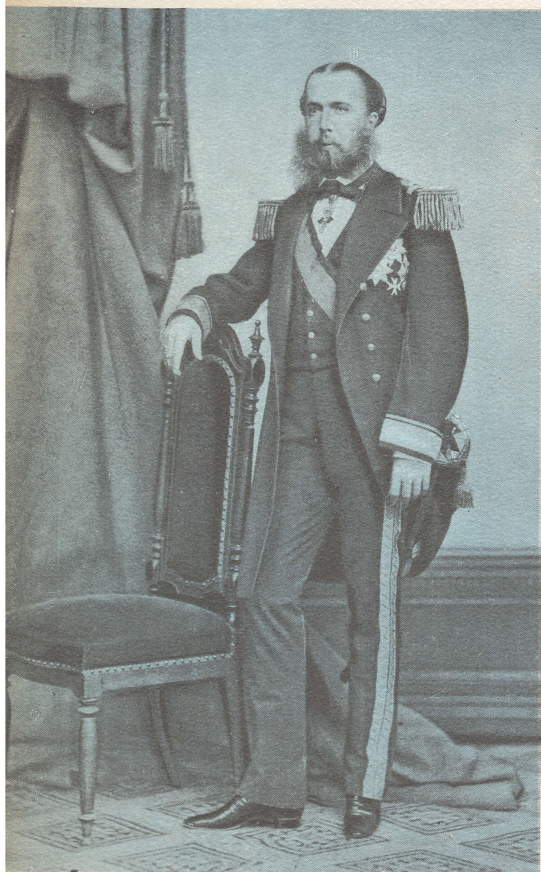




# MEXICAN OIL NEWS

VOLUME 1

No. 9



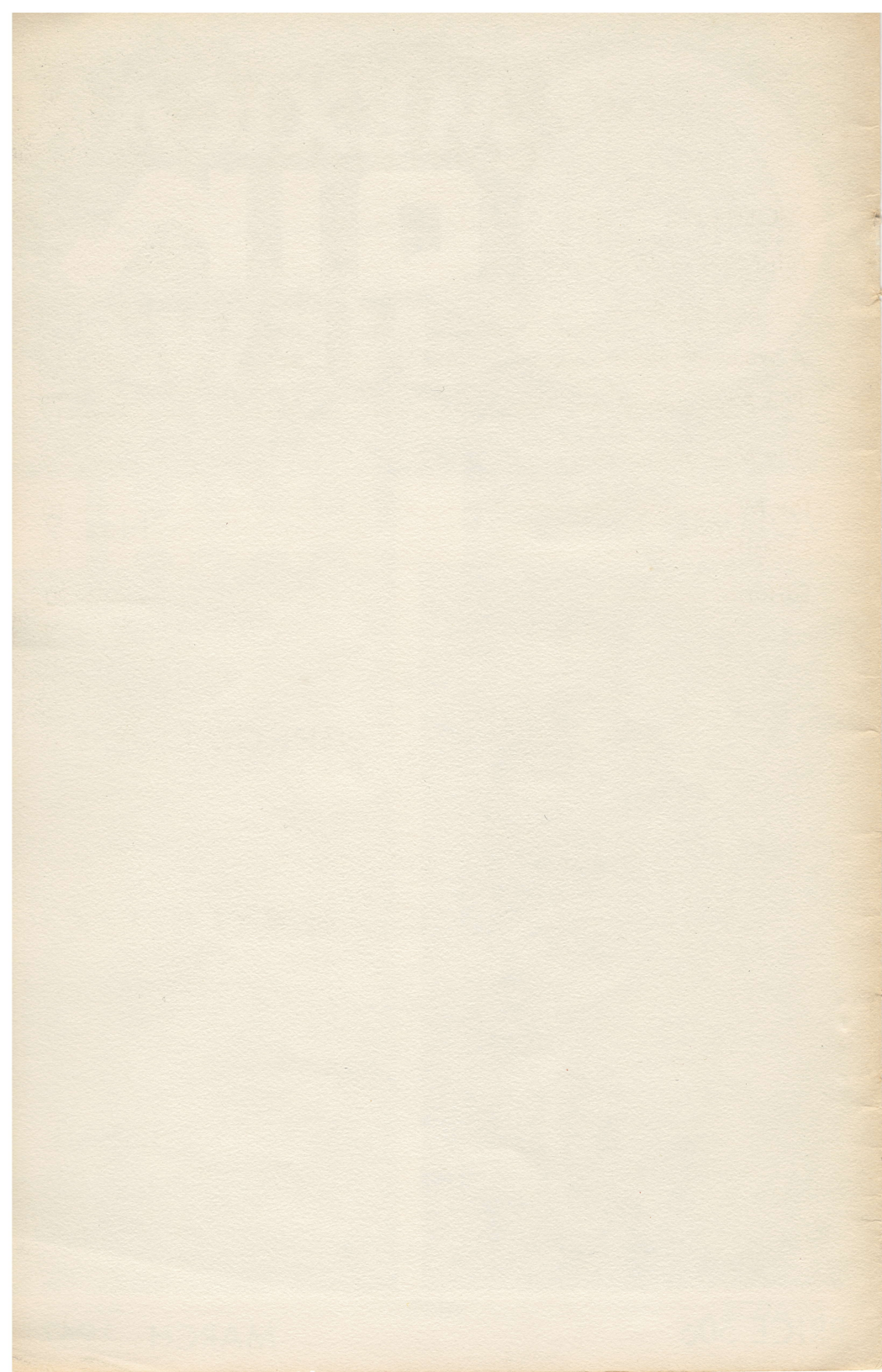
SPECIAL

*MAXIMILIAN*

ISSUE

PRICE 50¢

MARCH 1967



# *Mexican Coin News*

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## *Mint Sets*

## *of Mexico ?*

The article which appeared in this space last month on Mexican mint sets was a copy of an Editorial that was published on page 149 of "Monedas" which is a quarterly publication of the Sociedad Numismatica de Pueblo, Mexico, Num 31, Volumn 111 'th year. It was dated San Jose, July 27th, 1966 and published in the July-September 1966 issue.

I was out of the office during part of last month on Jury duty and this article was published as if it were written by Mrs. Edna Eubanks. I hereby offer my apology to Mrs. Eubanks. We are glad to get articles of this type and want to give the proper source of the information.

In a letter of February 21, 1967 Mrs. Eubanks states she has received some very unfavorable comments, as her name was on the by-line.

### **HARVEY BRUNS**

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# Mexican Coin News

Published monthly by

**Gulf Coast Printing Co.**

915 Leopard St., Corpus Christi, Texas 78401

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New advertisers must furnish reference.  
No advertising accepted from Minors.  
agency discounts.

Forms close 15th of month preceding month of issue.

All rates listed below are for cash with each advertisement, without exception.

## ADVERTISING RATES— PER INSERTION

	1 Time	6 Times	12 Times
Full page ..	\$40.00	\$37.50	\$35.00
2/3 page ...	28.00	26.00	24.00
1/2 page ...	22.00	20.00	18.00
1/3 page ...	14.50	12.50	10.50
1/4 page ...	10.75	9.50	8.50
1/6 page ...	7.75	6.75	5.75

Advertisements on the directory page are limited to business card type of copy. Rates are \$5.00 per issue, minimum of three issues. 6 issues for \$27.50. 12 issues for \$50.00.

Classified advertising will be available in the August issue and thereafter each month.

Classified rates are 7c per word, approximately 5 words per line, 7 lines to the column inch. Three insertions of same adv. 6c per word. Minimum charge \$2.00.

Contract advertisers must furnish change of copy by closing date or previous copy will be run.

Advertisements appearing in the Mexican Coin News are accepted in good faith, but are not guaranteed. The right to edit or reject advertising copy is reserved.

The publishers liability for error in an advertisement shall not exceed the cost of space occupied by the error, in proportion to the cost of the full advertisement. No liability shall be assumed for long hand copy.

Advertisers are expected to refund the full purchase price of any unsatisfactory items ordered by the readers, provided the buyer returns the merchandise within three days after receipt of shipment.

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All cuts must be furnished by advertiser. Halftones any screen. No mats or stereo-types accepted. Pictures will be accepted for advertisements on the following terms: Halftones \$2.00 each, Line \$1.00 each. Ask for special rates on color reproduction. Ask about rates for special reproductions of coins and currency for advertising purposes only.

Smallest type used will be six point. Display ads. will be set in proportion to the space ordered. There will be an extra charge for extra heavy composition.

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TO WRITE ADS,**

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Coins Just Holler Loud,  
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1919 TY2 50 CTVO F ..... 4.00

1944 TY3 1 PESO BU .... 1.25

1945 TY4 5 CTVO BU .... .25

1954 TY5 1 CTVO BU .... .50

1910 TY1 Lib. on Horse,  
fine or btr. .... 8.00

1950 TY2 5 Peso, Railroad,  
BU Gem .....14.00

1951/52/53 TY4 5 Peso unc.,  
Hidalgo and Wreath, ea. .. 1.50

1957 TY2 Juarez Constitution  
10 Peso unc., ea. .... 14.00

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# COINS AND CURRENCY

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1967 1 roll (20) BU 20 centavos \$ 1.30	Utberg New Book, a guide book of the coins of Mexico in English and Spanish 1536- 1967. \$ 2.00
1967 1 roll (20) BU 50 centavos \$ 2.25	1959 1 roll (40) BU 10 centavos \$ 2.75
CURRENCY one \$1-DF-51 Large Aztec calender \$ .25@	TOMKEN TUBE 1¢-50¢ any combination 18 for \$ 1.25
1965 1 roll (40) BU 5 centavos \$ .45	1965 1 roll (20) BU 20 centavos \$ .90
1915 TY-2 Zapatista XF \$12.00	1945 TY-5 10 centavos BU \$ 4.00
1965 MINT SETS 10 sets \$7.20 Bulk \$ 6.00	1964 MINT SETS 10 sets \$7.20 Bulk \$ 6.20

All Orders over \$5.00 sent postpaid in the U.S.

If your order is less than \$5.00 please add 25c for postage and handling.

Indiana Residents please add your 2% sales tax.

## *A Woman's Slant on Coins*

By Gladys Robbins

The tiny gold or silver Maximilian tokens on a dealer's counter have a strong appeal to we of the weaker sex. A woman doesn't have to be a "token" collector, a Mexican coin collector or a Maximilian specialist to be attracted by these small replicas of the Maximilian coinage.

I'll admit I bought my first one under the impression they were the world's smallest coins, a statement that is wrong on two counts. Of equal size (10 mm) is the Panama "Pill", although much thicker, and the bronze and silver India Tranvacore issues. This lovely "coin" isn't a coin at all, but a souvenir token manufactured by a jeweler in Mexico City.

Made primarily for the tourist trade they have been popular for the past decade. They are issued in silver or gold, but there are also numerous "gold wash" silver ones in existence as well.

Asking around among my knowledgeable friends I learned that their manufacturer, Mr. Barron, was a colorful giant of a man, in size as well as wealth and depth of Mexican Numismatics. Active during the Revolution, he is reportedly a powerful and controversial figure on the Mexican money scene.

Attending the Wildcat Show in Brownsville recently I asked "Dub" Martin of Tampico what the Mexican people really feel about Maximilian. He said, "Think", if you will, of having a

very respected and well liked friend from far away, visit in your home. This friend begins telling you how to run your household and in general butts into your business at every turn. You might still respect your friend, you might still even like him, but you would resent his interference very much. It is like this with the educated, well-to-do people of Mexico. Even though they could not and indeed **did not** tolerate his interference, they still feel a respect and affection for he and Carlotta."

At the next table, John Judd of McAllen told us of his prize possessions. He owns two Margolis vases, the largest in the world. They were made on an island off the shores of Spain and sent as a gift to Maximilian. Unfortunately, the gift arrived in Vera Cruz four days after the execution of Maximilian. Carlotta had gone to the crown heads of Europe with pleas for financial help for Maximilian. The Spanish response to the plea: Two vases that arrived four days too late. Just another case of too little too late.

The other, equally prized possession of Mr. Judd is one of two known Maximilian Judgment tables. Sixteen persons sat in judgment at Maximilian's bar of justice, instead of a 12-man jury as we have today.

Maximilian's brief empire is  
(Con't page 8)

# MEXICOINS

*Mexican Coins & Stamps*

**Houston, Texas 77052**

**P. O. Box 52777M**

**NEW PRICES EFFECTIVE JANUARY 20th.**

## **1966 DUPLIMINT BU SEALED SETS**

1c - 5c - 10c - 20c - 50c - \$1. ....	\$1.35	Set	
2 Sets .....	\$2.25	6 Sets .....	\$5.85
4 Sets .....	\$3.90	10 Sets .....	\$9.50

## **1967 COINS READY**

**1967 5c - 20c - 50c - \$1. READY**

### **BULK PRICES**

	5c	20c	50c	\$1.
20 Pieces .....	1.00	2.50	4.00	6.00
50 Pieces .....	2.20	5.25	8.50	13.50
100 Pieces .....	4.00	9.50	16.00	22.50

**Quantity Prices Upon Request**

**5 of each of 1967 coins ready \$3.50**

## **1965 BU COINS DUPLIMINT SEALED IN SETS**

1c - 5c - 20c - 50c - \$1. Single Sets .....	\$1.00		
2 Sets .....	\$1.70	6 Sets .....	\$4.45
4 Sets .....	3.15	10 Sets .....	7.20

All coins listed are shipped prepaid. For shipments to CANADA,  
add 50c for postage. Texas Residents add 2% for Sales Tax.

The most controversial coin of Maximilian's reign is the small letter peso, struck at the Mexico City mint. The number and reason for these pieces are the subject of the controversy. The letters of the small letter peso are 2mm. tall, whereas the letters of the other pesos are 3mm. tall.

There are several theories for this variety, the two best known are covered here. One of these was by a Dr. Nagle of Mt. Joy, Pennsylvania which was told as follows:

When the last coinage was struck during Maximilian's reign, the die broke and the last piece was badly mangled and it was difficult to see any resemblance to a peso. This piece was saved by one of the workmen and presented to Empress Carlotta as a memento of the incident. On examination of some of the coins, it was discovered that when the die first broke, a small chip, resembling a gash, appeared larger in each of the first thirty-two pieces and then in the thirty-third, thirty-fourth and thirty-fifth pieces they became badly broken. The thirty-sixth piece was the mangled piece that was presented to the Empress.

When this was discovered, some of the workmen, discussing this matter thought that this might be an omen of some serious disaster and when they found out that Maximilian was thirty-two when he became Emperor of Mexico and that he was in his third year of reign, some of the superstitious workmen believed that the badly mangled thirty-sixth piece indicated a tragic and impending disaster to the monarch. The fears of these workmen mounted to a feverish pitch and the frightening story was em-

bellished as it spread from one person to another.

The broken pieces of these pesos were secured immediately by an American officer who was in charge of the mint at this time.

The story tells of the unusual circumstances that his body was mangled and one bullet entered his forehead at the exact place where the gash appeared on the subject pesos. Empress Carlotta lost her mind after her return to Europe in quest for support for Maximilian prior to his capture and execution, and lived for sixty years never believing that Maximilian was dead and that he would return to her. It was reported in this story that one of these gashed pesos came into the possession of Dr. Nagle in the early 1870s.

The other theory is related in vol. I of *The Numismatic History of Mexico* by Dr. A. F. Pradeau, in which it is reported that the first pesos were struck on new presses capable of striking 80 pieces per minute and in the presence of the Emperor Maximilian and some members of his cabinet. The Director of the mint was reported to have presented speci-

(Con't. page 14)

### SILVER ONE PESO SETS

1920-45 XF - BU .....	\$17.50
1920-50 XF - BU .....	\$19.75
1920-66 XF - BU .....	\$34.95
(All dates except the 1949)	

### ONE CENTAVOS SETS—Complete

1933-49 VF - AU .....	\$4.50
1933-66 VF - BU .....	\$6.95
(Under \$10 add 35c postage)	

Write for 1967 Price List

### LIBRA COIN COMPANY

P. O. Box 20171  
Houston, Texas 77025

## LIBERTY COIN CLUB NEWS

### ACCENT ON YOUTH

Liberty Coin Club of Corpus Christi is having a membership drive with an accent on youth and a goal of 100 members for 1967.

Five Liberty Coin Club members have been certified by the Boy Scout office to counsel boys earning the coin collecting merit badge. They are Joe B. Davis, Ed Kane, Ivan Martin, Ross Barrera, and Jig Adams. At the February 7th meeting they told of their experiences during the past year working with the boys. Some of the Scouts who have earned this merit badge were present and showed their coin collections.

Virgil Hancock, authority on counterfeiting, was the speaker on February 21st. His subject, "Featuring Fakes" was coupled with slides and demonstrations of testing counterfeit coins.

### A Woman's Slant (Con't)

sued coins bearing his image, "Maximilian Emperador" on the obverse, Imperio Mexicano and the date on the reverse. We are indebted to Mr. Barron for so perfectly reproducing the tiny souvenirs, the Maximilian tokens. He has placed in the hands of millions a remembrance of Mexico's Great Foreign Emperor.

### *Please Mention*

## MEXICAN COIN NEWS

### *When Answering*

### *Advertisements*

## MEDAL OF OAXOCA

This medal was created by decree of January 11, 1868 by the state of Oaxaca and was issued in gold, silver and bronze. This medal was awarded to the coal miners of Soyaltepec, Juchitan and Miahuatlan who fought against the forces of Maximilian.

On the reverse, within a laurel wreath is "Venciendo al Enemigo Extranjero y al Traidor a Su Patria". (Death to the foreign enemies and the traitors of their country.)

On the obverse within a laurel wreath is "Defendio la Independencia Nacional Oaxaca". (The one who defended the national independence of Oaxaca.)

The ribbon is a rosette (26 mm. in diameter) of the national colors with green in the center.

## CATALOGS

Craig: Coins of the World, 1750-1850 .....	\$6.00
Gaytan: Billetes de Mexico (Paper money) .....	5.00
Harris: Modern Latin American Coins NEW .....	1.50
Lamb: Checklist of Coins of Nicaragua .....	.50
Raymond: Silver Dollars of N & S America .....	3.50
Ulan & Bruns: Checklist of Mexico's Coins .....	.75
Utberg: Coins of Estados Unidos Mexicanos .....	1.00
Utberg: Coins of the Mexican Revolution .....	3.00
Utberg: Coins of Colonial Mexico & Iturbide .....	3.00
Utberg: Coins of Republic of Mexico & Maximilian .....	3.00
Utberg: Numismatic Sideline of Mexico .....	4.00
Utberg: Guide Book Mexican Coins NEW .....	2.00
Utberg: Gold Coins of the Revolution NEW .....	1.50
Utberg: Sidelines #2 (Patterns & Counterstamps) .....	1.50
Wallace: Central American Coins Since 1821 .....	2.50

## ALBUMS FOR MEXICAN COINS

Whitman Bookshelf 20th Century Type Set .....	\$3.50
Dansco 20th Century Type Set .....	5.00
One Centavo 1899 to date .....	1.00
Two Centavos 1905-1941 .....	.75
Five Centavos 1905 to date .....	1.50
Ten Centavos 1905 to date .....	.75
20-25 Centavos 1905 to date .....	1.50
Fifty Centavos 1905 to date .....	1.00
One Peso 1910 to date .....	1.50
2-5-10 Pesos 1921-1960 .....	1.50

**SPECIAL:** Order \$20 in catalogs or albums and receive **FREE** a new mint sheet of 50 Mexican Olympic stamps.

**WHOLESALE LOTS**—Our end-of-year inventory shows that we must cut our stock of many items. While they last, we will send out lots consisting of sharp 20th Century Mexican coins, mostly BU (no current rate inexpensive material), at 50% of retail. Send \$50 and receive \$100 value in sharp, saleable Mexican coins—no catch; plenty of scarce types, but no white elephants or hard-to-sell dates. These are excellent dealer stock, but we must cut down our inventory.

Write for our large free monthly list of Mexican material.

*Richard A. Long*

**COINS AND CURRENCY OF MEXICO**

**P. O. Box 10075**

**Corpus Christi, Texas 78410**

# THE

# MAXIMILIAN

By **RAY VON ROSENBERG**

Archduke Ferdinand Maximilian of Austria is called the "Cousin of Europe" by historians due to his relationship to the crowned heads of Europe during the middle years of the Nineteenth Century. His brother was Emperor of Austria; one cousin was the Queen of Great Britain; another cousin was the King of Prussia; his brother-in-law was King of Belgium; still other cousins were kings of Italy and Sweden; and others were queens of Spain, Portugal, and France. It would seem that there was enough power behind him to control the world. But for unlucky Maximilian there was not even power enough to save him from a firing squad.

Perhaps the ruin of Maximilian's Mexican venture was due to the over reaching dreams of Napoleon III, Emperor of France, who invented the whole situation to restore the lost "Glory of France". Perhaps it was due to the American War between the States which kept the United States involved in her own problems and left the rest of the Western Hemisphere vulnerable to European intervention. On the other side, perhaps it was due to the Monroe Doctrine and the threats of American Secretary of State Seward which saved Mexico. Per-

haps it was the fact that the times were changing, and that the idea of Royalty was a dead one, since people seemed to want to rule themselves. Perhaps it was the strength of the Citizen President Juarez of Mexico who saved his country from the thrones of Europe and returned it to its place as one of the world's great Republics. Whatever the reasons, the Maximilian story is a colorful one for both the historian and the numismatist. It is a story of beauty and violence, of romance and tragedy, of illusion and reality.

Maximilian was born on July 6, 1832, in Vienna. After an excellent education, he entered the navy as first in command, was largely responsible for its rehabilitation, and for the growth of Trieste as a naval center. He was appointed governor general of the Lombardo-Venetian Kingdom in 1857, the same year in which he married Princess Charlotte of Belgium.

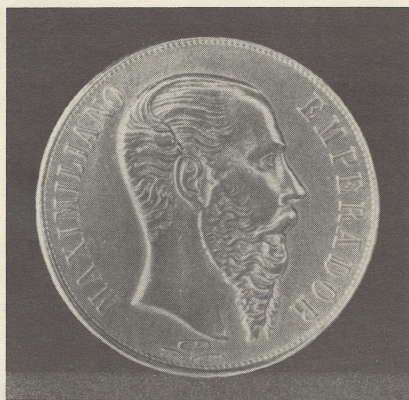
In Mexico, President Juarez had been elected in 1857 after leading the often mistreated Indians to victory over the con-



# LIAN STORY

servatives and establishing the Constitution of 1857. In 1861 Juarez entered Mexico City, expelled the intriguing Spanish minister, the Papal Legate, and all others who tried to influence the Conservatives.

He did everything possible to dis-establish the Church by removing all possible incomes. This and the impossible financial situation which resulted over Mexican debts in Europe was all that Napoleon III of France needed. Apeing his great namesake, Napoleon III dreamed of a world empire. Influenced by his Spanish wife, Eugene, the great Mexican landowners, and the exiled Mexican clerics, Napoleon interested himself in the cause of monarchy for Mexico. His political and commercial ambition led to an agreement with Great Britain and Spain for their joint intervention in Mexico. This agreement, The Treaty of London (October 31, 1861), provided that those nations might occupy portions of the Mexican coast in order to enforce the payment of claims of their citizens. It did stipulate, however, that the autonomy and integrity of Mexico should be respected. By January, 1862, Spanish, French and English soldiers had disembarked at Vera Cruz. Soon after President Juarez issued a proclamation announcing the intention of his government to pay all just claims and exhorting all Mexicans to unite in order to save the honor and independence



of the republic. The English and Spanish detachments left, revealing the true purpose of Napoleon III to subvert the Republic of Mexico.

In May 1863, French soldiers occupied Puebla. On June 7, they entered the capitol city. There under the auspices of the French commander, General Forey, a junta was assembled which on July 10, 1862, made the declaration that the Mexican nation adopted her form of government a hereditary monarchy with a Catholic prince as a ruler, that her sovereign should have the title of Emperor of Mexico, and that the Mexican imperial crown should be offered to Archduke Maximilian of Austria.

Actually, Maximilian had been approached by Mexican exiles relative to his candidacy for an imperial throne in Mexico as early as 1858. They were interested in him for the simple reason

(Con't page 13)

## Maximilian Peso (Con't)

mens to each in attendance and that the Emperor was so pleased with these specimens that he ordered each mint employee be given two of the new pesos.

There are some reported fallacies in the Dr. Nagle story, first Maximilian was born July 6, 1832 in Schonbrun, Austria and was executed on June 19, 1867 which would make him just under 35 years of age at his death. One other fallacy is that at Maximilian's request he was shot thru the chest, as he wanted to spare his relatives the sight of gory disfigurement in the event of his body being returned to Europe. There is some doubt that this request was granted as it was reported that the first shot hit his face, lacerating his brow and temple.

It is possible that both storires are partly right in that Dr. Pradeau speaks of the first coinage struck, which would be 1866 and the version of Dr. Nagle's story this writer has read states that "When the last coinage was made", which would indicate 1867. It is possible that they are speaking of different pieces.

In Wayte Raymond's "The Coinage of Mexico in Silver and Copper, 1536-1939" lists this as a pattern coin, which this writer is inclined to believe at the present. There was a newspaper report during this period which stated that because of their high center, these pesos did not stack well.

The reader may believe which theory he wishes but maybe one day this controversial coin will be unquestionably verified as to its number and reason. Maybe in this vast field of numismatics there is someone who has seen or heard of the gashed pesos and in this event they are encouraged to write to the proposed Maximilian Numismatic Society, P. O. Box 4281, Yuma, Ariona, 85364.

—Don Bailey

**COLLECTING UNUSUAL MEXICAN?** Our list always features colonial, state copper, decimal silver, scarcer reales, type material, revolutionary and currency. **FREE.** RoMex, Box 8017, Prairie Village, Kansas 66208.

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Every coin minted in Mexico the last 6 years;  
6 sets — 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965 and 1966 \$6.70,  
one 1966 set \$1.00, two sets \$1.80; five sets \$4.00.  
1950-1966 T5 complete BU one centavo set in beautiful holder \$5.00.  
Write for price, other unc. and brilliant unc. year sets.

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## CHOICE COINS OF MEXICO

5 Peso Type 1 1948 (Y-54) BU .....	\$ 1.60
5 Peso Type 2 1950 Railroad (Y-66) Choice BU .....	11.00
5 Pesos Type 3 1953 Ano Hidalgo (Y-68) BU .....	2.25
10 Pesos Type 1 1955 (Y-74) Choice BU .....	2.50
10 Pesos Type 2 1957 Juarez (Y-77) AU .....	9.00
1 Peso Liberty Cap, my choice (Y-20), XF-AU .....	2.25
Morelos Suds 1813 copper .....	3.50
½ Reales, Portrait Type, my choice, VG-F .....	1.50
WANTED: All coins of Colonial Mexico, scarce date 8 Reales, world crowns—coins of Russia. State quantity and price. Free monthly price list. Orders under \$5 please add 25c postage. Best of luck to Mexican Coin News.	

## CHET'S COINS

5101 BUFFALO SPEEDWAY, Apt. 2 HOUSTON, TEXAS 77005

### MAXIMILIAN (Con't)

that he was a Hapsburg and politically had the strongest possible family connections. In October of 1863, he was formally offered the "phantom crown" which he foolishly accepted on April 9, 1864, after renouncing his imperial rights in Austria. He accepted because he was bored with his life and because the offer was a most glittering one. He and his wife, who changed her name to the Spanish, Carlotta, arrived in Mexico on May 28, thinking the entire population had asked them to come. They arrived at the capitol on June 12, 1864. In other parts of the country, however, patriots were fighting French soldiers. The seat of the patriot government was transferred from San Luis Potosi to Chihuahua and finally to El Paso del Norte—later known as Juarez.

From the beginning the experiment was doomed. Politically, economically, and strategically, Maximilian's position was impossible. The United States declined to recognize Maximilian and treated Juarez as the true head

of the Mexican government. The country was opposed to him, the liberals refused to recognize his government, though he made several attempts to conciliate them. The conservatives and clerics were immediately alienated by his liberal measures. Financially and politically, he was wholly dependent upon France. He was without resources without which he could pay his debts or raise an army. Nor was he personally fitted to cope with the problems. Poor judgment and extravagance marked his administration from the first.

During 1864 and 1865, while the French troops reduced the country to subjection, driving the constitutional government almost out of the country, the Emperor and Empress tried to establish a foolish European court-society at Chapultepec Castle. In the spring of 1865 things changed. The United States successfully emerged from the Civil War and demanded that France withdraw all troops from Mexico. Napoleon agreed because the venture (Con't page 16)

# MEDALS, DECORATIONS ISSUED FOR THE MAXIMILIAN EMPIRE

During the reign of Maximilian the following regulations (from reglamento para servicios de honor y ceremonial de Corte, Mexico 1866) were issued on April 10, 1865 from the castle of Chapultepec, Mexico. This portion would seem to indicate the order of precedence for the wearing of these several decorations and medals:

Imperial Order of San Carlos  
Imperial Order of the Mexican Eagle  
Imperial Order of Guadalupe  
Medal for Civil Merit  
Medal for Military Merit

These medals and decorations were issued in different classes depending on the rank and position of the receiver.

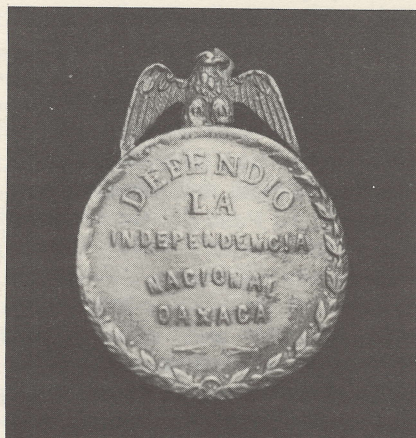
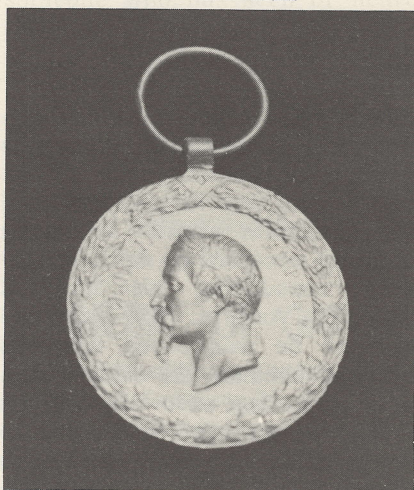
The following medals were issued in different classes depending on the rank and position of the receiver.

The following medals were issued by the different Mexican states **after** the downfall of the Maximilian empire, and were awarded for service during battles leading up to and during the emperors' reign:

Medal of Querrero  
Puebla Medal for April 1867  
Puebla Medal for 1867  
Medal for Chialpa  
Medal of Michoacan  
Medal of Sinaloa  
Medal of Tlaxcala  
Cross for San Pedro  
Medal of Vera Cruz, 1861-1867  
Medal for Tamaulpas

Medal of Oaxaca  
Gertrudis El 16 de Junior de 1866  
Cross for Puebla, 1867  
Cross for 1861-1867

Most of the medals issued by the Mexican states were crude while the ones issued by Maximilian were well struck. Very seldom is a medal of this period seen with an original ribbon. The medals and decorations of this period can be a whole field in itself.



## MEDAL FOR MEXICO

This was the only medal authorized by Napoleon III for the expedition to Mexico, 1862-1863, which lead to the Maximilian reign. This silver medal was authorized by Napoleon III on August 29, 1863.

The obverse of this silver medal consists of a wreath of laurel branches tied at the four points, forming the rim of the medal. The effigy of Emperor Napoleon III, facing left is in the center, surrounded by the words "Napoleon III Empereur". Beneath the head appears the name of the engraver, "Barre" on some, E. F. for E. Falot on others, and some show Sacristain "F".

The reverse bears the inscription "Expedition Du Mexique 1862-1863" and the names of the engagements, "Cumbres,, Cerro-Borrego, San Lorenzo, Puebla, Mexico".

b The engagements referred to are the engagements between the French and Mexican armies in the French's progress to the capital. The most important of these battles were the battles for San Lorenzo and Puebla. The battle for San Lorenzo was fought May 8, 1863, and resulted in the defeat of the Mexican forces under General Comonfort, who was hastening to the relief of Puebla which was under siege by the French under General Forey, since the 18th of March. The failure of General Comonfort's forces to reinforce Puebla resulted in the surrender of Puebla on May 18th. This sealed the fate of Mexico City and on the 10th of June the main body of the French army, led by General Forey made their triumphant entry into the capital city.

The ribbon is white silk with red and green stripes crossed and surmounted by the Mexican Eagle, holding a snake.

There are several varieties of the medal, ranging in size from 8 mm. to 31 mm., with various sizes of effigies and location and shape of the beard.

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## MEXICAN COIN NEWS

### *When Answering*

### *Advertisements*

## WORLD COIN CLUB NEWS

### ANA FILMS TO BE SHOWN

Clay Stubblefield, Program Chairman, has made arrangements to have slides from the ANA for the second meeting of every month, February through November. Titles of the programs are 'Ancient Greek Coins' (1 and 2), "Coins of Pagan Roman Empire", "Coins of Christian Imperial Rome", "Coins with Special Significance", "Medieval Coinage of Western Europe", "Famous Women on Coins", "Regular Issue Odd Shaped Coins of the 20th Century", "Coins of Early Christianity", Korean Coinage Conversation Pieces." Don't miss the third Wednesday of every month, or the other members will be ahead in numismatic knowledge.

March 1st, Mr. David Luckstead of Merrill, Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith, Inc., will speak on "Gold and Silver". March 15th the ANA Slide Program will be "Coins of Pagan Roman Empire."

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# MAXIMILIAN

( Continued )

had produced little of commercial value, the French taxpayers were unhappy with the high cost of supporting a foreign army, and Prussia was proving to be a threat to European power and the troops would shortly be needed at home. In desperation, Maximilian vainly attempted to placate the Clerica. Carlotta undertook to dissuade Napoleon from withdrawing his support. Failing there, she turned to the Pope, Pius IX, in Rome. At his refusal and in his presence she went permanently insane. Due to her tragic condition she was allowed to spend the night inside the Papal chambers, thereby making her the only woman recorded in history to do so. When the last French troops were withdrawn early in 1867, Juarez besieged Maximilian at Queretaro. Maximilian found himself trapped in a welter of intrigue, selfishness, and corruption. French agents did make repeated attempts to rescue him, but he refused to save himself unless all of his followers were saved. Austria restored his rights to the Austrian crown in hopes of saving him. He was arrested and court martialled. On June 19, 1867, he was executed by a firing squad at Queretaro, Mexico. The downfall of Maximilian meant of a republican form of government, and Juarez was re-elected president in 1867. Poor, mad Carlotta lived out the years of her life at the Chateau of Bouchout in Belgium until 1921. She was spared the pains of World War I due to the fact that there was a sign on the gate of the chateau which said that the Kaiser's

cousin was inside and was not to be disturbed.

The coinage of Maximilian is dated from 1864 to 1867 and was minted at Mexico City (Mo), Guanajuato (Go), Potosi (Pi), and Zacatecas (Zs), in denominations of 20 pesos (gold); 1 peso, 50 centavos, 10 centavos, 5 centavos (silver), and 1 centavo (copper). The coinage is among the world's most beautiful. It reflects a great deal of Napoleonic influence and French elegance. The Mexican eagle wears the imperial Mexican crown, not seen on the coinage since the days of the Emperor Iturbide. The pineapple is used instead of the orb, a whim of the Empress Carlotta. The coinage is in decimals rather than reals. This was not the first use of the Decimal System in Mexico, but is the first wide use of it, and was to influence the coinage at a later date.

There is not as much material available on Maximilian as one might expect. Bertita Harding's biography **Phantom Crown**, William Spence Pobertson's **History of the Latin-American Nations**, and Neil S. Utberg's **The Coins of Mexico** have proven to be most useful.

Since this year is the centennial of Maximilian's death, there seems to be a revival of interest in the field. Collecting the coinage of the period is a rewarding experience and one that should not be neglected by serious collectors of Mexican coins.

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## From the Editor's Desk...

Last month we had our turn at Jury duty just when we should have been here working. Now that we have done our duty for society and our government lets see what we can cook up for you Numismatist.

Our issue this month is devoted to Maximilian. This being the 100th anniversary of his execution. This month the Texas Chapter of the Maximilian Society will be formed during the Corpus Christi Coin Club Show March 11th and 12th at the Driscoll Hotel. In June the National Society will be formed at Phoenix, Arizona on the exact day that Maximilian was executed. The men active in the formation of this society are Don Bailey, Arizona; Joe B. Davis and C. H. Roberts of Corpus Christi, Texas. Good luck and our best wishes for the success of your new organization.

The cover picture on our issue last month was loaned to us by Mr. Ulan of Laredo, Texas. I am sure that he did not get proper credit for the picture in our last issue. Mr. Ulan is not only one of the best photographers in the Valley but a coin collector as well. He is well known in the numismatic field for his fine photography of coins. A book on the coins of Mexico by Ulan and Burns is on sale in most all coin shops.

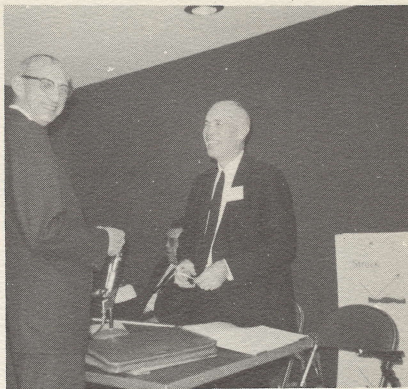
Every collector of coins should not miss the April issue of the Mexican Coin News. It will contain a very important announcement that will be of interest to all collectors regardless of the type or kind of coins they collect. It will be of extra special interest to anyone interested in the NUMISMATICS AND HISTORY OF MEXICO. Many of the top men in numismatics will be telling you stories that you have never seen in print before.

Let me ask each reader a very personal question. When you read this just imagine that I am speaking directly to you. What would you like to read in the Mexican Coin News? What can we do to bring to you the type and kind of information you want? Are there any men in the numismatic society that you would like to write for you?

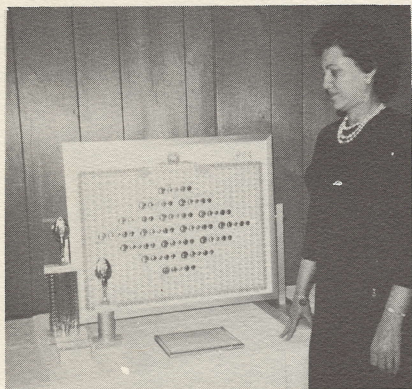
Our belief is that any news medium is no better than the help it gives its readers. In closing let me say that we will welcome a flood of letters from you good collectors and dealers out in the big USA and Mexico not forgetting our Canadian neighbors,



Joe B. Davis one of more than seventy-five that attended Liberty Coin Club Meeting.



Virgil Hancock visits with Editor of Mexican Coin News, H.R. Vrooman



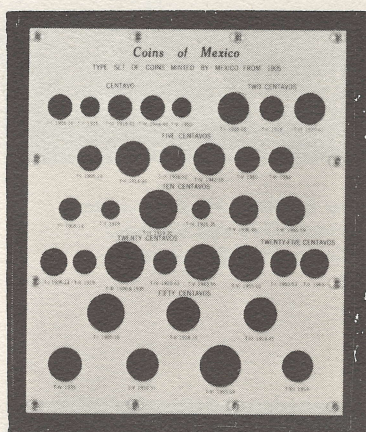
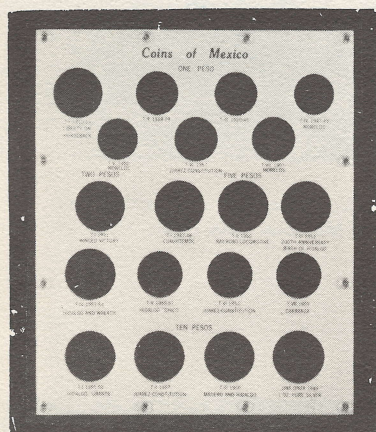
Mrs. Leo Teltschik with best of show award at Kingsville Show, Jan. 15th. Mr. and Mrs. Teltschik are both members of Liberty and Corpus Christi Coin Clubs.



Clarence Davis, Pres. Liberty Coin Club Presents Virgil Hancock with a framed A.N.A. Educational award.

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