. Fishing was a popular sport.
15. Public entertainment was free in Rome and all might attend as long as they could get places.
16. Dice similar to our modern ones were used in ancient games.
17. There were hotels on all main roads and in the cities-the better ones having a restaurant, a lavatory, and bedrooms with keys or bolts.
18. Farming was not a favorite retirement for famous Romans.
19. To travel fast over long distances one could change carriages and horses outside of most cities.
20. Mortality rates of children and infants were very high in the Roman empire.
21. Romans had birthday parties and received gifts in celebration.

Miscellaneous

22. How long was the Roman week in Republican days?
23. Children in Roman times tossed coins shouting "heads" or "ships". Why?
24. Did Romans when they read to themselves read out loud or silently?
25. What approximate time in our modern clocks did the 1st hour of the Roman day cover?
26. Why were Roman libraries built facing East?
27. Estimate the number of public baths in Rome during the time of Augustus. (within 25)
28. What was the hot bath called?
29. What was a strigil used for?
30. How many people were at a full Roman dinner party?
31. What was the legal age of marriage for a girl? for a boy?
32. What was the Kalends of a month?
33. What was a retarius?
34. Who was known as the greatest gladiator in history?

(3 points for each right answer)

See you at the meeting!

-C.J. G.



TWIN CITY ANCIENT COIN CLUB



Rodney Olson
President

Charles Gustafson Hon. Sec.
1078 Carrie St. (Tel. 226-5801)
W. St. Paul, Minn. 55118

James Buelow
Hon. Treasurer

November, 1974

On Saturday, November 9th, yours truly was present at the battle of Gaugamela (331 B.C.) between Alexander The Great of Macedon and Darius III of Persia. There arrayed in a variety of colors were the Persian forces drawn up on a plain where they could make full use of the scythed chariots against Alexander's phalanx. Superior in numbers, strong in cavalry, with the presence of some elephants, they presented an "immoveable object" to Macedon's "irresistable force". Their main liability was Darius, a cowardly commander and king, who once before had deserted a battle under Alexander's onslaught. On the other side of the plain was the massed phalanx of the Macedonians with their cavalry units on the right and left wing. Alexander's forces were outnumbered, but many were seasoned veterans and they were commanded by a military genius. This was a battle which the Persians should have won had it not been for Darius' cowardly exit from the field resulting in a demoralization of his forces. However, in the battle which I viewed commanders lacking the genius or experience of an Alexander committed certain units too early, Darius didn't flee, and the Persian general Mazaeus was just as devastating on the right flank as he had been in history. The Macedonians gave up after a dispute over the rules of warfare but they were, contrary to history, losing all along the front. History's tables had been turned partly due to superior generalship on the Persian side and partly due to a more courageous Darius than had existed in the flesh.

The foregoing is war gaming and yours truly will probably never lose the picture of that battle from my mind because the dimension of sight had been added (hundreds of painted figures were present on the board). Decisions confronted commanders equal to those presented to the commanders of long ago. One entered into the very situation and saw it from an original point

of view. And as I talked to the experienced war gamers I perceived a deep knowledge of ancient military history far beyond their years.

One can see that we are scheduled in this third session for a very informative, interesting meeting which will lead us all into a deeper knowledge of our area of study. War gamers from the University of Minnesota will present to us a mock battle from ancient times and explain the rules upon which their hobby is founded. In addition, we have coins to be auctioned from the Gibsons and David MacDonald. I cannot speak for the Gibson coins, not having seen them, but the MacDonald pieces are very economical and in cases represent rare pieces. In addition to the latter is a Byzantine weight from the 5th to the 7th centuries A.D. in excellent condition and bearing a cross on its face and the two Greek letters: gamma and alpha. The meeting occurs this next Thursday evening (Nov. 21st) at the Argonaut Building, 550 South Snelling, 7:30 P.M. The new meeting place is approximately two and one half miles south (on Snelling) of the intersection of Snelling and University. We will be occupying a below-ground meeting room.

It has been suggested to us that we print the answers to last month's quiz on the Roman world in our news letter. May the following serve as a succinct summary of that test for fun.

1. True. Public libraries were fairly common in the Roman empire. Comments: 29 in the city of Rome by the 4th Cent. A.D.. At least 8 of these were founded before 100 A.D. We also know of libraries in 7 country towns of Italy, in 6 cities of Greece, and 5 in Asia Minor.

2. True. Educated men did buy books from book shops and had their own libraries.

3. True. One could check-out from ancient libraries books and even manuscripts.

4. False. The Romans did not eat a heavy breakfast. Contrarywise, the people began the day with the lightest of meals, the ientaculum, just as modern day Italians take no more than a small cup of black coffee and a bun or piece of bread at home, or buy it on the way to work.

5. False. The Roman hour varied with the seasons and it was longer as you will realize upon reflection at the summer solstice than at the winter one.

6. True. There were slaves hawking food and drink at the baths.

7. False. In the Roman summer the streets were not packed at the seventh hour for this was siesta time. (the shops were closed at this time also)

8. True. Fish was an expensive luxury in Rome.

9. False. Most Romans were able to swim.

(Please pardon the condensation of space on this page)

10. True. Doctors in Roman society were usually Greek. 11. False. Teachers, in general, were not generally well paid. 12. True. A son was as much in the power of his father after marriage as he was before marriage. As long as his father was alive, he was never free from the power or potestas of the father. 13. False. The Romans did not go in for our rich desserts- they were more liable to have fruit as people in the Middle East do today. 14. True. Fishing, as it is today, was popular. 15. True. Public entertainment was free in Rome and all might attend as long as they could get places. 16. True. Dice similar to our modern ones were used in ancient games. 17. True. There were hotels on all main roads and in the cities with semi modern conveniences, that is, a restaurant, a lavatory, and bedrooms with keys or bolts. 18. False. Farming was a favorite retirement for famous Romans. 19. True. One could change carriages and horses outside of most cities for fast travel. 20. True. Mortality rates of children and infants was high. 21. True. Romans did have birthday parties and received gifts in celebration. 22. The Romans had a 8 day week in Republican days. 23. Children tossed coins shouting "heads" and "ships" because of the early Roman As coins featuring the Janus head obverse and the prow of the ship reverse. 24. Romans read out-loud to themselves- libraries were noisy. 25. 1st hour of the Roman day: approx. 6 AM to 7 AM depending on the time of year. 26. Roman libraries faced east because they were used primarily in the morning. 27. Number of public baths in Rome in the time of Augustus: 170. 28. Hot bath: caldarium. 29. A strigil was used to scrape the body of its oil and dust after exercise. 30. A full Roman dinner party involved nine people-normally three couches and three persons to a couch. 31. Legal age of marriage for a boy: 14; for a girl: 12. 32. The Kalends of a month was its first day. Days were counted as so many days before the Kalends, Nones, or Ides as the part of the month one was in might be. The day before the last day to be counted was called "pridie". 33. A retiarius was a light armed gladiator carrying a net and trident. He was usually very agile and quick as he had to be. 34. Pacideianus was described by Lucilius as "far and away the best gladiator in history". He fought in the mid-2nd century B.C. Apparently his name was still famous in Rome one hundred years later. Martial honors an invincible gladiator Hermes "who always wins and never kills". He fought with equal skill as a Retiarius and as an Andabata (on horseback).

Sourcebooks for those interested: Balsdon, J.P.V.D. Life and Liesure In Ancient Rome. New York: McGraw-Hill Co., 1969. Bickerman, E.J. Chronology of The Ancient World, Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell Univ. Press, 1968.

C.J.G. (over)

To those who labor under the notion that the sales tax is a recent invention of our state-house bureaucrats, it will come as a surprise that the emperor Augustus instituted a 1 percent tax on sales, the Centesima Rerum Venalia. This was to replenish the treasury after the Civil Wars. The people appealed to Tiberius to cancel the tax which he first refused, but later reduced to ½ percent.

Suetonius tells us that Caligula abolished the tax entirely. At the end of 39 A.D. he caused quadrans to be struck proclaiming the remission of the tax. These coins fairly shouted their message with the large RCC (Remissa ducentesima) dominating the reverse and the liberty cap of the obverse echoing the same theme.

Obverse: C. CAESAR DIVI AVG PRON (epos) AVG SC Cap of liberty

Reverse: PON M TR P III PP COS DES III around RCC

-Calvin C. Woods

See you at the meeting!

C.J.G.

TWIN CITY ANCIENT COIN CLUB

December 18, 1974

It was decided at the November meeting to have our annual winter get-together after the first of the year rather than before so we will all be more relaxed after the holiday rush. Thursday, January 9th was selected as the evening, and because it was felt we should try something different I looked into a night out at the Minnesota Music Hall.

The Minnesota Music Hall is located at 724 Fourth Ave. Sol in downtown Minneapolis and is a dinner theater. The production for January 9th is Sound of Music. Food is served buffet style; beef, ham and fish are the main dishes and there is a huge variety of salads, vegetables, cheeses, dessert and choice of beverages (milk, coffee, tea). The buffet opens at 6:30 and you can go through the food line as many times as you wish. The pre-show is at 7:45 with Sound of Music starting at 8:30 and ending at approximately 11:15.

If we get 25 people in our group the price per person is \$9.50, which includes the meal, show, tip and parking in the ramp across the street. Because the food service starts at 6:30 it probably is impractical to try to have a separate cocktail hour, however, liquor and wine are available served at the tables (drinks cost \$1.35 - \$1.50, beer \$1.00).

We would want to be seated all together if possible and in order to do so it's necessary to firm up a reservation before December 27th. If you think this would be something you want to do please call Rod or Jean Olson - 929 6688 by December 27th.

Joan Olson

There will be a regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. on January 23rd at the Argonaut Building, 550 So. Snelling, St. Paul. One of our members, Don Doyle, will speak on his collecting specialty, Asia Minor. Don was stationed at Sinope while in the Army and at one time made a trip to Boghazkey, the ancient Hyksos capital.

Chas. Gustafson

P.S. anyone owing dues (\$3.00) for 1975 please pay them to our Treas., Jim Buelow, Route 5, Stillwater, Stillwater, Mn. 55082, before the January meeting.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS, EVERYONE



TWIN CITY ANCIENT COIN CLUB



February, 1975

Rodney Olson
President

Charles J. Gustafson Hon. Sec.
1078 Carrie St. (Tel. 226-5801)
West St. Paul, Minn. 55118

James Buelow
Treasurer

Our illustrious club and hobby continue unabated by the onslaughts of inflation and the economic pinch. After viewing the prices in the new "Roman Coins and Their Values", and also observing the prices on Art McCracken's fine "new" pieces from England, one wonders how the hobby can ever be the same. On the positive side, Mr. Sear notes that finally ancient coins, having lagged behind for years in comparison to the more modern series, have now attained their true plateau in value. Perhaps this is true but it is unfortunate for the collector with moderate means as I dare say most of us would be labeled. Fortunately, the pursuit of knowledge about our hobby and the ancient world is not so circumscribed. To aid us in this latter pursuit our next TCACC meeting will soon be upon us.

Next Thursday, February 27th, 7:30 P.M., at the Jewish Community Center in St. Paul (1375 St. Paul Ave.-room to be posted on their bulletin board), we will have another of our variety of programs. Instead of a regular speaker, we are going to have an evening of sharing. We are asking our members to bring their favorite coin (In their collection) and to communicate to the club members present anything they wish about it: why it is their favorite, historical information, dating and epigraphical material, etc. Those who may not prefer to divulge the masterpiece in question have the option of sharing how they became interested in ancients and started their collections. Some may prefer to do both or speak to the club about a coin other than their most prized possession. We will have as many share as the dictates of time allow. If lack of that precious commodity precludes any, they will have some time in the March meeting for a similar report.

Following our coffee break, Steve Rubinger will display some ancient artifacts available for sale at very reasonable prices. Included in the presentation will be ancient scarabs and lamps. Reports are that we may have some coins available also that night and, in addition, David MacDonald has sent up a group of arrowheads from Luristan (600-900 B.C.). It looks like a great night comparable to other evenings in the past. Incidentally, Jim Buelow informs me that this is the last letter to be received by those who have not paid their 1975 dues. The annual stipend of \$3.00 may be remitted at the meeting or sent to yours-truly at the above address. Checks should be made out to "TCACC (Twin-City Ancient Coin Club). Jerry Lorentz and Finch Booker are scheduled to make their presentation at our March meeting.

This weekend, February 22nd-23rd, those in our club interested in ancient Jewish coins are again putting on a display for the Coin and Stamp Show at the Jewish Community Center in Minneapolis. Included in the group are

Howard Brin, Burton Field, Irene Klugman, Jerry Lorentz, and the author of this letter. Coming in from Israel is the famous Ya'akov Meshorer, author of the book, "Jewish Coins of the Second Temple Period", and Curator of the Israel Museum in Jerusalem. The work by Meshorer reflects that latest research into the field and is considered to supercede Reifenberg. Some of us are bringing our copies to the Center for autographing. He is scheduled to speak on Sunday afternoon about 3:00 PM or 3:30 PM. Howard Brin is picking-up this distinguished visitor at the airport and acting as his host while he is here.

Lately, your temporary editor has been reading his copy of Josephus on the first Jewish revolt. Josephus relates that in the Roman seige of Jerusalem some of those Jews surrendering or slipping out to the enemy swallowed their gold coins (one could amass them easily in that city under seige), later retrieving them, you know how, behind the Roman lines. Gruesome to think that the nice coin in someone's collection may have passed through more than hands!

Hopefully, we'll see you all at the meeting!

C.J.G.



TWIN CITY ANCIENT COIN CLUB



Rodney Olson
President

Charles Gustafson Hon. Sec.
1078 Carrie St. (Tel. 226-5801)
West St. Paul, 55118

Whitney Lindwall
Treasurer

June, 1975

Dear Members and Friends,

A summer greeting to all of our Twin City Ancient Coin Club members! Hopefully, the hot weather won't cool our ardor for ancient learning, but rather, with the more relaxed schedule, heat up our thirst to read and study in the field. To aid you, as a club, in doing this, we will present this Thursday, at the Jewish Community Center in St. Paul, Otto Schaden, who will speak on little known facts about great men of antiquity. This de-haloizing (to coin a word) should afford a very interesting evening mixed with discussion, comments, and questions from all our members. The time is as usual, 7:30 P.M., in Room 101. Don't miss it! We will also discuss summer picnic plans and any other pertinent items of business.

What is fun and games and reinforcement of our hobby? Last Saturday, it was for me to be North Africa in the Oikūmene Game (Oikūmene means "the inhabited world") at the apartment-study of the celebrated Otto Schaden. Allied with Egypt and facing the alliance of Italy and Greece, neutral Spain just across the Gibraltar strait, and the operations of far-off Syria, Anatolia, and Persia of little concern to me as yet. Eight grown men playing the first four years of a campaign with little pieces of wood, dice, and drawing cards over a six hour stretch! Taking cities, plotting strategy, making alliances, receiving tribute, under-the-table diplomacy, one is vicariously in command in all the ancient glory. A return to a second childhood: perhaps! However, it was for me one of the most intriguing, capable of being relived experiences I have had for some time. Towns on the board are all ancient in name and the tyche and "oracle" cards reinforce one's awareness of the ancient world. We can be thankful for those who have the mind to invent such complicated endeavors (Otto had a hand in this one) and to afford fellowship: light-hearted and deep between friends

(2)

around a profitable undertaking, especially in our hobby field.

Incidentally, La Belle Alliance (The military miniature store) is presenting another ancient campaign this Saturday at 1:00 P.M. In about a month they will be moving closer to most of us. The store will be near Lyndale or Hennepin avenue.

With regard to our ancient coin hobby, Art McCracken plans to bring some pieces for our consideration. He will be there Thursday, barring unforeseen circumstances. Also, Finch Booker may have some numismatic literature to wet our fancy for those wishing to build up their libraries, and he may have some coins, as well. All of you know that you can bring items to trade or sell at the club session. Incidentally, did you know that the newly revised Greek Coins and Their Values volume will be ready in July and is orderable through Art McCracken.

We close this month with some words by George F. Hill, late keeper at the British Museum and prolific author of numismatic works, in his preface to Select Greek Coins, published in Paris and Brussels in 1927.

"There is no reason why the coin should be a work of art; its purpose as a medium of exchange can be equally well served by a plain disk of metal bearing on its surface the necessary information; and such a coinage would be less discreditable than the futile attempts at an artistic currency which are all that most modern nations seem able to produce...

"But the Greeks of the great period were naturally incapable of neglecting the artistic possibilities of any object in daily use, and to that fact we owe it that among their coins are to be found innumerable masterpieces of art. The history of Greek coinage, it is true, contradicts some of our most cherished maxims concerning the decoration of objects of common use. We are told for instance, that such an object is beautiful if it is made in the form most efficient for its purpose. But the one thing that is clear to the honest observer of the history of Greek coinage is that, throughout the period when Greek art was at its finest, the decoration of the coins was in no way helpful from the practical point of view; or, perhaps it would be more fair to say, the method of decoration was such that inevitably, the more the coin was used for its proper purpose, the more it suffered. The story is that of a continual struggle to reconcile with practical requirements an incompatible artistic ideal."

Hopefully, we will see you at the meeting.

C.J.G.