

施嘉幹先生 旧藏中外钱币

上海博物館
SHANGHAI MUSEUM



施嘉幹先生 旧藏中外钱币

Mr. Shi Jiagan's Collection of
Chinese and Foreign Coins

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前言

上海博物馆常务副馆长

陈燮君

钱币收藏古已有之，于今为盛。近现代以来，在钱币收藏界中，曾出现过许多著名的大家，施嘉幹先生则是其中的一位。

施嘉幹先生早年负笈美国，开始了他的收藏生涯，其藏品以中外机制银币为主，自成体系，质量极精。1946年，施先生曾在美国举办个人收藏展，同时就中国货币文化作了精彩的演讲，赢得广泛的赞誉。1949年，施嘉幹先生积历年收藏和研究之心得，先后出版了中、英两种文本的《中国近代铸币汇考》一书，成为参研中国近现代机制币之必备。他的收藏与研究对传播中国货币文化作出了重大贡献，为钱币收藏增添异彩。

多年来，上海博物馆依靠众多收藏家的慷慨捐赠和无私奉献，收藏的钱币在全国名列前茅，但其中还有相当多的空白需要填补。施嘉幹先生生前一直关心祖国文物事业的发展，曾表示“上海博物馆有一部分不完全的中国近代币，将来如有可能合并整理则更好”。1998年7月，施嘉幹先生花费毕生精力收藏的钱币文物悉数捐赠给了上海博物馆，这种珍视并精心保护历史文物的事迹和以祖国为念、慷慨无私的崇高精神境界，永远值得后人学习。

董逸新女士及其子女所捐赠的施嘉幹先生旧藏钱币文物，是相当重要而完整的一份中外银币史遗存。今天，上海博物馆不仅为此举办这样的特别展，而且择其精要，出版这样一部图录，目的就在于让这一份珍贵的中外银币史遗存供大家鉴赏和研究，以进一步弘扬祖国的货币文化。

Preface

Chen Xiejun Executive Vice Director of Shanghai Museum

The centuries old coin-collecting still blossoms nowadays. In modern and contemporary times, there emerged many well-reputed masters in the numismatic circles, Mr. Shi Jiagan was one of them.

When studying in the U.S.A. in his early years, Mr. Shi Jiagan began his collection career, and his collection comprised mainly Chinese and foreign machine-made silver coins that made up a unique system with superior quality. In 1946, Mr. Shi held an exhibition of his personal collection and delivered eloquent speeches on Chinese money culture which won broad high appraisal. Mr. Shi published in 1949 the Chinese and English versions of his book *Collected Study of Coins of Modern China* which amassed what he had gained from collecting and studying over years and became a reference book indispensable to the study of machine-made coins of modern China. His collection and research made great contribution to the dissemination of Chinese money culture and radiated a ray of splendor.

Thanks to the generous and altruistic donation of numerous collectors, the coins collected by the Shanghai Museum during the past years have been among the best in the country, but there are blank spaces to be filled. During his lifetime, Mr. Shi Jiagan showed great solicitude for the development of the preservation of cultural relics of his motherland and said: "The Shanghai Museum has an incomplete collection of modern Chinese coins, when possible, it will be best to have them put together and sifted." In July 1998, Ms. Dong Yixin (Mme. Shi Jiagan) and her offspring realized Mr. Shi's unfulfilled wish to donate the Shanghai Museum all the collection to which he devoted the energies of his lifetime. Such deeds of prizing and elaborately protecting historical relics and sublime spirit of regarding the motherland with deep affection are worthy to be learnt by posterity.

Mr. Shi Jiagan's collection of coins donated by his wife and offspring is quite an important and intact heritage of Chinese and foreign silver coin history. Today, the Shanghai Museum not only holds a special exhibition for it, but selects its essence to publish this book of pictorial records, aimed at the popular appreciation and study of this valuable heritage of Chinese and foreign coin history, so as to carry forward the money culture of our motherland.



慧眼巨识 泽被后人

记施嘉幹先生的
《中国近代铸币汇考》
及其旧藏钱币

周 祥

两千多年来,中国古代金属货币都以铜作为主要币材,贵重而稀见的黄金及白银在社会经济生活中始终不占主导地位,这种情况与西方诸国以金银货币为主的货币制度迥异,形成了中国货币文化一个显著的特点。然而,这一现象在清代晚期却因西方文明的输入而发生了重大变化。

明代中叶以后,随着中外经济文化交流的扩大和对外贸易的兴盛,外国的机制货币开始进入中国,外国机制银元首先在东南沿海地区流通,然后深入内地,并以记值方便逐渐被普遍使用。这一情况,不仅使中国传统的纹银大量流失,也造成了铜贵钱荒现象的出现,使得中国的制钱制度遭受沉重打击。清代道光年间两江总督陶澍、江苏巡抚林则徐就曾提出铸造道光通宝方孔银钱的建议,但没有被采纳。光绪十年(1884,一说光绪八年),吉林省率先机制币值分五等的“厂平银币”,开启了中国机制银元的历史。经两广总督张之洞的奏请,广东在光绪十五年(1889)开铸钱文为“光绪元宝”、背铸蟠龙的新式银元(俗称“龙洋”),中国大量铸造机制银元从此开始,并逐渐代替传统的银两货币,而上升为主要流通货币。清代、民国时期,中央和各省地方铸造的银币品种相当丰富,质量十分精良,一跃成为收藏界的新宠,并由此涌现了一大批收藏名家,施嘉幹先生正是个中翘楚。

施嘉幹,又名衍林,江苏吴县人。早年留学美国,在麻省理工大学攻读结构专科,获硕士学位。归国后,除了主要从事建筑设计工作之外,悉心于以中外机制银元为主的收藏。1946年,施先生赴美国考察工业,不仅将自己的收藏予以展览,而且在旧金山、华盛顿两处的钱币集会上,演讲中国货币文化,“竟极博得国外之盛誉”(参见1948年丁福保给上海市社会局及财政部的呈文,《中国钱币》1996年第3期)。在美国期间,他看见许多外国收藏者收藏的中国机制币中有相当多的伪品,所以,“归国后,蓄意写一西文之中国币考,思有以别真伪正视听”(《中国近代铸币汇考编辑缘起》)。1948年,施先生以自己的学识,撰著《中国近代铸币汇考》一书,比较系统地对中国机制钱币进行了考述与研究,对后人了解和研究中国近代机制币其功厥伟。

《中国近代铸币汇考》内容涉及清代、民国时期铸造的机制金币、机制银币、机制镍币、机制铝币和邻国铸币,用施先生的话说,“本书体裁,极意避免考古巢臼,而力图将历史经济两部门,作显著的表现”(《中国近代铸币汇考编辑缘起》)。通观《中国近代铸币汇考》一书,施先生不仅对清代、民国时期中央及地方造币厂的设置、沿革、铸造情况,而且对机制币中的每一品种、每一版别和存世珍稀情况,都作了比较详细的论述,阐发出许多真知灼见。譬如,对山东是否铸造过机制币,施嘉幹先生考证认为:“山东旧有制造局,即兵工厂。而制造局之酝酿设立,自民国九年(1920)起,至民国十二年(1923),足有三年之久,机器及厂地均已购置,但迄未开办。嗣后该项机器,即售与张家口成立口北造币厂之用,故鲁省从未铸造机制币。前编所述之金币,同为天津厂所铸,而下述之镍币,当亦非本省自造”。在谈到民国十年(1921)广西二毫银币时,施嘉幹先生考证认为,“广西省民国十年(1921)似未铸辅币,……(此币)系属一合金试版,字体与它币迥异。作者于三十六年在美国纽约时,与之一角试版,同时购得。据称系美国费城造币厂Philadelphia Mint所制。或系是年中国委托该厂代制铸模时所出之样版,但中国是年并未铸有辅币,故此仅有之品,殊宝贵也”。施嘉幹先生这些精到的

论述,对我们认识中国近代机制币的铸造与发展,具有极其重要的参考价值。施嘉幹先生不仅注意面上的研究,即使对机制币中的一些细节的观察和阐述,也是相当独到的。譬如,在谈及新疆省造光绪二钱银币时,施先生注意到了这种银币存在两种不同重量的情况:“新疆省造二钱,径六·八公分,此币与C2-45为轻重二种,重者系用库平,想系首先铸造。惟新省向用湘平,或者因库平之使用不便,而复改为湘平者铸模仍旧,轻重惟厚薄之分耳。”库平一两重37.49克,湘平一两重35.48克。根据对董逸新女士及其子女所捐赠的施嘉幹先生旧藏钱币中的两枚新疆省造光绪二钱银币称重得知,它们分别重5.8克和7.6克,确实存在着重量不一的情况,由此也可见施嘉幹先生敏锐的观察力。所以,虽然《中国近代铸币汇考》出版于1949年,但其在学术界的地位是显而易见的,作用至今仍是无可替代的,它始终是我们了解和认识中国近代机制币必须参考的重要著作。

施嘉幹先生生前时以祖国为念,嘱托家人务必要将自己毕生收藏的钱币捐赠国家。1972年,在给一位人大副委员长的信中已明确提出将自己收藏钱币捐赠国家的愿望。他曾说:“上海博物馆有一部分不完全的中国近代币,将来如有可能合并整理则更好”。1998年7月,为了实现施嘉幹先生的遗愿,他的夫人董逸新女士及其子女将施嘉幹先生旧藏钱币(共4086枚)悉数捐赠给了上海博物馆,使我们有幸能完整地目睹施嘉幹先生旧藏之风采,令人感慨。

施嘉幹先生的藏品中,有许多存品极其珍贵。提起上海一两银币,可以说,泉币界中没有不会承认这是一枚相当珍罕的银币,它铸于清代同治六年(1867),为上海公共租界的工部局委托香港造币厂所代铸。正面主图为龙纹,四周环书“上海一两”;背面主图则为英国的皇冠和国徽,四周以英文标“上海一两”、铸地名“香港”、银币成色和铸造年份。就目前所见而言,这种银币有两大版别,一种正面有芒纹(或称放射线)环绕主图,一种正面主图外没有芒纹。无论哪一种版别,都因图样不合大清国体而遭否决,所以当时没有正式铸造,只有试铸的样币,流传至今,更属罕见。施嘉幹先生收藏的银币中,就有一枚带芒纹的“上海一两”银币。

光绪十四年贵州“黔宝”银饼是近现代银币中的佼佼者,有大、小两型。大型者正面中央铸环形花饰,外圈铸“光绪十四年贵州官炉造”文字;背面中央铸“黔宝”两字,外圈环铸花饰。小型者正面中央饰龙纹,外圈环铸“光绪十四年贵州官炉造”十字;背面中央铸“黔宝”两字,外环花饰。大、小两型正背边沿都铸联珠纹,币重分别相当于库平六钱和三钱。从银饼铭文知道,这种银饼由贵州官炉打制。在清代,各省基本上都设有官炉,它的任务是将官府征收得来的各种银器和各种成色的税课实银按一定成色、重量标准和器形改铸成银锭,或上缴中央,或作为地方财政。贵州官炉打制银饼的真正目的尚不清楚。施嘉幹先生在其专著《中国近代铸币汇考》一书中认为“贵州旧多苗族,此种币甚得苗族重视,为与之一易货之主要通货”,乃可备考。传世又有光绪十六年(1890)贵州官炉所打制之银饼,表明贵州在此之前还没有建立机器造币厂。光绪十四年(1888)贵州“黔宝”银饼除台湾鸿禧美术馆有收藏外,还未有见其他单位收藏的报道。这次董逸新女士及其子女捐赠的施嘉幹先生旧藏钱币中就有这样两枚贵州银饼,可说是补了上海博物馆收藏的一个空白。

光绪元宝“吉”字圆孔银币,仿方孔圆形的清代制钱样式机制,正面铸直读“光绪元宝”四字,背面圆孔上下分别铸“厂平”、“五钱”,左右则分别铸满汉文“吉”字,正、背面边饰云纹。吉林机制银币始于光绪十年(1884)(参见《中国近代货币史资料》第一辑下册第671页)。从吉林将军希元报告及现存实物来看,当时所铸流通之厂平银币形制与此不同,说明“吉”字圆孔银币可能铸于厂平银币之前。所见这种银币仅五钱一等币值,可分第一版和第二版两种版别,存世数量寥寥若晨星。

湖北本省银币,属于大名鼎鼎品。光绪十九年(1893),湖广总督张之洞奏请湖北铸造银币,“惟银元所铸广东字样改为湖北”(参见《中国近代货币史资料》第一辑下册)。光绪二十年十二月,湖北银元局正式建成投产,初铸的银元便是在背面铸有“本省”字样的库平七钱二分、一钱四分四厘和七分二厘三种银元,俗称“湖北本省银币”。但因这种银币背铸“本省”两字不符清制,发行不久即被收回,予以改铸。光绪二十一年(1895),湖北开始大量铸造目前常见的有大小五种值的流通银币。所以,湖北本省银币流传至今,已极难得。也有人说光绪二十五年(1899)清政府内部发生了一场银元单位之争,光绪三十年(1904)湖北曾铸“一两银币”,但很快就被废止。于是,光绪三十一年(1905)湖北铸造了这种“本省”银币。

光绪二十二年(1896),四川总督鹿传霖奏请在成都建立银元局,光绪二十四年(1898)

银元局基本建成，遂委托英国造币厂代为雕模试铸银币，这套银币的一个显著特点就是宝字写做“寶”，俗称“四川伍宝银币”，目前所见有库平七钱二分、三钱六分和一钱四分四厘三种。光绪二十五年（1899），因为清廷整饬造币厂，四川成都银元局停铸，此套银币也未及广泛铸造。有人则认为这套银币铸于光绪二十七年（1901），为四川总督奎奏请设局自铸。

所见民国开国纪念银币中，有一枚铸所谓程德全像的。有关程德全像开国纪念银币，1949年以前便有异说，有人认为应是袁世凯像开国纪念币。吴诗锦在《程德全纪念币银样》一文（刊于《泉币》二十八期）中，以诸多依据提出所谓袁世凯像应是程德全像的观点，成为一时之定论。事隔半个世纪，有关面像问题的争论又起，焦点集中于袁世凯是否留有大胡子之上，但都没有举证出令人信服的确凿证据和文献资料。孙中山像开国纪念币开铸于民国元年（1912）三月，说明无论称程德全像还是袁世凯像的开国纪念币，应在此之后。有人提出1913年2月原财政部造币总厂改名为财政部江南造币厂后，曾请财政部颁发袁世凯总统像开国纪念币新模，不知何据。1905年苏州造币厂已并入南京造币厂，1914年才又复铸，但仅铸铜元（《江苏历代货币史》）。当时，只有南京造币厂铸造银币，所以，该枚银币如果开铸于民国元年，则应属于南京造币厂的作品。认为面像是袁世凯，至少有两点让人怀疑，一是所见袁世凯像纪念币没有一种面像与此接近，而且都没有满腮胡子；二是所见纪念币上袁世凯像都是身着戎装，不见有穿西服的。认为面像是程德全，则不可能是南京造币厂铸造，如属苏州造币厂铸造，则应算作一种私制品，这与发现数量之少，也颇为吻合。这种纪念币有光边和齿边之分，以前传说仅见三枚，现在看来并不止于此。

在所有民国铸币中，标明民国十八年（1929）而且正面具孙中山像者最多。所谓最多，并不是指其数量，而是指其品种，有孙中山像地球一元银币、孙中山像嘉禾银币、孙中山像正面银币以及奥、美、意、日、英五国代铸的三帆银币与正面采用奥地利版、背面采用孙中山开国纪念币样式的银币等。这些品种中，除了五国所造的三帆银币存世较多外，其他均以枚计，尤其是孙中山像嘉禾银币、孙中山像正面银币和正面采用奥地利版、背面采用孙中山开国纪念币样式的银币，它们实际上都是一些试铸样币。在这些品种之中，施嘉幹先生多有收藏，由此可见他对银币的鉴赏力和收藏水平。

施嘉幹先生通晓外国钱币，具有相当高的造诣，这不但反映在《中国近代铸币汇考》的《邻国造币》章节中，从他所收藏的各种质地的外国珍贵钱币中也能体现出来。施嘉幹先生收藏的外国钱币涉及亚、非、欧、美等几大洲，数十国，其中不乏精品。日本的白金币、明治八年（1876）一元银币、明治八年至十年贸易银币、安南明命、绍治、嗣德年号大银币、十七世纪的德国大银币和奥地利方形银币、十八世纪的瑞士银币、以及日本的“保”字铜锭等，存世都极少见。

除了上面提及的清代、民国与外国机制币外，特别应该提到的是，施嘉幹先生还收藏有一枚战国时期鑄金的银质楚郢郢（或曰“郢爰”）。楚国的郢郢一般见到的多为金质，虽然《长沙古物闻见记》、《中国古代货币发展史》都曾提到或著录过银质的楚郢郢，但始终不见实物。施嘉幹先生收藏的这枚银质郢郢形状和金质的楚郢郢差不多，作版状，上面钤有二十七个“郢郢”印，遗憾的是已被切割成两块。不管怎么样，银质郢郢实物的存在，对于研究我国早期用银情况和战国时期楚国货币制度，具有极其重要的意义。

慧眼巨识，泽被后人，施嘉幹先生以其丰富的藏品，精深的研究，为我们探讨中国近现代货币史，提供了翔实的第一手实物资料与文献资料。今天，董逸新女士及其子女将施嘉幹先生旧藏的钱币慷慨捐赠，使我们受益匪浅。他们这种关心、支持我国文博事业的崇高精神，将激励我们更好地研究这份珍贵的文化遗存。而施嘉幹先生的名字、学识，将长久地为后人所怀念。

Authoritative Understanding with Exceptional Insight, Benefiting Posterity



On Mr. Shi Jiagan's
Collected Study of Coins of Modern China
and his collection of coins

Zhou Xiang

In more than two thousand years, ancient Chinese metal money used copper as the main material, the precious and rare gold and silver were seldom in the dominant position in socio-economic life. This condition, utterly different from the Western practice of using gold and silver as the main materials, evolved into an obvious trait of the Chinese money culture. But, great changes took place in such a phenomenon due to the inflow of Western civilization in late Qing Dynasty.

Since the mid Ming Dynasty, with the extended economic and cultural exchanges between China and foreign countries and the flourishing of overseas trade, foreign machine-made coins began to enter China. The foreign machine-made silver dollars penetrated from the coastal Southeast into the inland and were gradually widely used because of their convenience for counting value. This situation brought along the drain on traditional Chinese fine silver and facilitated the phenomenon of copper highly valued and coins growing scarce, striking a heavy blow on the standard coins made by imperial mint, sinking them into a tottering state. In the years of the reign of Emperor Dao Guang, the suggestions submitted by Tao Shu, Governor-General of Jiangnan and Jiangxi, and Lin Zexu, Governor of Jiangsu, on minting *Dao Guang Tongbao* silver coins pierced with square hole were not accepted. In the 10th year of the reign of Emperor Guang Xu (1884), Jilin Province took the lead to mint *Chungping* silver dollar, which commenced the history of Chinese machine-made silver dollar. Based on a memorial presented to the emperor by Zhang Zhidong, Governor-General of Guangdong and Guangxi, Guangdong Province began to mint the new type of silver dollar of *Guang Xu Yuanbao* with a pattern of coiled dragon on its reverse (commonly called "dragon dollar"). This marked the beginning of large-scale minting of machine-made silver dollar which gradually replaced the traditional silver currency and moved upward to be the main currency. In the periods of the Qing Dynasty and the Republic of China, the silver coins minted by the central and provincial authorities had diverse varieties and high quality, and soon became the new favorite of numismatists, among whom Mr. Shi Jiagan was an outstanding figure.

Mr. Shi Jiagan had another name Yanlin, was born in Wuxian, Jiangsu, went to the U.S.A. in his early years to study structural course at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and got an MS degree. After returning to China, besides engaging in the job of architectural design, Mr. Shi devoted himself to the collection of Chinese and foreign machine-made silver coins. In 1946, when he went to the U.S.A. to investigate industrial development, he exhibited his collection and delivered speeches on Chinese money culture at numismatic meetings in San Francisco and Washington, and "won high praise". (See the petition submitted by Ding Fubao to the Shanghai Social Bureau and the Ministry of Finance in 1948, *Chinese Coins*, 3rd issue, 1996). When staying in America, he saw spurious coins collected by foreign numismatists, therefore, "when coming back to China, I was determined to write in English on the study of Chinese coins to differentiate the true from the false and make right views". (*Origin of Editing Collected Study of Coins of Modern China*). In 1948, based upon his erudition, Mr. Shi completed the book *Collected Study of Coins of Modern China* which systematically discussed problems regarding Chinese machine-made coins and offered a great help to posterity for their understanding and studying the machine-made coins of modern China.

The contents of *Collected Study of Coins of Modern China* involved the machine-made gold coin, silver coin, nickel coin, aluminum coin minted in the periods of Qing Dynasty and the Republic of China, and the coins of neighboring countries. To say in Mr. Shi's words, "The forms of literature of the book strove to refrain from falling into archaeological rut and lay stress on history and economics". (*Origin of Editing Collected Study of Coins of Modern China*) Reading through the book, one can see that the author elucidated penetrating judgment in detailed exposition not only of the establishment, evolution and minting work of the central and local mints in the periods of Qing Dynasty and the Republic of China, but also of each variety and each edition of the machine-made coins and their rare remainders. For example, on the problem whether Shandong ever minted machine-made coins, Mr. Shi argued: "Previously, Shandong had a manufacturing bureau, that was an arsenal. In the three years (1920-1923) of brewing the establishment of the manufacturing bureau, it bought machines and factory site, but never put them into use. Later, the machines were sold to Zhangjiakou to found Kou Bei Mint, so Shandong never minted machine-made coins. The gold coin mentioned in the previous chapter was minted in Tianjin, and the nickel coin was not minted by Shandong either." When speaking of the 20 cents silver coin minted by Guangxi in the 10th year of the Republic of China (1921), Mr. Shi pointed out: "Guangxi Province did not mint fractional currency in the 10th year of the Republic of China (1921)..... (This coin) was an alloy trial edition, its form of character was different from other coins. I bought it in New York, U.S.A. in 1947 and it might be a sample edition minted with the mould engraved by the Philadelphia Mint on China's request. As China did not mint any fractional currency, this sole rare survival is extraordinarily valuable." These splendid remarks provide us with an important reference to understanding the minting and development of the machine-

made coins of modern China. Mr. Shi paid attention to the study of general aspects, however, his observation and exposition on certain details about the machine-made coins are very original. For instance, when discussing the 2 mace *Guang Xu Yuanbao* silver coins minted by Xinjiang Province, Mr. Shi noticed the two different weights of these silver coins: "The 2 mace silver coin minted by Xinjiang weighs 6.8 g. This coin and C2-45 are two different types. The heavier applied *Kuping* and might be minted first. Xinjiang used to apply *Xiangping*. *Kuping* was once applied and soon quitted because of its inconvenience in using. Xinjiang applied *Xiangping* again, but did not change the mould, so the difference in weight was caused by the difference in thickness." We weigh the 2 mace *Guang Xu Yuanbao* silver coins minted by Xinjiang and find that they weigh 5.8 g and 7.6 g, respectively ---- a really existing difference. This fully shows Mr. Shi Jiagan's keen observation. This book *Collected Study of Coins of Modern China* was published in 1949, but its position in academic circles is evident and its effects still irreplaceable today. It is always an important reference book essential to our understanding and cognizing the machine-made coins of modern China.

Taking the interests of his motherland as of prime importance, Mr. Shi Jiagan enjoined his family members to dedicate the coins he collected in his lifetime to the country. In a letter written in 1972 to one of the vice-directors of the National People's Congress, he expressed explicitly his wish to dedicate the coins he collected to the country. He said: "The Shanghai Museum has an incomplete collection of modern Chinese coins, when possible, it will be best to have them put together and sifted." In July 1998, to realize Mr. Shi's unfulfilled wish, his wife and offspring donated all his collection, 4,086 pieces in all, to the Shanghai Museum. This enables us to have the good luck to see and grasp comprehensively the elegant appearance and features of Mr. Shi's collection, and makes us sigh with emotion.

Among the coins Mr. Shi collected, many are precious. The rarity of Shanghai one tael silver coin is unanimously admitted by numismatists. It was minted in the 6th year of the reign of Emperor Tong Zhi (1867) by Hong Kong Mint on the request of the Shanghai Municipal Council of Shanghai International Settlement. The obverse bears a dragon pattern and the Chinese characters "Shanghai 1 Liang", the reverse bears the British crown and national emblem, and the English words "Shanghai one tael", "Hong Kong", "Fineness" and "Year". This silver coin has two editions, one edition bears awned grain (or radiated line) around the main pattern on the obverse, and the other bears no awned grain on the obverse. Both were rejected, as the pattern did not conform to the state system of the Qing Dynasty. No official coins were minted then, only the trial sample was handed down, so it is rare. Among the silver coins collected by Mr. Shi, one is the "Shanghai one tael" with awned grain.

The "Qian Bao" silver cake minted in the 14th year of the reign of Emperor Guang Xu is an outstanding variety in modern silver coins. It has two types. The big type bears in the center of the obverse ringlike floral design encircled by the Chinese characters "Made by Guizhou Official Mint in the 14th year of the reign of Emperor Guang Xu", the reverse bears the Chinese characters "Qian Bao" in the center, encircled by floral design. The small type bears a dragon pattern in the center of the obverse, encircled by the Chinese characters "Made by Guizhou Official Mint in the 14th year of the reign of Emperor Guang Xu", the reverse bears the Chinese words "Qian Bao" in the center, encircled by floral design. The two types bear a pattern of a string of pearls on the edge, and they weigh *Kuping* 6 mace and 3 mace, respectively. The inscriptions on the silver cakes indicate that they were minted by Guizhou Official Mint. In the Qing Dynasty, most provinces set up official mint to remint silverwares and silver of different finenesses levied by governments into silver ingots of unified fineness, weight and shape, which were turned over to the central government or used as local revenue. The true purpose of Guizhou Official Mint to mint such silver cakes is not yet known. Mr. Shi pointed out in his book *Collected Study of Coins of Modern China*: "This silver cake was valued by the Miao nationality who lived in Guizhou and was used in their barter", and this remark may be used for reference. The silver cake minted by Guizhou Official Mint in the 16th year of the reign of Emperor Guang Xu was handed down, it indicates that Guizhou had not set up a mint using machines before that year. Except for the "Qian Bao" silver cake minted by Guizhou in the 14th year of the reign of Emperor Guang Xu in the collection of Hongshi Art Gallery of Taiwan, no collections of other institutions were reported. The two Guizhou silver cakes in the Shi's donation fill a gap in the collection of the Shanghai Museum.

The *Guang Xu Yuanbao* silver coin with the character "Ji" and a round hole bears on the obverse four characters "Guang Xu Yuanbao", and on the reverse "Changping" and "5 mace", flanked by the character "Ji" in Han and Manchu languages. And both the obverse and reverse are decorated by cloud patterns on the edge. Jilin started minting silver coin in the 10th year of the reign of Emperor Guang Xu (1884). Judging from a report submitted by Xi Yuan, the general in charge of Jilin defense, and the existing material objects, the design of the "Changping" silver coins minted and circulated then was different from the forenamed one, and this shows that the silver coin with the character "Ji" and a round hole might be minted before the "Changping" silver coin. The sole material objects available now are of the face value of 5 mace and they have two editions, the first edition and the second edition, all are very few.

The Hubei "Ben Sheng" (means "this province") silver coin is a "variety with great fame". In the 19th year of the reign of Emperor Guang Xu (1893), Zhang Zhidong, Governor-General of Hubei and Guangdong submitted a petition for minting silver coins. In the 12th lunar month of the 20th year of the reign of Emperor Guang Xu, the Hubei Silver Dollar Bureau was founded and went into production. The first silver dollars it minted were of three kinds: *Kuping* 7 mace and 2 candareens, 1 mace and 4.4 candareens and 7.2 candareens, all bore the characters "Ben Sheng" on the reverse, commonly known as "Hubei Ben Sheng silver coin". Because they bore the characters "Ben Sheng" on the reverse, which did not conform to the system of Qing Dynasty, they were withdrawn to be reminted soon after their issuance. In the 21st year of the reign of Emperor Guang Xu (1895), Hubei began to mint large quantities of five kinds of circulating silver coin, which are not hard to see. Therefore, the Hubei *Ben Sheng* silver coin is very hardly seen. It was also said that there was a dispute about the unit of silver dollar in the Qing government in the 25th year of the reign of Emperor Guang Xu (1899), so the 1 tael silver coin minted by Hubei in the 30th year of the reign of Emperor Guang Xu (1904) was soon nullified. Then Hubei minted this "Ben Sheng" silver coin in the 31st year of the reign of Emperor Guang Xu (1905).

In the 22nd year of the reign of Emperor Guang Xu (1896), Lu Chuanlin, Governor-General of Sichuan, petitioned the central government to permit Sichuan to establish a silver dollar bureau in Chengdu. When the silver dollar bureau was built in the 24th year of the reign of Emperor Guang Xu (1898), it entrusted the British Mint to engrave a mould to mint trial silver coin. A notable feature of this set of silver coins was the peculiar script of the character "Bao" they bore, and they were commonly known as "Sichuan Fou Bao" (鈐寶) "silver coin. What available now have three types: *Kuping* 7 mace and 2 candareens, 3 mace and 6 candareens and 1 mace and 4.4 candareens. Following the rectification launched by the central authorities, the Chengdu Silver Dollar Bureau was closed down in the 25th year of the reign of Emperor Guang Xu (1899), it had not enough time to mint large quantities of silver coins. Someone held that this set of silver coins were minted in the 27th year of the reign of Emperor Guang Xu (1901) by the silver dollar bureau founded on the approval to the petition submitted by Kuei Jun, another Governor-General of Sichuan.

Of the silver coins in commemoration of the founding of the Republic of China, there was a hearsay that one of the coins bore the portrait of Cheng Dequan. But there were different views about it, such as, someone held that it should be Yuan Shikai's portrait. In his article *The Silver Sample of Cheng Dequan Commemorative Coin* [published in the magazine *Quan Bi* (means coin) 28th issue], Wu Shijin argued on quite a few grounds that the portrait should be Cheng Dequan's, and this opinion became a final conclusion at that time. After half a century, the dispute about the portrait arose again, and the problem focused on whether Yuan Shikai wore whiskers or not, but no convincing and irrefutable evidences or documentary materials were posed. The silver coin commemorating the founding of the Republic of China with Sun Yat-sen's portrait began its minting in March of the first year of the Republic of China (1912). Therefore any such commemorative coins, no matter the portrait they bore was of Cheng Dequan or of Yuan Shikai, should be minted after that time. Someone said that the mint under the Ministry of Finance changed its name into Jiang Nan Mint, then it asked the Ministry of Finance to issue a new mould to mint commemorative coins bearing Yuan Shikai's portrait, but the base of such a statement is unknown. The Suzhou Mint was merged into Nanjing Mint in 1905, and began to resume minting copper coins in 1914. During that period, only Nanjing Mint minted silver coins. The opinion maintaining that the portrait was of Yuan Shikai has at least two doubtful points: 1. None of Yuan's portraits on commemorative coins resembled the one in discussion. 2. All of Yuan's portraits on commemorative coins were in martial attire, none in Western style suit. If the portrait was Cheng Dequan's, then it could not be minted by Nanjing Mint, if it was minted by Suzhou Mint, it must be an unofficial product — this assumption tallies with the small quantity of discoveries. This kind of commemorative coin had two types, one with closed edge and the other with gear-design edge. It was said that only three pieces were found, but it seems that there are more.

Most of the coins minted in the period of the Republic of China were those marking "the 18th year of the Republic of China (1929)" and bearing Sun Yat-sen's portrait. Here the word "most" denotes not the quantity but the varieties: the 1 dollar silver coin bearing Sun Yat-sen's portrait and the earth, the silver coin bearing Sun Yat-sen's portrait on the obverse, the silver coin bearing three sails minted by Austria, the U.S.A., Italy, Japan and England, and the commemorative silver coin bearing Sun Yat-sen's portrait on the reverse while the obverse using Austrian edition. Among these varieties, many of the silver coin bearing three sails minted by five countries were handed down, but the other varieties handed down were very few. The variety bearing Sun Yat-sen's portrait and a scene of good harvest, the variety bearing Sun Yat-sen's portrait on the obverse and the variety bearing Sun Yat-sen's portrait on the reverse while the obverse using Austrian edition were actually samples in trial minting. The fact that Mr. Shi Jiagan's collection includes quite a few of these varieties reflects his appreciative artistry and level of collection.

As an accomplished numismatist, Mr. Shi Jiagan was well versed in foreign coins. His high attainments are seen in the chapter of *Coins Minted in Neighboring States* in his book *Collected Study of Coins of Modern China* and embodied in his collection of rare foreign coins of different qualities. The foreign coins he collected cover scores of countries in Asia, Africa, Europe and America. And some are genuine treasures: the platinum coin of Japan, the 1 yen silver coin minted in Mikado Meiji 8th year (1876), the silver trade coins minted from Mikado Meiji 8th year to the 10th year, the big silver coins minted in the years of the reigns of Ming Ming, Shao Zhi and Si De of Annam, the German big silver coin minted in the 17th century, the Austrian square silver coin, the Swiss silver coin minted in the 18th century and the Japanese copper ingot bearing the character "Bao".

Besides the above-mentioned machine-made coins minted in the periods of the Qing Dynasty and the Republic of China and those minted in foreign countries, what is worthy of mentioning is that one of Mr. Shi's collection is a silver "Ying Cheng" (also known as "Yingyuan") minted by the State of Chu in the period of the Warring States. The commonly seen *Ying Cheng* is mentioned or recorded in *Relics Heard of and Seen in Changsha and History of the Development of Money in Ancient China*, the material object had never been seen. The silver *Ying Cheng* collected by Mr. Shi is in the shape of a plate, looks resembling the gold *Ying Cheng*, and 27 "Ying Cheng" seals were affixed to it. Unfortunately, it was cut into two. Anyhow, the existence of the material object of silver *Ying Cheng* is of significance in studying the usage of silver in ancient China and the monetary system of the State of Chu in the period of the Warring States.

Authoritative understanding conveying exceptional insight benefits posterity. Mr. Shi Jiagan's rich collection and profound research provide us with full and accurate firsthand materials and documents in our study of the history of money of modern China. Today, Ms. Dong Yixin and her offspring's donation of Mr. Shi Jiagan's collection benefits us a great deal. Their lofty spirit of concerning about and supporting the relic preservation and museum development of our country will encourage us to study more assiduously this valuable cultural heritage. Mr. Shi Jiagan's name and scholarly attainments will be remembered permanently.



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1 2

- 1 民国三年袁世凯像龙纹金币
重 4.1 克
Gold coin with Yuan Shikai's portrait
and dragon pattern
Minted in the 3rd year of Republic
of China wt. 4.1g

- 2 民国袁世凯像十元型洪宪飞龙金
币 重 7.6 克
10 dollars gold coin with Yuan
Shikai's portrait and flying dragon
Minted in Hong Xian reign,
Republic of China wt. 7.6g

3 4

- 3 民国袁世凯像十元型洪宪飞龙金
币银样 重 4.6 克
Silver sample of 10 dollars gold coin
with Yuan Shikai's portrait and flying
dragon
Minted in Hong Xian reign,
Republic of China wt. 4.6g

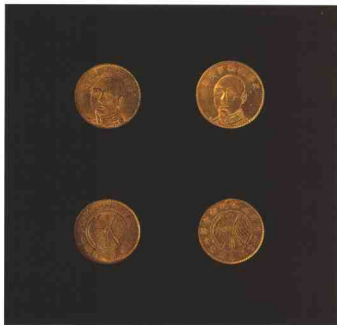
- 4 民国八年袁世凯像十元金币
重 8.4 克
10 dollars gold coin with Yuan
Shikai's portrait
Minted in the 8th year of Republic
of China wt. 8.4g

- 5 民国八年袁世凯像十元金币铜样
重 4.5 克
Copper sample of 10 dollars gold
coin with Yuan Shikai's portrait
Minted in the 8th year of Republic
of China wt. 4.5g

- 6 民国八年袁世凯像二十元金币铜
样 重 8.6 克
Copper sample of 20 dollars gold
coin with Yuan Shikai's portrait
Minted in the 8th year of Republic
of China wt. 8.6g



5 6



7 8

- 7 民国云南唐继尧像五元金币
重 4.5 克
Yunnan 5 dollars gold coin with
Tang Jiyao's portrait
Minted in Republic of China period
wt. 4.5g

- 8 民国云南唐继尧像五元金币
重 4.4 克
Yunnan 5 dollars gold coin with
Tang Jiyao's portrait
Minted in Republic of China period
wt. 4.4g

10 9

- 9 民国云南唐继尧像十元金币
重 8.1 克
Yunnan 10 dollars gold coin with
Tang Jiyao's portrait
Minted in Republic of China period
wt. 8.1g

- 10 民国云南唐继尧像十元金币
重 8.2 克
Yunnan 10 dollars gold coin with
Tang Jiyao's portrait
Minted in Republic of China period
wt. 8.2g



- 11 民国云南唐继尧像十元金币
重 9.0 克
Yunnan 10 dollars gold coin with
Tang Jiyao's portrait
Minted in Republic of China period
wt. 9.0g

- 12 民国云南唐继尧像十元金币
重 9.1 克
Yunnan 10 dollars gold coin with
Tang Jiyao's portrait
Minted in Republic of China period
wt. 9.1g

11 12



13 14

- 13 民国云南唐继尧像十元金币
重 9.1 克
Yunnan 10 dollars gold coin with
Tang Jiyao's portrait
Minted in Republic of China period
wt. 9.1g

- 14 民国云南“滇”字五元金币
重 2.5 克
Yunnan 5 dollars gold coin with the
character "Dian"
Minted in Republic of China period
wt. 2.5g



15 16 17

- 15 民国云南“滇”字五元金币
重 2.5 克
Yunnan 5 dollars gold coin with the
character "Dian"
Minted in Republic of China period
wt. 2.5g

- 16 民国云南“滇”字十元金币
重 4.9 克
Yunnan 10 dollars gold coin with the
character "Dian"
Minted in Republic of China period
wt. 4.9g

- 17 民国云南“滇”字十元金币
重 4.8 克
Yunnan 10 dollars gold coin with the
character "Dian"
Minted in Republic of China period
wt. 4.8g



- 18 民国十五年山东龙凤十元金币
重 7.0 克
Shandong 10 dollars gold coin with
dragon and phoenix
Minted in the 15th year of Republic
of China
wt. 7.0g

- 19 民国十五年山东龙凤二十元金币
重 13.8 克
Shandong 20 dollars gold coin with
dragon and phoenix
Minted in the 15th year of Republic
of China
wt. 13.8g

18 19



20 21 22

20 民国袁世凯像洪宪飞龙一元型金币
重 41.0 克
1 dollar gold coin with Yuan Shikai's
portrait and flying dragon
Minted in Hong Xian reign,
Republic of China wt. 41.0g

21 民国袁世凯像洪宪飞龙一元型金币
重 37.4 克
1 dollar gold coin with Yuan Shikai's
portrait and flying dragon
Minted in Hong Xian reign,
Republic of China wt. 37.4g

22 民国袁世凯像洪宪飞龙一元型金币
(特版) 重 43.5 克
1 dollar gold coin with Yuan Shikai's
portrait and flying dragon (special
edition)
Minted in Hong Xian reign,
Republic of China wt. 43.5g