



ERVIN L. LASSITER

### Post Is Taken By Lassiter

Ervin L. Lassiter, a candidate for graduation at Wentworth Institute, has been accepted for a position at Kodak Company in Rochester, N. Y., where he will work and continue his education.

He entered Wentworth in September, 1970, where he majored in electronic maintenance. He will be graduated June 16.

Wentworth, located in Boston, is one of the largest accredited technical institutes in the United States.

Lassiter, a graduate of Chowan High School, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William E. Lassiter, Route 3, Edenton.

## Moneys Of The Bible

By JOHN A. TAYLOR

A desire for more information by a coin collector or the wish of a student of ancient history to learn more about Biblical coins, usually leads them to the Bible where further knowledge may be obtained.

The study of coins mentioned in the Bible is fascinating for both the general public and numismatists. It opens up a new field of interest for them. It also appeals to persons of average means who have a limited layman's knowledge of the Bible. Then again it may be of signal importance to a Church School teacher who wishes to demonstrate well known scriptural passages with the only probable contemporary Biblical object — a coin.

For example: THE WIDOW'S MITE — This was the smallest bronze coin of Greek origin also known as a lepton. The most famous reference to this coin is in Mark 12:41 — "...and there came a certain poor widow and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing...."

Then there was a lepton of Pontius Pilate's time. Pilate is known for his delivery of Jesus to the Crucifixion April 17, 30 A.D. The legend or inscription on the coin reads: "Money of Tiberius Caesar." This specimen was struck in the year Christ died. The date is Year 16 of Tiberius' rule, or 30 A.D.

However, few people are aware that coins were unknown until about 700 B. C. Before the invention of coinage, money was usually represented by gold and silver ornaments. Barter had its limitations. Wealth had to have imperishable qualities. Silver and gold, and bronze supplied the need.

The Israelites upon leaving Egypt took with them the only portable wealth they knew. References in the Old Testament reveal this. Exodus 12:35 — "And the children of Israel did according to the word of Moses; and they borrowed of the Egyptians jewels of silver and jewels of gold, and raiment."

The Midianites carried forms of wealth as told in Numbers 31:50 — "We have therefore brought an oblation for the Lord, what every man hath gotten, of jewels, of gold chains and bracelets, rings, earrings and tablets, to make an atonement for our souls before the Lord...." So we can see in the Old Testament there are numerous references to money, usually expressed in silver by weight or by gold.

Now we come up to coined money of the Old Testament. The Lydians invented coinage in 700 B. C. The Persians conquered them in the Fifth Century B. C. The Lydian coins known as staters were replaced by darics. Darics were struck upon authority of Darius the Persian king mentioned in the Bible. In turn the Persians were defeated in 331 B.C. by Alexander the Great and his coins became familiar to the people of the Holy Land. Earlier coins of Athens had the head of Athena on the obverse, and the reverse showed the figure of an owl with curious wide open eyes. The owl was a symbol of wisdom to the Athenians.

Going forward again to the times of the New Testament we find that the coin Jesus held in his hands as related in Matthew, was a silver denarius, a Roman coin showing the head of Tiberius. Matthew 22:17-22 — "Then saith he unto them, 'Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's....'"

There is no doubt that the "30 pieces of silver" paid to Judas for his betrayal of Jesus were actual silver coins. They may have been tetradrachms or shekels of the time of John Hyrcanus -135-106 B.C. As the son of Simon Maccabaeus, John was the first Jewish prince to have his name on Judaeans coins.

Then there was Agrippa the Great 37-44 A.D. who persecuted the Christians, killing James and imprisoning Peter. Acts 12:1-3 He was strongly pro Jewish and was careful to use acceptable Jewish symbols on his coins for Judaea.

Well preserved hoards of Jewish shekels and half shekels have been found which were minted during the first revolt of the Jews 66-70 A.D. The uprising was led by Eleazar, who was the son of Ananias the high priest. Ananias was the judge in an incident related in Acts 23:2,3. The second Jewish revolt 132-135 A.D. was against Emperor Hadrian. Simon Bar Cochba was the leader of this uprising. The Jews were finally subdued by the Romans and Simon perished with thousands of his people amidst the destruction of the city.

Jewish coins struck during this revolt displayed biblical symbols such as bunches of grapes, musical instruments and the like. This is the most interesting series of Jewish coins.

Hadrian later restored, the city naming it Aelia Capitolina and in it built a temple dedicated the god Jupiter. He made the area a Roman colony completely erasing all the old Jewish traditions.

Although Christians were eventually permitted free access to the "Holy City" it was thereafter off limits to the Jewish population. Until Palestine, and the present nation of Israel was re-established in the twentieth century, the Jewish people were without a national home.

For more intensive study on Money of the Bible, May I recommend the following books:

"Ancient Coins Associated With Christianity" - Charles E. Tuckwood, The Numismatist, a reprint 1947.

"Jewish Coins" - Theodore Reinach, Lawrence & Bullen Ltd. London 1903.

The field of Numismatics, that is the study of coins is both educational and relaxing. It is an excellent hobby.

The Bible is stimulating and a faithful companion which by constant reading and study keeps on enlarging the mind and soul.

## Tar Heel Spotlight

Department of ART, CULTURE and HISTORY

Grace J. Rohrer, Secretary

The North Carolina State Archives for two days last week was host to the National Archivist of the Government of the Bahamas Islands.

The National Archives of the Bahamas was established by the Public Records of 1971, though Mrs. Gail Saunders, the twenty-nine-year old national archivist, has been at work on the project since 1969.

In July of this year the Bahama Islands will become the independent Commonwealth of the Bahamas, and Mrs. Saunders will play an important role in the conservation and preservation of the nation's written history.

The collection of original governmental documents to be preserved in the archives dates back to a 1670 land grant from King Charles II to six of the eight men who were also the Lords Proprietors of Carolina. Included also will be records of the House of Assembly votes dating from 1729, court records that go back to 1789, and other groups of documents important to the history of the Bahamas.

Mrs. Saunders is on a month-long tour of several archival operations in the eastern United States. She began at the National Archives in Washington and has since visited several state archives including those of Georgia, South Carolina, Virginia, and Pennsylvania in addition to North Carolina.

Her primary concern is to preserve the history of the Bahamas through the organization of records centers; the storage of photographs, maps and prints; the organization of reference books; and the reproduction of documents. By visiting several long-established government archives such as ours in North Carolina she hopes to become more familiar with the latest techniques, systems, and equipment being used in preserving government records and historic documents for public use.

## My Neighbors



"Some nut, that Sanders-claims he can fly..."

## Chemical Safeguard Is Urged

By CHARLIE OVERMAN

Today is Monday, the beginning of a new work-week. You farmers are very busy at getting the 1973 crops under way in good shape. Are you taking time to really be careful in handling, and using poisonous and toxic pesticides? Are you immediately destroying empty paper containers and burying metal containers?

Last week I talked with a farmer who had thrown his empty thimble paper containers into the woods back of the farm. I urged him to go take them out in the field and burn them promptly. Empty containers discarded in the woods are a dangerous threat to wildlife and can be to children who might adventure into the area. I urge you to burn empty paper containers immediately out in the field in a furrow. Metal containers should be rinsed out at least three times and punctured and buried. Metal containers can be easily marked flat by driving the tractor wheel over them. Then

bury them. As I visit farms I find that protective clothing is not being worn. Start each day with clean clothing that has long sleeves and will afford full skin coverage. Keep the neck and wrists closed and pants legs outside rubber boots. Waterproof gloves with long, tight fitting wrists and a wide-brimmed hat should be worn when working with poisonous and toxic pesticides. I have already talked with several farmers who have been made sick by pesticides this season. It is almost impossible to work with poisonous or toxic pesticides without getting some on the hand or skin elsewhere. But, we can take time to wash it off before going on. When going to the field to work with such chemicals be sure to take along the following: at least a five gallon can of clean water, some soap, and something to use for a towel. This one is prepared to wash immediately as any of the material gets on the skin. If a spray material is being used, take along a pair of pants and shirt for an immediate change if

the clothing gets wet with the chemical.

Just remember "The Life You Save May Be Your Own".



### INVESTIGATING SCOTLAND YARD

One of the more arresting facts about Scotland Yard, the famed police force, is that it is only nominally connected with Scotland. The name Scotland Yard, according to the Teacher's Scotch Information Centre, is derived from an old palace in which Scottish royalty was housed when visiting London before the two countries became one kingdom.



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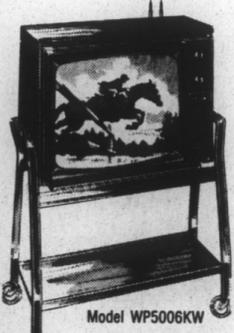
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