

Loads of Info Available on Newman Numismatic Portal

By Kellen Hoard

With numismatics spreading to more places online every day, it has become easier than ever to do research. With the release of the archives of *The Numismatist* online, many ANA members have the opportunity to conduct in-depth research. However, unbeknownst to many numismatists are other advances in numismatic databases of information. More simply said, these are essentially numismatic search engines. One search engine that is constantly updated is the The Newman Numismatic Portal. This portal is named after the numismatic superhero Eric P. Newman. Newman has accumulated a vast holding of numismatic books that are methodically being archived on a website with the help of Washington University in St. Louis. In addition, several holdings from the American Numismatic Society are being archived, along with several organizations' newsletters.

Upon entering website home page (nnp.wustl.edu), there are several categories to choose from: Books; People; Encyclopedia; Blog; Auction Companies; and Periodicals. For instance, click on Books; cataloged books are listed from A to Z. As an example book, look at *American Numismatic Biographies* by Pete Smith. Upon clicking on this book, you'll find the book summary and other details. Most importantly, you'll find the archived book, which has been scanned into the website. From this place, you can turn the pages, but nothing else. However, you can click onto a separate page where you have a variety of options. Namely: one-page view, two-page view, thumbnail view, zoom in, zoom out, and turn page. There are some other interesting features as well. First, you can select "Play", which turns the pages of the book every couple of seconds. The book is also available in different formats, including PDF, Plain Text, and Kindle. You can also share the book, and have the book read aloud. The most useful feature, in my opinion, is the ability to search inside the book.

The incredible thing is that this can be accomplished with nearly every book in the database! If you click "People", you get a massive archive of information about a variety of numismatic figures, both living and not. In the encyclopedia, you can search through hundreds of different coins. The Blog provides updates the latest website additions. There are over 10,000 auction lots recorded. The periodicals are my favorite part, because you can find out what news was being shared at a certain time in history.

The Newman Numismatic Portal is a great database, whether you are looking to do research for a paper or just browsing. You don't even have to look hard for the information you need. Simply type in your keyword into the search bar at the top of the page, and you will get your results.