PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BRITISH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY, 1961
(For list of past Presidents and Medallists see page 201; for Officers and Council see page 203)

At an Ordinary Meeting held at the Warburg Institute on Tuesday, 24 January, Mr. D. F. Allen, President, in the chair, there were elected, to Ordinary Membership, Dr. E. J. Harris and Mr. S. N. Lane, to Junior Membership Mr. I. A. Kish and Mr. D. Fearon. Dr. J. P. C. Kent read a paper on ‘The Scarborough Hoard of Groats of Henry VIII and of Edward VI in Henry’s name’ and exhibited a selection of coins from the hoard by the courtesy of the Keeper of Coins, British Museum. The hoard was discovered on 2 June 1960 during demolition work in St. Thomas Street, Scarborough. The hoard, which was contained in a Siegburg jug, consisted of 224 pieces, of which the majority were base groats. It appears to have been deposited towards the end of 1550. Dr. Kent, having described the hoard in some detail, proceeded to draw a number of conclusions as to the order and dating of privy marks in use between 1548 and 1552.

At an Ordinary Meeting held at the Warburg Institute on Tuesday, 28 February, Mr. R. H. M. Dolley, Director, in the chair, there were elected, to Ordinary Membership Mr. M. P. Barnes and Dr. W. B. Parker, to Junior Membership Mr. N. G. Rhodes. Mr. R. C. Strong, Assistant Keeper at the National Portrait Gallery, read a profusely illustrated paper on ‘The Medallic Portraiture of Queen Elizabeth I’.

At an Ordinary Meeting held at the Warburg Institute on Tuesday, 28 March, Mr. D. F. Allen, President, in the chair, there were elected, to Ordinary Membership Nottingham University Library, Mr. D. N. Allison, and Mr. N. J. Ebsworth, to Junior Membership Mr. P. J. Browning, Mr. T. J. Delbridge, and Mr. D. S. Freedman. In the absence of Miss V. J. Butler, a number of short papers were read. Dr. E. J. Harris spoke on varieties in the York ‘Sovereign’ pence of Henry VII. A paper by Mr. R. H. M. Dolley on the Coinage of Ethelwulf was read in his absence by Mr. C. S. S. Lyon. This commenced with a general review of hoards containing coins of Ethelwulf and proceeded to demonstrate the sequence of types in the two officinae in use during this reign. A paper by Dr. J. P. C. Kent on the Ryal of Henry VIII was read in his absence by Mr. P. Spufford.

At an Ordinary Meeting held at the Warburg Institute on Tuesday, 25 April, Mr. D. F. Allen, President, in the chair, Dr. J. A. Kay was elected to Ordinary Membership of the Society. Mr. R. H. M. Dolley read a paper entitled ‘Some Obstinate Mules’ in which he explained two categories of refractory mules and tentatively attributed a mint to Rhuddlan in the winter of 979/80. The category of obstinate mules were those in which genuine English dies of Æthelred were muled with Scandinavian imitations. These were explained in terms of the flight of the moneyer OSCETL from York to
Lund where he continued to strike with York dies. Mr. Dolley reconstructed the details of his flight and suggested that he took with him two obverse dies of the intermediate Small Cross issue and three reverse dies, one of ARNCETL of the intermediate Small Cross issue and one of his own and one of OBAN of the Crux issue. The second category of obstinate mules consisted of those in which the reverse dies were apparently earlier than the obverse dies. Mr. Dolley demonstrated how all but one of such pieces of the reign of Æthelred had a proven or suspected Scandinavian origin.

At an Ordinary Meeting held at the Warburg Institute on Tuesday, 23 May, Mr. D. F. Allen, President, in the chair, Mr. J. S. Forbes, Deputy Warden of the Assay Office at Goldsmiths’ Hall, read a paper entitled ‘The Fineness of the Early English Penny’ in which he described a series of assays carried out by Mr. Dalladay and himself on a selection of English pennies ranging in date from 870 to 1300.

At an Ordinary Meeting held at the Warburg Institute on Tuesday, 27 June, Mr. D. F. Allen, President, in the chair, Mr. M. J. Day, Dr. J. F. McMillan, and Mr. J. B. Rutland were elected to Ordinary Membership of the Society. There were read three short papers. Mr. R. H. M. Dolley discussed very fully a strange coin in the forgery trays of the British Museum, purchased in 1836, concluding that the piece was neither a forgery of the tenth or nineteenth centuries nor a trial piece in pewter, but a genuine penny struck between 973 and 975, the silver of which had been entirely transformed into silver chloride, thus accounting for the strange colour and fabric and for the increase in weight from 22.5 to 29.4 gr. The moneyer was Edmund—EADMUND M O LVN—hitherto unknown for the reign of Edgar, although an Edmund is known as a London moneyer under Æthelred II. Dr. J. P. C. Kent spoke on the Lutton Treasure Trove, consisting of 183 pieces ranging from Philip and Mary to Charles I, found on 6 May 1961 adjacent to the manor house of Lutton, Northants., and now in the Peterborough Museum. Mr. B. H. I. H. Stewart spoke on ‘The Survival of Edward Pennies’. Basing his analysis on the known figures of mint production and on the contents of the Montrave and Boyton hoards, Mr. Stewart drew a number of complex statistical conclusions and demonstrated that there appeared to be no very simple correlation between hoards and bullion minted.

At an Ordinary Meeting held at the Warburg Institute on Tuesday, 26 September, Mr. D. F. Allen, President, in the chair, Mr. P. F. Purvey read a paper on ‘The York Coinage of Richard II’. After pointing out that 60 per cent. of London halfpence did not fit satisfactorily into Brooke’s classification, Mr. Purvey developed a basis of classification of the York pence from a study of die-relationships and finally related this to the problem of the London halfpence, suggesting that the hitherto unclassified 60 per cent. were probably struck in the years 1389–91 and illustrating his hypothesis by diagrams of mint output.

At an Ordinary Meeting held at the Warburg Institute on Tuesday, 24 October, Mr. D. F. Allen, President, in the chair, Dr. R. J. Hudson, Mr. B. C. Pickard, and Mr. H. McMaster were elected to Ordinary Membership of the
Society. The President read a paper entitled ‘Some New Coins of the Iceni’ in which he analysed the contents of the twelve known hoards of Icenian coins and developed a scheme of classification, and tentatively also of dating, on the evidence of photographs of some nine hundred of the twelve to fifteen hundred known specimens. Mr. Allen suggested that the gold coins of the Iceni and the silver coins bearing a bear on the obverse (possibly a boar standard) and a horse on the reverse might commence in the last quarter of the first century B.C., whilst the inscribed silver coins probably came to an end in A.D. 47 although he also suggested that certain sub-Roman silver coins were issued by a semi-autonomous Icenian ruler between A.D. 47 and 61.

The Anniversary Meeting of the Society was held at the Warburg Institute on St. Andrew’s Day, 30 November, Mr. D. F. Allen, President, in the chair. Mr. E. M. P. Hughes was elected to Ordinary Membership of the Society. The Treasurer in presenting his accounts pointed out that the solvency of the Society depended on the generosity of a number of donors, notably the British Academy, an anonymous donor, and Mr. Bagnall. Whilst warmly thanking these donors for their generosity he emphasized that this was a precarious basis for solvency and warned the Society of the possible necessity of an increase in subscription. The President then delivered his Annual Address and declared the result of the ballot for Officers and Council for 1962, which was:

President: D. F. Allen, M.A., F.S.A.
Director: R. H. M. Dolley, B.A., F.S.A.
Secretary: P. Spufford, M.A.
Treasurer: C. S. S. Lyon, B.A., F.I.A.
Librarian: J. P. C. Kent, B.A., Ph.D., F.S.A.

EXHIBITIONS

January
By Dr. J. P. C. Kent:
A selection of coins from the Scarborough Treasure Trove comprising Base Groats, Half Groats, a Penny of Henry VIII and one of Edward VI in Henry’s name; and the pot in which they were found; by courtesy of the Keeper of Coins, British Museum.

April
By C. S. S. Lyon:
A not-so-obstinate mule:
1. Æthelræd 2nd hand/‘Crux’ mule: EDPINE M°O LVND
2. Æthelræd ‘Crux’ type: EDPINE M°O LVND. Same reverse die as last.
Related to obstinate mules:

3. Æthelræd ‘Crux’ type: OSCEL M-O EOFR. Die-links into Mr. Dolley's 'obstinate mules' chain.

4. Same type: OBAN M-O EOFR. Same obv. die as previous coin.

By Mr. F. Elmore Jones:

Five mules of Edward the Confessor:

1. Mule Brooke types 5/6: +SIRED ON NIPEPORT (Newport)
2. Mule Brooke types 6/7: +PVLFRIC ON SEEAF (Shaftesbury)
3. Two Mules Brooke types 7/8: +GODPINE ON HVNTE (Huntingdon)
4. +LIOFPINE ON HVNT (Huntingdon)
5. Mule Brooke types 6/8; +LIOFPOLD ON PINCE (Winchester)

By Mr. B. H. I. H. Stewart:

Two Short-Cross pennies, mules to suggest that there was a break between Lawrence classes, VI, VII, and VIII and that they did not merge as Lawrence thought.

1. VII/VI. Obv., note very small lettering, especially e and Q. Rev., SIMON-ON QANT—note tall lettering and pellet-barred N. Also a true late VI penny, same moneyer with pellet-barred N on both sides, and a true early VII penny with small lettering both sides for comparison.

2. VI/VIII. Obv., typical small late VII bust. Rev., i.m. cross potent, class VIII lettering. The difference between late VII and VIII letters is illustrated on two other pence of same moneyer. If this coin is not a mule, the only other explanation of it can be that the new lettering, which was characteristic of VIII, was introduced just before the new VIII face.

By Mr. J. M. Ashby:


2. Charles I Tower Shilling, Francis type 2a, North Group C, m.m. Plume. Reads AVPICE for AVSPICE. Unpublished. The obv. m.m. is apparently struck over Heart, the preceding mark, which can be seen on the right of the Plume, although no Heart coins are known of this type and bust.