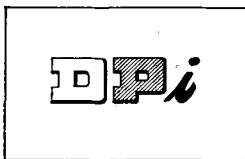


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• Hobby Department

EVERYONE is interested in money more or less, but G. J. Hutzler (1955), manager, engineering research department, Spencer Kellogg and Sons Inc., Buffalo, N.Y., is interested in ancient Greek coins, especially those issued during the period 415-336 B.C., which is generally considered to be the period of finest art by the experts.

Although this may seem like a rather limited field, Mr. Hutzler points out that virtually every city issued its own coins and that, since both obverse and reverse dies were handmade, the number of varieties was practically infinite. Also the dies were relatively short-lived because of the stress involved in the stamping process. His collection numbers hundreds of specimens but has no duplicates.



Mr. Hutzler specializes in silver coins because the gold coins (more properly electrum, an alloy of gold and silver) are rare and expensive and because the bronzes are not generally available in good condition and did not come into common usage until after the beginning of the Roman Republic.

His coins are mounted after being catalogued and illustrated. The photograph shows Mr. Hutzler comparing a Syracusan (from Sicily) tetradrachm with specimens in the British museum of a similar type. If he had been able to get good photographs of them, he would have supplied the Journal with prints of some fractional obols from Aegina and Athens circa 500 B.C.; a stater from Lydia circa 650 B.C. during the reign of Croesus (or immediately following since dating is a rather inexact science); obols from Byzantium in Thrace; and several drachms and tetradrachms of Alexander the Great and his father Philip II.

As a word of caution to anyone considering collecting coins, Mr. Hutzler comments that an excellent library is the first and most expensive requirement since the books on the subject are out-of-print and have become collector's items. But he is enthusiastic about this rewarding and educational hobby.

When not busy making money for Spencer Kellogg and collecting ancient coins for himself, Mr. Hutzler assists Paul R. Sheffer with the work of the Technical Safety Committee of the American Oil Chemists' Society.