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USMexNA Financial Report, 2008

Cash in Bank 2/2/2008

\$8,282.96

Income:

Dues

\$2,145.00

Advertising

\$1,625.00

\$3.770.00

Expenses:

Journal/postage

\$3,203.74

Supplies

\$ 276.00

Cash in bank 12/31/2008

\$8,573.22

WANTED!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

VOLS I AND II MERITO REVOLUCIONARIO



Antecedentes Revolucionarios de los Militares y Civiles a quienes se han otorgado las Condecoraciones del Merito revoucionario.

Contact Elmer Powell, P.O. 560745, Dallas, TX 75365-0745



VIVA LA REVOLUCION

By Joe Flores C-2

COUNTERFEIT 50 CENTAVOS TAXCO G.B. 228

I will address this column to work that my good friend Verne R, Walrafen did a few years ago. This is on the very well known counterfeit 50 centavos Taxco G.B. #228. Thank you Verne for your research.

For the purposes of comparison I am illustrating here several points on a genuine Taxco silver 50¢.

The obverse (eagle) die was used to produce Taxco $5 \, \varepsilon$, $10 \, \varepsilon$ and the silver $50 \, \varepsilon$.

The reverse (sun) die was used to produce Taxco copper $50\,\text{\'e}$ and silver $50\,\text{\'e}$.



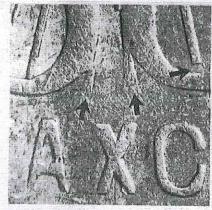


Silver 9.095g 27.89mm Plain edge

H.WOOD: 92 UTBERG: GUE-51 GAYTAN: GRO-80 GUTHRIE: 228 L/S: GRO-43



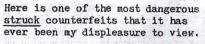
(65)



112

FENDINE

The black arrows indicate the points that should be compared when looking at a spurious piece.



Compare the points indicated by the arrows to the genuine specimen that I illustrated on the last page.





H.WOOD: 92 UTBERG: GUE-51 GAYTAN: GRO-80 GUTHRIE: 228 L/S: GRO-43

3



66





One would expect that this reverse die was also used with a new obverse die to produce an ample supply of Taxco copper 50¢ s.

A STUDY OF THE MINOR SILVER REALES OF THE HERMOSILLO MINT

By Dave Busse C-58

Before starting, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Don Bailey for writing an updated book on State & Federal Copper and Brass Coinage of Mexico. This article has been adapted from a book I am writing that covers Republic of Mexico Silver *Real* Minors. It specifically addresses the issues from the Hermosillo Mint. In the book, every mint that produced silver *real* minors is being covered in a similar manner. In addition, a Checklist, which will be in a separate volume, is being written and several serious collectors and/or former collectors have contributed to it. Therefore, the checklist will contain quite a few more varieties than one sees in the popular catalogs such as Krause 2009, etc. If anyone has detailed photographs, either regular or digital, of better condition ¼R, ½R, 1R, 2R or 4R from any mint and would be willing to share them, I would be most grateful and will credit you in the book if you so desire. If you don't have photographs but do have better condition coins and would be willing to loan them to me so that I could make high resolution scans/photos, I will pay postage both ways.

HERMOSILLO

Hermosillo is the capital of the northwestern state of Sonora and has an unusual numismatic history, even for Mexico. Some coppers were struck there between 1832 and 1836. In addition, a few 8R were struck in 1835 and 1836, and again in 1839 when a ½R was also struck. However, it seems those silver issues were not authorized by the Federal Government. As a result, they were ordered to cease production and remove from circulation coins that had already been struck. As one might expect, all Hermosillo silver coinage from the 1835-39 period is excessively rare, according to most records the known examples are either Unique or have at most two or three pieces in existence.

4R - HERMOSILLO

As far as we know, no \(\frac{1}{4}R \) were struck at this mint.

Fig. A 1/2R - HERMOSILLO

The Hermosillo ½R is an often overlooked coin – regardless of the date – that is missing from most collections. There are three reported: an 1839 assayer P. P. that if genuine is considered Unique, an 1862 F. M. and an 1867 PR, 6/ inverted 6, 7/2 and PR/FM. There were none in Premier-84. The Pradeau-Bothamley Sale II of March 30-April 3, 1971 Lot #1697, featured an 1867/1 H° P.R./F.M. (the photo is a little dark, but good enough to tell it is a gorgeous coin) graded "Toned mint luster, Probably Unc" which brought \$250. A study of the photo shows that it has a Mexico City Style Eagle & Cap. The 1971 Edition of Hubbard-Buttrey did not list the coin in anything above EF and gave it a value of \$55 in that condition. Thus, while we make think \$250 was a real bargain, and it probably was, the winner still paid nearly five times the listed value for an EF. In VF or better

either date is definitely a FIBI. Interestingly, the Hermosillo 4R and ½R used the Late Mexico City Style Dies while the 1R and 2R used the Sonora Style Dies.

Fig B



★½R H . 1839 P (P)

Note the Retrograde V in MEXICAVA

Attribution Number: .5R-Ho-1839-1101

Note I have not been able to examine the above coin "in the flesh" and therefore make no claim as to its being genuine.

Fig. C



½R H 1867 P R, 6/ inverted 6 & 7/2, no Star in Reverse Legend
The 6/inverted 6 is so poorly executed that it appears to be an Inverted 6/6!
Attribution Number - .5R-Ho-1867-1101

Fig. D



Close up of the 7/2, note rounded area at the top of the 7 and the wide base of the 2 just above the bottom of the 7

DIE STYLE

Early Hermosillo – 1839
Eagle Side - Short Wide Eagle, retrograde И in MEXICANA.
Cap Side – Short and very rounded Cap. Broken Star

Late Hermosillo – 1861 & 1867 Mexico City Style 1856-1868

RARITY - Very Scarce-Rare (1867, possibly two varieties) to Extremely Rare (1862)

CONDITION – Usually found in Low Grade and Extra Fine is about as good as one can expect to acquire and that will in all likelihood be the 1867.

COLLECTING TIPS – This is one that you should buy if offered.

1R - HERMOSILLO

This is a tough two-year-type or three-year-Type (assuming the 1862 exists and is can be acquired) coin. I have been told by one authority that an 1862 exists, but it is not listed in any reference and to date I have not actually seen it. Assuming it exists, Hermosillo has become even tougher for the Date collector. Very Fine or lower examples of the 1867 show up occasionally. Krause 2008 lists three varieties of the 1867 (a regular 7 and a small 7/1, and a Large7/ a Small 7) as well as the 1868 as having a value of \$250 in UNC. However, my research shows there are at least three varieties of the 1867: an overdate 7/2, a Plain Date Regular Size 7 and a Plain Date Large 7. I believe what the catalogs call a 7/1 is actually a 7/2, which comes from a close examination of a high grade example (CH AU), see photos below. The 7 appears to be the same size (though somewhat lower on the coin) as the 1 & 8 while the 6 appears larger and higher than the

other three digits. Interestingly, none of the three Varieties of the 1867 have a horizontal bar in the H of the mintmark.



★ 1R I I 1867 PR. (Horizontal Bar in MM missing, appears to be 7/2 rather than 7/1, Large 6 in Date, No Dots in Legend until after the assayer initial R, Un-Listed as such)

Grade: Choice Extra Fine, Well Struck

Attribution Number: 1R-Ho-1867-1101

Fig F



Note the slight curve at the top of the 7 and the extension to the right near the bottom of the 7. Note that there is no base or serif in the 1 of 1867

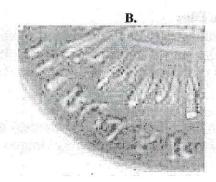
Fig. G



Date, No Dots in Legend until after the assayer initial R, Un-Listed as such)

Grade: Extra Fine, Soft Eagle's Breast

Attribution Number: 1R-Ho-1867-1103



Close Up of Legend – No Horizontal Bar in MM, Large 6, 7 is same size as the 1 and 8 not an over-date.

↑ 1R . I I · 1867 P R ·
Horizontal bar in MM missing, Large 7, not an over-date



Attribution Number: 1R-Ho-1867-1102
From a private collection reproduction furnished by the owner

I have seen one UNC (1868) and it was purchased at an auction in Mexico City for \$1,000. My guess is that it is off the market for at least twenty years unless the owner finds a better one.

DIE STYLE - Sonora Style Dies

Eagle Side — has a more symmetrical Eagle than seen in any of the other Styles. Both Wings are sharply pointed. The body is long and narrow. Beak is open.

Cap Side — Large fold at the upper right of the Cap and a pronounced opening at the

bottom.

RARITY – Very Scarce for the 1867 issues (all varieties) and Rare for the 1868. The 1862 would be considered Excessively Rare, possibly Unique.

CONDITION – Usually found in Low Grade and Extra Fine is about as good as one can expect to obtain.

COLLLECTING TIPS - This is one that you should buy if offered.

2R - HERMOSILLO

Possibly – Guadalupe y Calvo is also a candidate – the hardest to find after the E^O M^O and the C^E. I have personally seen two Uncirculated examples of an Hermosillo 2R, both dated 1867. One was owned by another Type/Variety Collector at the time. I found one that sold for \$500 in the 1975 ANA Auction (Lot 1977 and there was a photo). It was graded Choice UNC, Toned. The dealer who bought the coin for the collector confirmed that the coin I saw was the same piece that was in the ANA Auction. The second was featured in Ponterio & Associates Sale 143 Lot 1242 (photo below). Be aware that an 1862 – possibly Unique - has been reported. Currently I list it as RNC.





★ 2R. H. 1867. P. R. (7/1, PR/FM) Attribution Number: 2R-1867-1101

Note the Sonora Eagle & Cap Ponterio & Associates Sale 143 Lot 1242 Grade: "Weakly Struck on Eagle's Breast as usual, Lightly Toned, BRILLIANT UNCIRCULATED" by the cataloger. Price realized was \$1,380 (including the Buyer's Fee) which was a surprise to most there.

Fig. L



Style.

Eagle Side – has a more symmetrical Eagle than seen in any of the other Styles. Both Wings are sharply pointed. The body is long and narrow. Head is no larger than the neck. Beak is open.

Cap Side – Large fold at the upper right of the Cap and a pronounced opening at the bottom.

RARITY – Very Scarce to Rare depending on the grade Rare (1867). Extremely Rare (1861) Excessively Rare (1862 assuming it exists)

CONDITION – Usually found in Low Grade, and Extra Fine – with the exception of the one pictured above – is about as good as one can expect to find. I believe that less than 10 and perhaps less than 5 examples of the 1867 exist in Mint State. Moreover, I would

be surprised if not shocked were a private collector to have an 1861 in that state of preservation.

COLLECTING TIPS – Buy the 1861 (note PR of the 1861 in the Premier 84 Sale) or 1862 if you find either; grade conscious collectors can look for the 1867 in VF, anything better will command well above catalog estimates.

4R - HERMOSILLO

This is a three-year type coin. The 1861 is rare, one graded GOOD (Lot #2859, photographed) brought \$125 against an estimate of \$200-300 in Premier 84. The 1862 is a recent discovery and to date only two have been identified and authenticated. The 1867/1 is difficult but not nearly as difficult as the '61 or '62. An 1867/1 in Very Fine (Lot #2860) fetched \$270 against an estimate of \$150-200 in the same sale.

Fig. M



★ 4R· H·1861.F M·
Grade: Extra Fine, Toning
Attribution Number: 4R-Ho-1861-1101

Fig. N



Close up of MM, Date and Assayer Initials, note how much larger 61 is than 18, note also that the last 1 has been repunched at least 3 times, compare the last 1 here to the 7 in the Date on the coin below.

I have examined in detail an 1867 (see below) that does not appear to be an over-date; at the very least it requires a vivid imagination to claim a 7/1. If it is truly a 7/1 then it is from a different dies pairing than the 1861 pictured above that would mean that at least two sets of die were used in 1861 even though it is much scarcer that the 1867. What is readily apparent is that almost the entire reverse legend has been re-punched. The star was re-punched to the point that it appears to be six pointed. The two uprights of the MM have been re-punched but not the superscript O. The dot between the R of 4R and the MM has been re-punched so that it appears to be two dots. All four digits of the date show evidence of re-punching but the last digit seems to be a 7/7 rather than a 7/1. The assayer initial P is a re-punched P rather than over an F. The R does appear to be over an M. The Obverse legend has the ANA of MEXICANA and the following dot re-punched. The coin exhibits a clashed die effect with rays extending above and below the wings as well as below the eagle's tail and feet. I grade and describe the coin as CH EF, Lustrous with a hint of russet toning, (Others whom I consider to be accurate, consistent graders claim it is AU. What makes it an important coin is the condition because it allows one to better determine the over-date status as well as other minting characteristics.

Fig. O



◆ 4R.H.1867. P. R. (P/P & R/M)
Attribution Number: 4R-Ho-1867-1102
Note the Clashed Dies effect on the Eagle Side
Grade: Choice Extra Fine, Light Toning
Attribution Number: 4R-Ho-1867-1102



C. Close Up of MM, Date & Assayer Initials

Compare the first digit of the date to the last digit. As I said above, it requires a good imagination to say that the 7 is over a 1. Another consideration is that we know that Hermosillo struck four reales in 1862, but none after that until 1867. That fact suggests that there would be an 1862/1 or an 1867/2 before there would be an 1867/1. Note also how much higher the 67 is than the 18. Compare to the 1861 which has a large 61 with the second 1 in the date entirely different from the first 1 in the date.

DIE STYLE - Mexico City Style of 1854 - 1868

RARITY – Scarce to very rare depending on grade of the 1867, any variety. The 1861 would be considered rare to very rare depending on the grade. The 1862 has to be considered excessively rare, with only two reported at present.

CONDITION – Usually found in the lower grades; extra fine or slightly better is about as good as one can expect to acquire.

COLLECTING TIPS – Type Collectors should search for a nice 1867. Date Collectors will have to work to find a decent 1861, and the likelihood of finding an 1862 is almost non-existent.

I also solicit your comments regarding the information provided below and welcome any and all constructive criticism.

Thanks,

Dave Busse 1429 Preston Trail Harlingen, TX 78552 956.440.8235 dbusse@rgv.rr.com

WANTED !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

The Journal is seeking articles on any area of Spanish Colonial numismatics. They can be long, short, hand written or in any form. We can and will work with any format and assist where- ever we can. There are several members that have the knowledge, and we would be happy to help them share this wit the other members. Please contract either Don Bailey or Mike Ontko, Assistant Editor c/o the USMexNA.

MEXICO RELEASES NEW FIVE PESO COMMERORATIVE SERIES

By Don Bailey C-1

Mexico has just released the first five peso coins from two series that commemorate the centennial of beginning of the Mexican Revolution and the bicentennial of the independence movement of Mexico. These were authorized by decree of President Felipe de Jesús Calderón Hinojosa and published on December 7, 2007.

The decree dictates that these coins shall be 25.5mm, bimetallic with the center being of Aluminum-bronze (92% copper, 6% aluminum and 2% nickel). The weight for the center is 3.25 grams.

The outer ring is made up of 16% - 18% chrome, .74% nickel, .12 % carbon, 1% silicon, 1% manganese, .03% sulfur, .04% phosphorus, and the remainder iron. The weight of this outer ring is 3.82 grams.

All of the coins in these two series have a common obverse, the Mexican National Coat Of Arms with the inscription "ESTADO UNIDOS MEXICANOS" with a wreath below.

The reverses of the Independence series in the center have the date and denomination with the bust and names of heroes of the Independence movement. The outer ring has the inscription "BICENTENARIO DE LA INDEPENDENICIA, MEXICO, 2010"

The reverses of the Revolution series in the center have the date and denomination with the bust and names of personages from the Revolution period, and the outer ring has the inscription "CENTENARIO DE LA REVOLUTION MEXICO, 2010". The significance of the doubled "00" in the date is unknown at this time.

Numbering of these coins and their anticipated dates of issue are as follows:

BICENTENARIO DE LA INDEPENDENICIA:

2008 #1, Ignacio Lopez Rayón (1773-1832).

2008 #3, Carlos Maria de Bustamente (1774-1847).

2008 #5, Francisco Javier Mina (1789-1817).

2008 #7, Francisco Primo de Verdad y Ramos (1768-1808).

2008 #9, Mariano Matamoros (1770-1814).

2008 #11, Miguel Ramos Arizpe (1775-1843).

2008 #13, Hermenegildo Galeana (1772-1814).

2009 #15, José Maria Cos (?-1819).

2009 #17, Pedro Moreno (1775-1817).

2009 #19, Agustin de Iturbide (1783-1824).

2009 #21, Nicolás Bravo (1776-1854).

2009 #23, Servando Teresa de Mier (1765-1827).

2009 #26, Leona Vicario (1789-1842).

2010 #27, Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla (1753-1811).

2010 #29, José Maria Morelos y Pavon (1765-1815).

2010 #31, Vicente Guerrero (1783-1831

2010 #33, Ignacio Allende (1769-1811).

2010 #35, Guadalupe Victoria (1786-1843).

2010 #37, Josefa Ortiz de Dominguez (1768-1829).

CENTENARIO DE LA REVOLUTION:

2008 #2, Alvaro Obregón (1880-1928).

2008 #4, José Vasconcelos (1881-1959).

2008 #6, Francisco Villa (1876-1923).

2008 #8, Herbero Jara (1866-1939).

2008 #10, Ricardo Flores Magón (1873-1922).

2008 #12, Francisco J. Múgica (1884-1954).

2009 #14, Filomeno Mata (1845-1911).

2009 #16, Carmen Serdán (1875-1948).

2009 #18, Andres Molina Enriquez, 1868-1939).

2009 #20, Luis Cabrera (1876-1954).

2009 #22, Eulalio Gutiérrez (1881-1939).

2009 #24, Otilio Montaño (1880?-1917).

2009 #25, Belisario Dominguez (1863-1913).

2010 #28, Francisco I. Madero (1873-1913).

2010 #30, Emiliano Zapata (1883-1919).

2010 #32, Venustiano Carranza (1850-1920).

2010 #34, La Soldadera.

2010 #36, José Maria Pino Suárez (1869-1913).

INDEPENDENCE COINS ISSUED THUS FAR:





#1, Ignacio López Rayón, (1773 – 1832) was a lawyer and an early supporter of Hidalgo from Tlalpujahua who became Hidalgo's secretary and an insurgent authority.

He was the force behind the newspaper of the independence movement, *El Despertador Americano*.

Following the defeat of the insurgents at the Calderón Bridge he went north to Saltillo to continue the fight. Returning to Michoacán he settled at Zitácuaro, where in August 1811 he established the Supreme Governing Junta, and served as the President. This Junta issued many laws, rules and proclamations. After Zitácuaro fell to the royalists, the Junta existed as a migrating government until 1813 when it was incorporated into the Chilpangingo Congress.

Ignacio López Rayón's most important contribution to the Independence movement was his involvement in the Chilpancingo Congress and the Apartzingán Constitution, which established the basis for Mexico's constitutional principles.



#5, Francisco Xavier Mina (1789 – 1817) was a Spaniard who was in exile in London, and met supporters of the Mexican Independence movement. In 1816 he came to Mexico to prepare a military force to take the fight to New Spain. In 1817 he landed in Soto la Marina where he started a military campaign that resulted in victories such as the Hacienda de Peotillos and El Arrast, radero. He joined forces with Pedro Moreno the battles of Sombrero and Los Remedios. He was captured in October 1817 and executed shortly thereafter.



#9, Mariano Matamoros (1770 – 1814) was a priest who in the early part of the uprising was imprisoned for his support of the insurgent cause. He escaped in 1811 and joined Morelos and his insurgent forces. He showed his military skills at the battles of Oaxaca, Izucar and Cuautla among others. He was captured at Valladolid and executed by firing squad in February 1814.



#3, Carlos Maria de Bustamante (1774 – 1848) was a noted historian as well as a lawyer who was supporter of the Independence movement. He knew he would be persecuted for publishing the news, but he joined the Morelos forces and published the Correo del Sur. He took part in the Chilpancingo Congress and edited the act of Independence. He was captured in 1818 in San Juan de Ulúa. Pardoned in 1819 he became politically active against Iturbide and was again imprisoned until 1823, when he joined congress.

REVOLUTIONARY COINS ISSUED THUS FAR:



#2, Alvaro Obregón (1880 – 1928) was from Sonora. HIS military skills made him a great asset to constitutionalism. He showed his military skills in battles with the federal forces and the Conventionalist forces of Pancho Villa's Northern Division in the Bajio region. He was opposed to Carranza's moderate positions and he proclaimed the Plan of Agua Prieta against the First Constitutionalist Chief.

He served as President from 1920 to 1924 where he promoted agricultural policies. He also implemented the Constitution's anticlerical laws. He was reelected President in 1928, but was assassinated by a religious fanatic, José de León before he could take office.



#6, Francisco "Pancho" Villa (1876 – 1923 was born Doroteo Arango in Durango and worked at many occupations in his early years but turned to being a bandit. assumed the name Francisco "Pancho" Villa from an earlier bandit by that name.

In 1910, he joined Madero's anti-reelectionist movement as a colonel in his army. On May 10, 1911 Villa along with Pascual Orozco, captured Ciudad Juárez and Madero established his headquarters there.

In 1912 Villa returned to Chihuahua and later joined Madero's federal army under command of Victoriano Huerta. Huerta disliked Villa and jailed and sentenced him to death. Madero intervened and got the death sentence rescinded. Villa escaped from prison on January 8, 1913, and fled to El Paso. After the assassination of Madero Villa returned to Mexico to fight against Huerta leading the *División del Norte*. On his way to Mexico City he seized San Pedro de la Colonias and Torreón. He was instructed not to take part in the Zacatecas attack. Carranza and Villa had a falling out over this and Villa resigned his command and was named governor of Chihuahua.

On August 20, 1914, Carranza came to Mexico City to implement his Plan de Guadalupe. In October 1914, Carranza with all the Revolutionary leaders organized the Convention of Aguascalientes. No agreement could be reached. Villa was reelected as chief of the north division. In 1915 Villa suffered major defeats at Cellaya, León and Aguascalientes. In 1920 after Carranza'a assassination, Villa promised then President de la Huerta he would never take arms again. He retired to his hacienda in Canutillo, and on July 20, 1923 Villa was shot to death.



#10, Ricardo Flores Magón (1873 – 19292) along with his brothers Jesús and Enrique, began publishing *Regeneración*, in August 1900 as a weekly anti Porfirismo newspaper. Ricardo, along with his brothers were jailed in the late spring of 1901 for attacking a political from Oaxaca, and confined to Belén prison for a year. After their release they continued their opposition by publishing columns in *El Hijo de Ahuizote*.

Imprisoned again, released and arrested again, they felt it best to go in exile in San Antonio and published *Regeneración* from there. He again moved to St.Louis to keep publishing the paper. Ricardo formed the Mexican Liberal party and in January 1911 promoted the Baja California uprising. Madero tried to bring Ricardo into his movement but Flores Magón would have no part of this and continued to be critical of Madero and later Victoriano Huerta. His ideals of freedom and social justice were expressed in two theatrical works he wrote — *Tierra y Libertad "Land and Liberty"* and *Verdugos y Victimas*. "*Truths and Victims"* Ricardo Flores Magón was one of the most influential ideologists of the Mexican Revolution.



#8, Heriberto Jara (1866 – 1939) was a revolutionary from Veracruz who served as a General in the Constitutionalist Army and a politician, having served as a congressional representative for Veracruz to the constitutional congress of Querétaro. He was part of the radical group that had a large part in the edition of Article 123, among others that gave profound meaning to the constitution. He was one of the first to graduate from the Antón Lizardo Naval Academy. In 1914,he directed the cadets from the academy against the North American invasion.

Following the Revolution, he served in many political positions until his retirement from public life. He dedicated his life to attaining revolutionary ideals.



#4, José Vasconelos (1881 - 1959) was a lawyer who was a charter member of the Ateneo de la Juventud, in which a group of young thinkers banded together. With a few others, Vasconceslos formed a philosophical attack on materialism and positivism.

He served as Secretary of education under Obregón, and as rector of the National University. Throughout his career he inspired the teachers with a strong sense of nationalistic pride. Under adverse conditions he brought education to the rural masses, including the Indians, which he attempted to incorporate into the mainstream of mestizo society. During 1920 – 1924 over one thousand schools were built in rural México. During this period he also began a public library system.

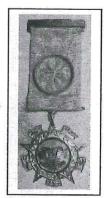
In 1910 he joined the forces of Madero and later joined with Villa. He was a supporter of the Mexican visual arts, especially the muralists. In his position as secretary of education, he commissioned artists to paint murals on the walls of public buildings. Thus México's artistic renaissance was originated. In 1929 he unsuccessfully ran for president.

The coins are currently retailing at \$1.50 each from Lois and Don Bailey Numismatic Services, 250 D South Lyon Ave #139, Hemet CA 92543. The Baileys are offering a subscription program, where by clients will receive shipments periodically as the coins are released.

LOIS & DON BAILEY NUMISMATIC SERVICES

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E-mail donbailey 98@yahoo.com web site www.donbailey-mexico.com
Recipient Mexican Order of the Aztec Eagle, September 2001



News Release

JUST RELEASED

STATE & FEDERAL COPPER AND BRASS COINAGE OF MEXICO, 1824 – 1872

Don Bailey, NLG has announced that after more then three years of research and complication of listings and pricing the "State Copper" book is published and now available to collectors and dealers.

This is the first extensive effort to update the numismatic and pricing information in over thirty years. The book has eighty-four pages, with images of 52 different coin types plus several varieties and tokens are shown. It is published on 28 pound paper, spiral bound, letter size with heavy plastic covers.

The history of this interesting period of Mexico's financial history is covered in an overview of all coins and a separate history for each entity and there is a footnote for each with historical notes and information.

"State Coppers" has been published by the Don Bailey Institute For Mexican Numismatic Research, and was compiled with the assistance of seventeen contributors, with a special credit to Ben Nibert, McAllen, Texas, for sharing his vast numismatic knowledge, and also to Cory Frampton and Max Keech for sharing their choicest examples from their collections for illustrations in the book and for other efforts to make this what it is.

The pricing for this publication is \$30.00 plus \$5.00 shipping. Quantity discount is available. Book request and any other questions can be directed to Don Bailey at the above address.

DEALERS IN MEXICAN NUMISMATIC AND HISTORICAL MATERIAL COIN WORLD'S "COIN VALUES OF MEXICO" ANALYST AN OFFICIAL DISTRIBUTOR OR BANCO DE MEXICO

HACIENDA TOKENS

Collectors who are fascinated by the Mexican revolutionary coins eventually become interested in this historical and tragic period of Mexican history. One of the things, which brought about the revolution, was the concentration of land in the hands of a few owners. In other countries where this situation has existed similar results have occurred. This brings the collector to the haciendas and their tokens or store cards. The States issued their own coins at several times, not only out of necessity to provide small units for commercial transactions but also to show that they could do so as "Estados Libera y Soberanos". The haciendas issued their own coinage for the use of their thousands of employees in the ranch-owned stores maintained within their boundaries which supplied the necessities of life to these people.

The census of 1910 – the year the revolution broke out on November 20th showed that 840 hacienda owners had as their property most of rural Mexico. One such owner was Don Luis Terrazas of northern Mexico who owned millions of acres, perhaps more than any one individual in any country or in any period of history. A pun developed around him; when anyone asked 'es Terrazas de Chihuahua?" the answer was "No, Chihuahua es Terrazas." Another story concerns a report that he once received a wire from a packing plant asking if he could supply 50,000 beef. His terse reply was ""What color?"

15 haciendas: 4 in Chihuahua, 5 in Coahuila, 1 each in the states of Mexico, Michoacan, Sonora and Tamaulipas and two in Zacatecas had an area of 3,660,000 acres or a little less than 250,000 per hacienda. Some haciendas were owned by one person or one family; often as cited above a family or single person owned 8-10 or more properties. In San Luis Potosi there was a hacienda named La Angostura, which had within its boundaries, 2 railroad stations, Las Tables and San Bartolo. From the main house to a lesser unit called "Rancho" in this hacienda a horseman had to travel 15 miles with the borders of the property extending even beyond.

The need for tokens is clear as in rural Mexico there were millions of people dependent upon the stores of the haciendas. The sizes and shapes were as varied as their designs; most had either the name of the hacienda, the last name of the owner or his initials. Some before 1885 were dated, most since that date are undated. Values are stated in numerals – some with the addition of R. or reales – others with "centavos" or abbreviations. Many exist with just a numeral – leaving it to the beholder to assume its value. Some were struck by competent die-sinkers in USA, others were obviously cast by crude methods probably by ranch workers in the blacksmith shops. They exist in most metals; lead – zink-lead alloys, copper, brass and aluminum. Also known are those of other materials such as leather, soap, glass, vulcanized rubber and wood. These latter are uncommon. It is difficult to determine which are really hacienda tokens and which are "store cards", as they were issued by many sources. Mine operators, industries, and all sorts of mercantile companies, issued and traded with this form of private coinage.

While these are difficult to locate in good condition, frustrating to attribute and their price is debatable, they tell a very interesting story and cover one more tragedy of a great country, MEXICO Article by Rosendo Rivera from "Plus Ultra, February 1969

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