



THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIST

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THE COLLECTING OF FOREIGN COINS

By Ken. B. Forbes, FRNS

I realize that this article is "old hat" to many members of the O.N.A., including yours truly, but if some enlightenment is contained herein for some readers, I will feel that its preparation has served the purpose.

The manner in which to collect foreign coins you have many choices, such as the following:

1. Collect one coin of each country.
2. Collect type coin of each country.
3. Collect all the coins of a country of your choice.
4. Collect coins of different areas of the world, or groups of nations.
5. Collect coins of your native country, if you come from some other country than the one you are now living in.
6. Collect obsolete countries coins, that is countries that no longer exist as coin producing nations.
7. Collect crown size coins, by type, by date, or both, world wide or one nation or certain parts of the hemisphere.
8. Collect one of each different denomination of a country, or countries you choose. This is similar to type collecting.
9. Collect a certain era of coins, in any of the above manners, such as from 1700-1800 or from 1800-1900 from one country or several.

Now to break down the advantages, and some of the disadvantages of the types of collecting I have outlined as I see them.

1. If you collect one coin of each country, the natural thing to do is to pick the least expensive coin of that country. You will accumulate a lot of coins, usually of little value, and they will not make the best of displays, should you be intending to exhibit, and there is little possibility of the coins enhancing in value as time moves along.
2. If collecting type pieces of each country you are bound to run into a few more expensive

items of a country, but these will not necessarily be unobtainable. Here you can restrict yourself somewhat, and stay away from the countries you feel will not be within reach of your personal economic situation.

3. If you collect all the coins of a given country, you can run into the same problems, as the previous paragraph, in so far as the scarcer pieces are concerned. But in many cases, a number of countries can be completed without too much trouble price wise, say in the \$2. to \$10. area.

4. If you choose to collect coins of countries of various parts of the hemisphere of the world, for example, European, Scandinavian, South American, British Commonwealth, etc., you are undertaking a larger task. In this case, type collecting is advisable, unless you are prepared to go for types as well as for all dates and denominations of issue. You can as well run into various different mint marks for a single denomination, and needless to say, this can multiply many times, for the various issues.

5. If your choice is collecting coins of your birth place, or nationality, in some cases countries go a long way back in history. In this instance you can revert to types, or limit yourself to a certain era in your birth place history, and then collect everything you desire between that period, for example, say Russia 1800 up or 1900 up.

6. Your choice of perhaps collecting obsolete countries, that is to say, countries that no longer exist as such, example, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, etc., which are part of other nations to-day, most of which are reasonably priced, with the usual exception of some scarcer items will give you great satisfaction. Again, of course, you can choose to collect by type, date, denomination or all issues involved.

7. If crown collecting is your calling, you can follow some of the previously outlined manners in which to collect, such as modern issues only, certain countries, certain eras, certain hemispheres, etc. In many cases, to collect crowns of a given country, providing it is an older nation, can be a full time undertaking, and sometimes can take you back in time to the 14th century, or earlier. There are a surprising amount of 14th to 17th century crowns available at reasonable prices, especially taking into consideration their age. There are many crowns in this period that are in the \$25. to \$40. range. You have to choose where to start and where to stop. Many crown collectors collect between certain periods of time in a chosen country's history, and stick to one country only, and perhaps include that country's possessions elsewhere during the same period. Again some of the above outlined suggestions would help you decide when and where to stop and start, or visa versa.

8. Collecting one of each of all the different countries, including dates and mint marks may become very expensive, and in some cases, uncollectable, because they will be unobtainable, regardless of price.

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THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIST is published monthly by the Ontario Numismatic Association. The publication may be obtained with membership in one of the following categories - Life Membership - \$50., Regular Membership - \$3. yearly, Juniors - \$2. yearly (up to 18 years of age), Husband and Wife (one Journal) - \$5. yearly, Club - \$10. yearly.

Special O.N.A. Sterling Silver Lapel Pins (Screw back or pin back) only \$2.50.

Remittance is payable to the Ontario Numismatic Association, P.O. Box 33, Waterloo, Ontario.

Here again you must choose carefully how deep you want to get involved in the coinage of a given country.

9. Collecting a certain era of coins of a country or countries you desire you can use some or all of the previously outlined examples.

Now to the most important aspect of all the subject of books When undertaking the collecting of foreign coins of any kind, books are most important. There cannot be sufficient emphasis placed on this subject. There are many standard reference works available, many at a low cost, especially considering the wealth of information contained in each. Bear in mind, in all reference books, prices are only a guide, but in most cases the books are excellent and reasonably up to date.

If you are intent on specializing in a certain country or countries, many of the books you require are available readily. Some may be originals printed many years ago, some may be reprints. In the case of reprints, many of the errors or omissions from the original have been corrected in the reprinting and brought up to date and quite often up to date price guides have been included in the reprint.

Of course, it goes without saying that many specialized works, whether originals or reprints, will be in the language of the country involved, such as French, Russian, Spanish, etc. If you do not understand the language, and most of us don't, unless it is our native tongue, try and pick reference books that are well illustrated. This will make up somewhat for the language barrier, and also purchase a dictionary of the language, will help.

In regards to those books that are without up to date pricing lists included, you will have to research this information for yourself. This can be done by culling over foreign dealers price lists, auction catalogues, foreign coin publications, and where else can you obtain the required information. As a collector your foreign coin dealer is usually more than willing to advise you wherever he can. It's a lot of work coming up with desired information but rest assured you will be a more knowledgeable person on your chosen specialty.

My own library contains some 300 reference works, not including auction catalogues and various foreign publications, and I am seeking many more books that I feel I require. The fact that I am buying and selling all conceivable types of foreign coins, makes this a must for me and I take the trouble to cross reference all my library, because, in many cases, one book on the coinage of a given country will also appear in a book on the coinage of another seemingly unrelated country simply because the unrelated country made coinage for the former. For instance, some coins for early Germany were made in France and Poland and a number of British Commonwealth coins were made in Great Britain and so on. When you buy your reference books make sure you use them. Don't have a nice bookcase full of books in your living room, that just collects dust from disuse. The old saying, "buy the book before the coin" is most true.

In closing I must say that I find the collecting of foreign coins, in my case, the buying and selling of same a most challenging field, and holds considerably more interest than, for instance, row on row of Lincoln Head cents, or Canadian silver dollars or the like. Also the workmanship and design in most of the foreign field is far superior and more beautiful to behold than modern day mass produced domestic coinage.

This, of course, is a personal opinion, which I am not trying to force on the reader.

Your comments on the contents of this paper would be most welcome and inquiries for information regarding foreign coins, will be answered to the best of my ability. By the same token, any advice from a reader will also be appreciated. Happy hunting.

Thanks, Ken, for a most informative article.

(This article is not to be reprinted without the consent in writing of the author, in whole or in part.)

PROPOSED COIN SHOWS

Listed below are the proposed coin club annual show dates and banquets. Please check to see if any of these dates will conflict with your club's proposed date.

- Sept. 17 - London Numismatic Society Coin Club show at the Carousel Motor Hotel, Wellington Road South near Highway 401, London. Information re bourse, displays, etc., to Lloyd T. Smith, 123 Arundel Street, London, Ontario.
- Sept. 23 - Huronia Numismatic Association Annual Show and Banquet at the Continental Inn, Highway 90 and 400, Barrie, Ont. Details re Bourse, Banquet, Displays and Auction contact Secretary, P.O. Box 243, Barrie, Ont.
- Oct. 1 - Sarnia Bluewater International Coin Show at the Village, 751 N. Christine St., Sarnia. Details re bourse to Norm. Scott, Box 89 Corunna. Exhibits - Robt. Sargent, 1212 Hancock St., Port Huron, Michigan and General Chairman - Carl Williamson, 931 Greendale St., Sarnia, Ont.
- Oct. 1 - Kitchener Coin Club Annual Show and Banquet at the Holiday Inn, Fairway Road, Kitchener. Details re bourse, etc., to Ted Turonski, 111 Lancaster St. East, Kitchener, Ont.
- Oct. 7-8 - Leisureland annual coin and stamp show from 10.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m. in Hamburg, N.Y. For details write to John Trzcinsky of Genesee Stamp and Coin Co., 2202 Genesee St., Buffalo, N.Y. 14211, Director.
- Oct. 21 - St. Catharines Coin Club 13th Annual Banquet and Coin Exhibit in Westminster United Church Parish Hall, 182 Queenston St. Details re bourse, etc., to the President, R. Voaden, 63 Highland Ave., St. Catharines. Guest speaker W. K. Robertson, Chief of Numismatics Division, Royal Canadian Mint, Ottawa.
- Oct. 22 - Stratford Coin Club Annual Show and Auction with eight bourse dealers and a 100 lot auction. Details re bourse, etc. to Stratford Coin Club, P.O. Box 262, Stratford, Ont.
- Oct. 28 - Toronto Coin Club Show to celebrate its 36th anniversary, at the Royal York Hotel in the Confederation and Tudor Rooms on the Main Mezzanine from 10.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m. Enquiries re bourse or displays to The Toronto Coin Club, 100 Front St. West, Toronto 116, Ont.
- Oct. 29 - Tillsonburg Numismatic Society Annual Coin and Antique Show in the Orange Hall, Brock St., Tillsonburg. Details re bourse to Chas. Laister, No. 3 Highway, Tillsonburg. General Chairman - George Reynaert, 41 Park Ave., Delta, Ont.

Nov. 4 - Oshawa and District Coin Club 12th Annual Coin-A-Rama to be held at the Mid-town Mall in Oshawa. Details re bourse, exhibits, etc. to Henry Burke, P.O. Box 212, Oshawa, Ont.

WHAT EVERY YOUNG NUMISMATIST SHOULD KNOW

By R. C. Willey F.R.N.S., F.C.R.N.S.,

Article 2

CLUBS AND ASSOCIATIONS, AND WHAT THEY DO

Since 1950, coin clubs have been organized all across Canada from St. John's, Newfoundland, to Prince Rupert in British Columbia. Provincial associations sprang up later, beginning in Ontario and Quebec. The national association was founded at Ottawa in 1950.

What are the advantages of joining a coin club? It enables a person to meet other collectors and gives him a chance to exchange duplicates. Clubs usually run an auction at which members may dispose of their duplicates. Tables are rented to dealers at every meeting to provide coins and supplies to the members. The club has a library from which members may borrow books for a week or two for study. Guest speakers are sometimes asked to come and talk about their specialties, and such occasions benefit everybody. Films and slides of coins are sometimes shown, accompanied by a prepared script read by one of the members. Through membership in a club, collectors are taught the necessary fundamental knowledge of numismatics and are advised of what to avoid when buying coins.

Provincial associations do much the same things, but on a larger scale, and assist local clubs in the province in projects too large for a local group to handle. The largest provincial association is the Ontario Numismatic Association. It sponsors an audio-visual service to clubs, provides guest speakers if requested in reasonable time, and co-ordinates the activities of member clubs so that a given date will not be overloaded with coin shows. The Association has an annual convention at which coins are exhibited, sold and discussed. The Association presents an Award of Merit each year to a numismatist who has made an outstanding contribution to Canadian numismatics in Ontario. The Province of Quebec, the Atlantic provinces, and the British Columbia numismatic associations are similar in scope and activities.

The Canadian Numismatic Association is the largest association in Canada, and the second largest in the world. Its Canadian Numismatic Journal has been published monthly for twelve years, and contains articles dealing mainly with Canadian numismatics. The Association has a large library, from which members may borrow books not otherwise obtainable. The annual convention is the largest such event in Canadian numismatics. The finest exhibits in Canada are shown at this convention. The foremost collectors in Canada are chosen as guest speakers. Panel discussions are conducted as part of an extensive educational program. Dealers from all over Canada rent tables for selling coins, and one of the largest coin auctions is conducted at the convention.

(Article No. 3 in October)

REPORT ON THE "JUNIOR PROGRAM" FOR
C.N.A. DELEGATES' MEETING

By Paul R. Johnson Peterborough Coin Club

As many of you are aware, I have been appointed by President Williams to compile a report on the possibility of introducing a Junior Program into the C.N.A. I have done extensive research on the subject and truly hope that this is the first step in the right direction for the Program to become a reality. I have had assistance with ideas from many Junior and Senior collectors throughout Canada and also from some C.N.A. member clubs. Along with my opinions, this is what constitutes the basis of my report.

Before I continue, I wish to stress that the Junior collectors of to-day are equally important as the Senior members in any coin club. The young collectors of to-day need guidance. They need encouragement and responsibility. These are the young boys and girls who will lead our clubs and associations in the near future. This is possible with dedicated help from the older experienced members. By introducing a Junior program, we hope to improve this relationship in the C.N.A. on a Junior and Senior level.

A Junior Numismatic Literary Contest proved to be a favourable idea among members I approached. This could be a yearly event and awards presented at the C.N.A. Convention.

Another notable suggestion is to have a regular monthly section of the C.N.A. Journal devoted to the Junior membership. A numismatic article written by a Junior or Senior member could be featured each month. This may consist of notable achievements by the young collector that should be recognized nationally or a question and answer page.

Stemming from the above suggestion, an award could be presented for the best article written by a Junior member throughout the year in the C.N.A. Journal. Many people expressed interest in more Junior exhibit awards at the yearly C.N.A. Convention. For example: have a first place award in Canadian Coins, Paper Money, Medals and Tokens and Foreign coins. It was suggested that there be special activities for the Junior members at the C.N.A. Convention. This could include a Junior luncheon with a special guest speaker and maybe a tour to a notable place of interest.

How do you feel about having a responsible representative for the Junior membership serve on the C.N.A. Executive? The concensus on this question was favourable among those contacted.

Finally, an award for the "Outstanding Canadian Junior Numismatist" should be offered by the C.N.A. each year. This type of award has been given by the American Numismatic Association and proven to be successful. Nominees would be judged by involvement, leadership, enthusiasm and dedication in Canadian numismatics. I truly feel that young collectors should be rewarded for their numismatic achievements.

By introducing a Junior Program of this type, I'm sure the interest created on a Junior level will increase in educational value. The C.N.A. should strive to promote junior numismatics at the local club level and this, by itself, will be extended throughout all of Canada.

Lack of communication is the number one problem for the Junior collector in his efforts to begin collecting coins. We, as adults, must do everything possible to continue to help the youth in his pursuit

of the coin collecting hobby. The introduction of a Junior program in the C.N.A. is a step in this direction, and hopefully, with everyone's support, the Program will become a success.

I would like to make special mention that the Toronto Coin Club is doing it's part in the progress of Junior numismatics. At their annual Coin Show on October 28th there will be a Junior Numismatic Symposium, with a three part panel discussion and lecture on the various aspects of the Junior Numismatist.

Every delegate at the convention representing a C.N.A. club can help Junior numismatics progress to an all-time high, both in your local club and in the Canadian Numismatic Association.

The above article also applies to the O.N.A. in every way.

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NUMISMATIC KNOWLEDGE

By W. Mathews

- (1) ANCHOR MONEY - Small silver coins, struck in 1820 and 1822, for use in Mauritius, the West Indies and other British Colonies. One-half, one-quarter, one eighth and one-sixteenth of a dollar were issued. The reverse of the coins shows an anchor crowned.
- (2) BARBER HEAD COINS - Any coins or patterns designed by American mint engraver Charles E. Barber but used specifically to refer to the Liberty Head dime, quarter and half-dollar of the 1892-1916 issue.
- (3) SAINT-GAUDENS - Augustus Saint-Gaudens American sculptor and the designer of the beautiful and artistic Double Eagle (\$20.00), also Eagle (\$10.00), first issued in 1907 and considered by many to be first in rank among beautiful American coins.
- (4) WIRE MONEY - When a coin has a sharp rim around its perimeter it is said to have a wire edge. Some of the 1907 Saint-Gaudens eagles and double eagles have wire edges.
- (5) BANK OF ENGLAND DOLLARS AND TOKENS - A silver token five-shilling piece was issued in 1804. It was struck on the Spanish dollar. Two million of these dollars were used for this purpose. The marks of the original Spanish Coin are occasionally discernible on the over-struck coin. In 1811, Bank of England tokens for three shilling and for one shilling, sixpence were issued.
- (6) OVERSTRUCK- A coin struck upon the flan of an existing coin instead of upon a blank is said to be over-struck.
- (7) FLAN - In French originally a flat cake or pie. In numismatics, metal cut to the shape of a coin but as yet unstamped.

NUMISMATIC TERMS AND THEIR MEANING

ABBEY-PIECES - A name given to both coins and tokens which were issued by the great European monastic establishments. Some were intended as Tesseræ Sacrae for use of pilgrims and monks who travelled from one religious house to another.

ABOUT UNCIRCULATED - Showing the merest trace of wear from any cause.

ACCOLATED, CONJOINED, JUGATE - Design with two heads facing the same direction and overlapping.

ACCOUNT, MONEY OF - Money used in business accounting and calculations but non-existent in fact, such as the livre in the Mississippi Valley fur trade.

THE CHARLOTTE COUNTY BANK, NEW BRUNSWICH - 1825

By Harry Eisenhauer, FRNS

Shortly after taking up residence in the Province of New Brunswick, I became very interested in the many banks and bank notes of that Province. This article deals with but one of many banks founded in the Province, the Charlotte County Bank.

The first meeting of the stockholders and subscribers of the Charlotte County Bank was held in the "News Room" in St. Andrews on Thursday, the 12th day of May, 1825, for the purpose of establishing by-laws and ordinances and of choosing nine directors. These later were elected as follow:

President - Colin Campbell

Directors - Harris Hatch, John Dunn, John MacMaster, James Douglas, Thomas Wyer, Charles J. Briscoe, John McAllister and John Wilson.

Among the eighteen by-laws and regulations it was established that the Bank was to be open for business from ten o'clock in the morning until two in the afternoon.

One of the first duties of the Directors was to choose a cashier and on the 22nd day of June one, Peter Stubs, was duly appointed. He was to draw the elegant salary of one hundred and seventy-five pounds per annum. The Cashier's bond being signed, he was sworn into office by Justice Wyer.

At a meeting on the 20th of July, a committee composed of Harris Hatch, John Douglas and John MacMaster, Esquires, was appointed to enquire into a suitable place for the site of the Bank. After looking at several locations they decided on the house of Mr. Watt as being eligible for their purpose. They were ordered to lease two rooms in the house at the rent of twenty pounds per year for seven years and to build a vault therein, the entrance to the same to be in the Committee Room.

For getting the bank into operation, Thos. Wyer, H. Hatch and John MacMaster formed a committee to borrow one thousand pounds for six months.

The list of shareholders contains names from St. Andrews, St. Stephen, Pennfield, St. George, Saint John, Grand Manan and Eastport, Maine. Some of Saint John's leading business men owned stock: Thomas Merritt, R.W. Crookshank, William Block, Neville Parker, Thomas Hanford, etc. The ladies were not to be outdone and the following three owned shares: Mary Mackie, Mary Wyler and Grace Doughty.

With the bank nearly ready for business came the question of currency, so again a committee was formed to frame the face of the several notes required -- 5/, 10/, 20/, 40/, 5 pounds and ten pounds, and to write to some "respectable house in London" to procure the engraved plates.

As the letter written by Messrs. Wilson, Briscoe and Douglas, the Committee, is of sufficient interest to print, extracts from it follow:

St. Andrews
6th June 1825

Messrs. Bainbridge & Brown, London.
Gentlemen:

The legislature of the province having been pleased to incorporate a Society of Gentlemen under the denomination of the President Directors and Company of the Charlotte County Bank, New Brunswick of

of which body the undersigned are the President and a committee appointed for its purpose of procuring the necessary plates, paper, etc. and it being the unanimous wish by the President and the Directors that your House should be requested to accept the agency in London.

The whole of the capitol stock of the bank is already subscribed and it is provided by the Act of Incorporation that the President and Directors shall be entitled to put the Bank in operation upon the first day of October next. It has been determined that the issue shall be confined in the first instance to notes of five shillings, one pound, three pounds, five pounds and ten pounds, in all requiring five plates and that the number of notes to be struck off shall be as follows:

5 shillings to the amount of 8,000 pounds, 32,000
1 pound to the amount of 6,000 pounds, 6,000
3 pounds to the amount of 3,000 pounds, 1,000
5 pounds to the amount of 5,000 pounds, 1,000
10 pounds to the amount of 3,000 pounds, 300

Total pounds 25,000, 40,300 notes after the gravest consideration which the President and Committee have been able to bestow upon the subject they are of opinion that it would be advisable to return the embellishments of the several notes within the limits of those of the New Brunswick Bank at Saint John and that the paper, if practicable, should be thinner.

On top of the face of the note they are desirous some small emblematic device should be introduced applicable to the face of a county like New Brunswick, the staple commodity of which is Timber and the exertions of her merchants confined generally to shipping and navigation.

The whole of this device to be surmounted by a wreath composed of roses at the base of the thistle on the outer side and the shamrock on the sinister. The branches will be uniting above the device, which will not necessarily be confined strictly to a parallelogram the extreme size of the note $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches by $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

In the space at the bottom of the face of the note, a still smaller device applying to commerce and agriculture generally may be inserted.

It is wished that an erect figure of Britannia with her usual emblems on a ground work of tracery should be placed with the ornamental writing and ground work where the values of the several notes are to be exhibited in figures and letters respectively and all the decorations intended for the faces of the several notes.

In the body of the notes, the words, President, Directors and Company Charlotte County Bank, New Brunswick and the words showing the values of the notes should be distinguished by a variation in the size and description of the letters employed.

For the backs of the notes, the colour should note be blue as on the backs of the St. John notes but a bright red, varying perhaps in shade in different places to correspond to the density of the impression in ink on the opposite side or front of the note.

Although the proposed plates will be much less showy and elaborate than those of St. John, yet it is desirable they should not fall at all short of them in Chasteness of design or excellence of workmanship. The undersigned therefore beg to suggest the propriety of employing artists eminent in the several walks of their respective professions.

In order to obviate as far as may be in their power the possibility

of disappointment by the occurrence of accident in the passage across the Atlantic, the undersigned are of the opinion it would be desirable to divide the notes into separate portions and that one parcel should be sent addressed to the President and Committee to the care of Mr. Bain at Halifax by the Falmouth packet and a second to the care of Mr. Bowman at Saint John by a direct conveyance to that place and a third direct to St. Andrews".

(To be concluded in the October issue)

NEW MEMBERS

The following applications have been received. If no written objections are received, their acceptance will be acknowledged in the October issue of the Ontario Numismatist.

858 Steven Forten, 176 Campbell Ave., Hamilton, Ont.

859 Paul Wellman, 122 Lauder Road, Oshawa, Ontario.

THIS 'N THAT

Its seems a coon's age since I scribbled off a few lines to our many readers -- Here we are in September and as the fellas of yesteryear used to say "Boy, I wonder where my summer wages has gone" While I know where my summer wages went - eats - taxes - etc. - I sure do not know where the time has gone -- It only appears a couple of weeks ago since the O.N.A. Convention at Niagara Falls -- Then we were talking of going to Stratford in June, when Ye Ed took sick -- First thing you know it was August and the C.N.A.-C.P.M.S. Convention was upon us in Toronto -- Boy, Ye Ed and Mrs. Ed had themselves a field day -- meeting folks we hadn't seen for many a day and I need hardly add feeling the better for it! -- Next came the opening of the "Ex" with the usual hurry and bustle of getting the O.N.A. exhibits set up, with Central Coin Club digging in to help get us shipshape for the coming influx of visitors -- I may add a note of pride here to all those who took time off their week-end to come to the Exhibition to set up their very special displays -- It's the first time since I've been going down to T.O. that I ever remember exhibits being turned down -- we had too many -- a good healthy sign altho' too bad for those who had to cut down on the number of cases they originally had intended to display-- Let's hope we will not run into this problem next year --- So now here we go again --fall is with us -- The clubs will be getting their programs ready--- don't forget to give friend Charlie Laister: plenty of time to get your slides away to you -- Also let us see some more of the clubs taking advantage of our Speakers Circuit -- You have a fine choice of 20-30 good knowledgeable speakers and many of them in your own area, so take advantage of them -- Write to Ken Prophet -- He'll be only too delighted to get you a speaker for your October or November meeting-- So on and on we go, let us hope to better things -- In conclusion may I say a big thank you to the many kind friends who sent articles as they promised and as you will see that I have used some of them to make this (I hope) a pretty interesting bulletin with something for everyone -- Meanwhile, it's back to school for the youngsters and back to the typewriter for

"Ye Ed"