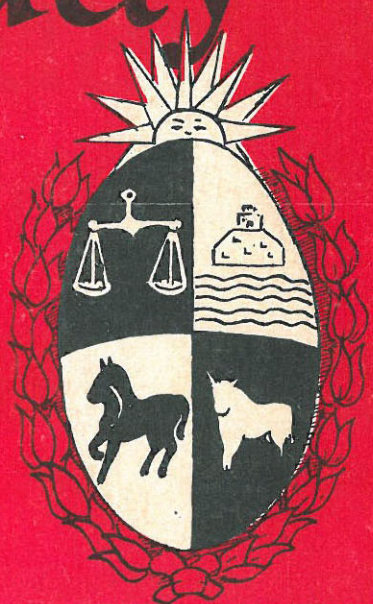




Uruguay

*the coins
of*



1840 - 1971

FROM THE AUTHORITATIVE
PEN OF **Al Almanzar**
COLLABORATING ONCE AGAIN
WITH **Dale Seppa**
TO BRING YOU THE MOST
COMPREHENSIVE BOOK ON
THIS COUNTRY EVER WRITTEN

the coins
of
Uruguay

1840 - 1971

by

Alcedo F. Almanzar

and

Dale Seppa



Research Data Compiled and Published By
ALMANZAR'S COINS OF THE WORLD

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by

Dale A. Seppa

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INTRODUCTION

This book is intended to be the most complete list of the coinage of Uruguay that has ever been published. Previous listings known to us are included in the Bibliography. We realize that, in all probability, there are still errors in our list, most of which are hopefully errors of omission. We will appreciate it if readers will bring these to the attention of the authors by writing to us in care of the publisher.

OBVERSE VS. REVERSE. The side of the coin with the name of the country is hereby defined as the obverse (obv.) and is the picture on the left in every instance. The picture on the right is the reverse (rev.).

METAL. The metal description given herein is intended primarily as an identification aid. Copper and bronze coins are brown or chocolate color. Brass, nickel-brass, aluminum-brass and gold coins are yellow in color. Copper-nickel, aluminum and silver coins are generally of a white or off-white color.

DIAMETER AND WEIGHT. All diameters are shown in millimeters (25.4mm= 1 in.) and weights are given in grams (28.4 grams = 1 oz.) All diameters and weights were taken from actual coins which almost all showed some degree of wear or damage. These figures must therefore be regarded as approximate. Also, one should consider that almost all of the early coins (1840-1855) were in fact struck on planchets which varied considerably in diameter and weight.

REFERENCE NUMBER (REF. NO.) Every type coin is cross-referenced to either A Catalog of Modern World Coins or Current Coins of the World (Y numbers) by R. S. Yeoman. In addition, all crowns are cross-referenced to Eight Reales and Pesos of the New World ("EL" numbers) by Carlos Elizondo, Jr.

MINT. The mint or mints are given where known. Many of the later issues have no mint mark. Where a type was struck at more than one mint, the mints are listed below the dates. Mint marks are listed following the dates.

UR. NO. "UR" (for Uruguay) numbers assigned by the authors are given for each date and variety for ready reference.

DATE. All confirmed dates, overdates and varieties are listed. Overdates are shown with the second or later date first, and the earlier or original date second; for example, 1843/40 indicates a die originally prepared with the date 1840 but which was later changed to 1843.

MINTAGE. Mintage figures are given where known. However, all mintage figures for early coins should be accepted with a certain skepticism. They are probably better than nothing but in many cases records are unclear or incorrect. In addition, melting or other attrition factors may have greatly reduced the number extant. A much more reliable guide to values is to study the availability of coins. A coin that is readily available is not scarce, regardless of what an official mint report might say. On the other hand, a coin that is offered for sale only occasionally, say once or twice a year, must be considered scarce or rare, even though

millions may have been struck originally.

GRADES. Grading is intended to be by the standards generally used by numismatists on the North American continent. Abbreviations used herein for grades are: A.G. (About Good); G. (Good); V.G. (Very Good); F. (Fine); V.F. (Very Fine); E.F. (Extremely Fine); Unc. (Uncirculated); and BU (Brilliant Uncirculated.)

PRICES. Prices given in this book are intended to be an average or retail prices which coin dealers in the United States are presently asking and receiving. We have tried to evaluate the prices as carefully as possible but there is no doubt in our minds that there will be differences of opinion on this subject. All prices are in dollars (\$) of the United States of America.

MONETARY HISTORY OF URUGUAY

Uruguay, the smallest Republic in South America, occupies 72,000 square miles on the Atlantic Ocean between Argentina and Brazil. It was created as an independent buffer state between the Spanish in Argentina and the Portuguese in Brazil.

Originally explored by the Spanish, Uruguay was for centuries the scene of a struggle between Spaniards and Portuguese, with the Spanish usually maintaining the upper hand. It was a part of the Viceroyalty of Rio de la Plata and later a province of Brazil.

In 1811 Uruguay, led by José Gervasio Artigas, joined Argentina in a bid for independence. Brazil later reoccupied it until 1830 when, with the help of Great Britain, complete independence was achieved and Republica Oriental del Uruguay was formally proclaimed.

Freedom only plunged the country into new chaos. During its early years, Uruguay was beset by internal and external strife. In 1842 a siege commenced against the capital city of Montevideo which lasted nine years (see page 38). Its history throughout the 19th century was similar to that of most Latin American republics — constant political strife and turmoil.

Prior to 1831, many foreign monies circulated in Uruguay, but from 1831 until the minting of its own coins in 1840, money of Argentina was the only authorized legal tender. The Uruguay coins dated 1840 were minted by a private contractor in Montevideo. A government mint opened in Montevideo on February 2, 1844 and closed in January 1845. A second mint opened on August 21, 1854, and closed in 1855. The four denominations minted from 1840-1855 (5, 20 and 40 centésimos and 1 peso) were all minted in small quantities and all are scarce to rare today. The population at the time was less than 200,000, so the need for coins was quite limited, hence the small mintages. With the exception of a handful of pieces, all 1840-1855 coins are unknown in uncirculated condition. In 10 years, Almanzar's has handled only one such piece, an 1843/40 20 centesimos. These early pieces in both copper and silver are usually of crude manufacture, many being from defective dies and/or defective planchets. Most of the early issues are encountered in less than fine condition.

From 1857 to date all Uruguay coins were struck outside the country at a number of different mints. The 1857 issues were all struck in France, the 1857D series at Lyon, the 1869A at Paris and the 1869H at La Rochelle. (Note: Paul Eden and Robert Harris both mistakenly assume the "H" mint mark on the 1869H issues is for the Heaton mint in Birmingham. However, the older references, Guttag and Eklund, give La Rochelle, while Mata says simply, "France".) Issues from 1877 to date were struck at various world mints including Santiago, Buenos Aires, London, Vienna and Berlin. From 1965 to date all have been struck at Santiago.

The early copper coinage from 1840 to 1869 features a radiate surface, not unlike the early Argentina coinage of the Province of Rio de la Plata. The surface did not appear on Uruguay coins for many years until the advent of the 1969 Mil (1000) Pesos F.A.O. coin, which features a modernistic surface design on the obverse. The other 1969 issues feature the traditional surface.

The radiate surface copper coinage of 1840 through 1857 was struck in denominations of 5, 20 and 40 centésimos, where a centésimo was a hundredth part of a "real de plata" (silver real). The 1844 peso fuerte was equal to 8 reales or 800 centésimos. Beginning with the 1869 issues, 100 centésimos equals 1 peso. This accounts for the discrepancy between denominations of like size among the early copper pieces.

Since World War I, Uruguay has experienced serious financial troubles which have caused several devaluations of the Uruguayan peso and the disappearance of the older coinage from circulation, somewhat like the recent disappearance of our own silver coins. The silver "Artigas" peso of 1917 (when 1 peso was equal to \$1 U.S.) is 37 mm in diameter. By 1961 the Uruguayan peso was worth \$.05 and a 33 mm silver 10 peso coin (the "Gaucho") was worth \$.50 U.S. Galloping inflation in recent years has caused further drastic devaluation of the peso so that the 1969 F.A.O. coin with a face value of 1000 pesos, a silver coin of 37 mm is worth \$4 U.S. The present exchange rate is 1 Uruguay Peso = \$.004 U.S.

1 CENTÉSIMO 1869

METAL	COPPER
DIAMETER	25 MM
WEIGHT	5 GRAMS
REF. NO.	Y-7
EDGE	SMOOTH
MINT	1869A-Paris 1869H-La Rochelle



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	V.G.	F.	V.F.	E.F.
1	1869 A	1,000,000	1.50	2.00	3.00	4.50
2	1869 H	1,000,000	1.50	2.00	3.00	4.50*

Note: The Paris mint coins have a tiny anchor before the date, a bee after the date. The La Rochelle (France) coins have a tiny stag's head before the date, a star after the date.

1 CENTÉSIMO 1901-1936

METAL	COPPER-NICKEL
DIAMETER	25 MM
WEIGHT	5.0 GRAMS
REF. NO.	Y-15
EDGE	SMOOTH
MINT	1901A-Berlin 1909A-Vienna 1924-Poissy 1936A-Vienna



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	UNC.
3	1901A	5,000,000	.50	1.00	1.50	3.50
4	1909A	5,000,000	.50	1.00	1.50	3.50
5	1924	3,000,000	.60	1.25	2.00	5.00
6	1936A	2,000,000	.50	1.00	1.50	3.50

Paul Eden (see Bibliography) lists a 1905 but this date has not been confirmed and we feel it is an error. Mata does not list any Uruguay coins dated 1905.

1 CENTÉSIMO 1953

METAL	COPPER
DIAMETER	15 MM
WEIGHT	1.5 GRAMS
REF. NO.	Y-28
EDGE	SMOOTH
MINT	London



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	V.F.	E.F.	UNC.
7	1953	5,000,000	.10	.20	.30

This coin has appeared in the states in large quantities in the last few years.

2 CENTÉSIMOS 1869

METAL	COPPER
DIAMETER	30MM
WEIGHT	10.0 GRAMS
REF. NO.	Y-8
EDGE	SMOOTH
MINT	1869A-Paris 1969H-La Rochelle



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	V.G.	F.	V.F.	E.F.
10	1869 A	3,000,000	1.10	1.75	2.50	4.00
11	1869 H	2,000,000	1.25	1.90	2.75	4.50

Note: The Paris mint coins have a tiny anchor before the date, a bee after the date. The La Rochelle coins have a tiny stag's head before the date, a star after.

2 CENTÉSIMOS 1901-1941

METAL	COPPER
DIAMETER	20 MM
WEIGHT	3.5 GRAMS
REF. NO.	Y-16
EDGE	SMOOTH
MINT	1901-Berlin 1909-Vienna 1924-Poissy 1936-Vienna



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	UNC.
12	1901 A	7,500,000	.25	.60	1.10	3.25
13	1909 A	10,000,000	.25	.60	1.10	3.25
14	1924	11,000,000	.25	.60	1.10	3.25
15	1936 A	6,500,000	.35	.75	1.25	4.00
16	1941 S	10,000,000 (?)	.35	.75	1.25	3.25

Paul Eden lists a 1905 coin (see note following UR 6.)

2 CENTÉSIMOS 1943-1951

METAL
DIAMETER
WEIGHT
REF. NO.
EDGE
MINT

BRONZE
20 MM
3.5 GRAMS
Y-16a
SMOOTH
Santiago



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.
17	1943	5,000,000	.25	.40	.75
18	1944	3,500,000	.35	.40	.90
19	1945	2,500,000	.40	.65	1.00
20	1946	2,500,000	.40	.65	1.00
21	1947	5,000,000	.25	.40	.75
22	1948	7,500,000	.15	.25	.50
23	1949	7,400,000	.15	.25	.50
24	1951	12,500,000	.15	.25	.50

2 CENTÉSIMOS 1953

METAL
DIAMETER
WEIGHT
REF. NO.
EDGE
MINT

COPPER-NICKEL
17 MM
2.5 GRAMS
Y-29
SMOOTH
London,
B'Ham, &
King's Norton



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	UNC.
25	1953	122,500,000	.05	.10	.20	.40

2 CENTESIMOS 1960

METAL
DIAMETER
WEIGHT
REF. NO.
EDGE
MINT

NICKEL-BRASS
16 MM
2.0 GRAMS
Y-33
SMOOTH
London



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	V.F.	E.F.	UNC.
26	1960	17,500,000	.05	.10	.30

4 CENTÉSIMOS 1869

METAL	COPPER
DIAMETER	35 MM
WEIGHT	20.0 GRAMS
REF. NO.	Y-9
EDGE	SMOOTH
MINT	1869A-Paris 1869H-La Rochelle



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	V.G.	F.	V.F.	UNC.
30	1869 A	2,000,000	1.50	2.50	3.50	12.00
31	1869 H	6,250,000	1.25	2.25	3.25	9.50

Note: The Paris mint coins have a tiny anchor before the date, a bee after the date. The La Rochelle (France) coins have a tiny stag's head before the date, a star after the date.

5 CENTÉSIMOS 1840-1854

METAL	COPPER
DIAMETER	23 MM
WEIGHT	4.25 GRAMS
REF. NO.	Y-1
EDGE	SMOOTH
MINT	Montevideo



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	A.G.	G.	V.G.	F.
32	1840	Est. 1500	12.50	25.00	40.00	50.00
33	1844		12.50	25.00	40.00	50.00
34	1854/40		10.00	20.00	30.00	40.00
35	1854/44		15.00	30.00	50.00	Rare

Note: No new dies were made for the 1854 coins and all are overdates. On UR-34, the "40" on the 1840 dies was struck over with "54"; on UR35, the first "4" in 1844 was struck over with a "5". The strike-over is more obvious on the 1854/40 unless there are "blotches" over the last two numerals. These blotches, resulting from a broken die, are on the 1854/40 on all specimens observed. The two reverses are distinctively different and provide an infallible means of identification between the two dies. On the first die, UR32 and UR34, the total number of leaves on both branches (inside and outside) is 31, 15 on the left and 16 on the right. On the second die, UR33 and UR35, the total number of leaves is 26, with 13 on each side. UR35 also comes with a massive reverse broken die break at the three o'clock position.

All specimens observed are crudely struck. They were struck from very soft copper and usually show numerous nicks and scratches.

The diameter of the sun on the obverse is 4 millimeters, much smaller than on UR36 which follows.

5 CENTÉSIMOS 1855

METAL	COPPER
DIAMETER	23 MM
WEIGHT	4.35 GRAMS
REF. NO.	MODIFIED Y-1
EDGE	SMOOTH
MINT	Montevideo



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	A.G.	G.	V.G.	F.
36	1855		15.00	35.00	50.00	75.00

The face of the sun on this type is 5.5 millimeters and is noticeably larger than the previous type without magnification. It should be listed as a separate type (or sub-type) in all reference books. Interestingly, the reverse is the type of the first die of the previous type, that with 31 leaves on both branches.

5 CENTÉSIMOS 1857

METAL	COPPER
DIAMETER	23 MM
WEIGHT	4.35 GRAMS
REF. NO.	Y-4
EDGE	SMOOTH
MINT	Lyon



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	V.G.	F.	V.F.	E.F.
37	1857 D		2.00	3.25	5.75	8.50

Note: D mintmark on reverse; a tiny anchor to the left of the date and a lion to the right of the date.

5 CENTÉSIMOS 1901-1941

METAL	COPPER-NICKEL
DIAMETER	23MM
WEIGHT	5.0 GRAMS
REF. NO.	Y-17
EDGE	SMOOTH
MINT	1901A-Berlin 1909A-Vienna 1924-Poissy 1936-Vienna 1941 ^S -Santiago



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	V.G.	F.	V.F.	E.F.
38	1901 A	6,000,000	.20	.40	.65	1.00
39	1909 A	5,000,000	.20	.40	.65	1.00
40	1924	5,000,000	.20	.40	.65	1.00
41	1936 A	3,000,000	.25	.50	.75	1.25
42	1941 ^S	26,000,000 (?)	.35	.75	1.00	1.75

According to a photo in "EL REGIMEN MONETARIO DEL URUGUAY" there is a very slight possibility that all or some of the 1901 issue was struck in Santiago de Chile. We personally doubt this, but if anyone can confirm, please do so. Paul Eden lists a 1905 coin (see note following UR6.)

5 CENTÉSIMOS 1944-1951

METAL	BRONZE
DIAMETER	23MM
WEIGHT	5 GRAMS
REF. NO.	Y-17
EDGE	SMOOTH
MINT	Santiago



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
43	1944 ^S	4,000,000	.20	.35	.50	2.50
44	1946 ^S	2,000,000	.25	.45	.65	3.25
45	1947 ^S	2,000,000	.25	.45	.65	3.25
46	1948 ^S	3,000,000	.20	.35	.50	2.50
47	1949 ^S	2,800,000	.20	.35	.50	2.50
48	1951 ^S	15,000,000	.15	.25	.40	1.25

5 CENTÉSIMOS 1953

METAL	COPPER-NICKEL
DIAMETER	20 MM
WEIGHT	3.5 GRAMS
REF. NO.	Y-17
EDGE	SMOOTH
MINT	London, B'ham, King's Norton



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
49	1953	81,000,000 (?)	.05	.10	.20	.35

5 CENTÉSIMOS 1960

METAL	NICKEL-BRASS
DIAMETER	20 MM
WEIGHT	3.5 GRAMS
REF. NO.	Y-34
EDGE	SMOOTH
MINT	London



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
50	1960	88,000,000	.05	.10	.15	.35

10 CENTÉSIMOS 1877-1893

METAL	SILVER
DIAMETER	18 MM
WEIGHT	2.5 GRAMS
REF. NO.	Y-11
EDGE	REEDED



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	V.G.	F.	V.F.	E.F.
55	1877A	3,000,000	.50	1.00	2.25	3.50
56	1893 ^S	1,000,000	.75	1.50	2.75	4.50
57	1893	No mintmark, possible.		-----	-----	-----

On Lamina XXII, in "El Regimen Monetario Del Uruguay" it plainly states that the 1893 Santiago issue, was of two types, one with the S mintmark and one which did not have the mintmark. The illustration is not clear enough to verify this of my own knowledge, nor do I have actual coins available at this time to verify it. However, I suspect it to be true. The 1877 issue was minted at Paris.

10 CENTÉSIMOS 1930

METAL	ALUM.-BRONZE
DIAMETER	27 MM
WEIGHT	8 GRAMS
REF. NO.	Y-18
EDGE	REDED
MINT	Paris



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
58	1930	5,000,000	1.00	2.50	4.50	12.00

This coin was issued in celebration of 100 years of independence. Although the mintage is rather large it sells quite well. Possibly there are many people who collect only commemorative coins. (See also UR75 and UR 130.)

10 CENTÉSIMOS 1936

METAL	ALUM.-BRONZE
DIAMETER	25 MM
WEIGHT	6.0 GRAMS
REF. NO.	Y-19
EDGE	REDED
MINT	Vienna



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
59	1936A	2,000,000	1.25	2.00	3.75	9.50

10 CENTÉSIMOS 1953-1959

METAL	COPPER-NICKEL
DIAMETER	22 MM
WEIGHT	4.5 GRAMS
REF. NO.	Y-31
EDGE	SMOOTH
MINT	1953-B'ham 1959-London



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
60	1953	28,250,000	.10	.20	.30	.75
60A	1959	10,000,000	.10	.20	.25	.60

10 CENTÉSIMOS 1960

METAL	NICKEL-BRASS
DIAMETER	24 MM
WEIGHT	4.5 GRAMS
REF. NO.	Y-35
EDGE	SMOOTH
MINT	London



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
61	1960	72,500,000	.10	.15	.20	.40

20 CENTÉSIMOS 1840-1855

METAL	COPPER
DIAMETER	(1)
WEIGHT	(2)
REF. NO.	Y-2
EDGE	SMOOTH
MINT	Montevideo



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	G.	V.G.	F.	V.F.
65	1840	Est. 2,125	15.00	22.00	30.00	60.00
66	1843/40	-----	15.00	22.00	30.00	60.00
67	1843(3)	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
68	1844(4)	-----	20.00	28.00	43.00	85.00
69	1854	-----	16.00	23.00	34.00	67.50
70	1855(5)	-----	20.00	28.00	43.00	85.00

- (1) The diameter varies around 36 to 37 millimeters.
- (2) The 1840 weighs about 28 grams, while the later dates weigh only about 21 grams. Although of approximately the same diameter, they were struck on thinner planchets.
- (3) There is a strong possibility that UR67 does not exist; it is reported but unconfirmed by us.
- (4) The 1844 exists in a second die which is much cruder than any other date of this series. The date on this die is larger than the illustration and the face on the sun is extremely crude. In later editions of this book, the 1844 may be listed as a separate type.
- (5) See the section, "The 'Gold' 5 and 20 Centésimos of 1855."

20 CENTÉSIMOS 1857

METAL COPPER
 DIAMETER 34 MM
 WEIGHT 21.3 GRAMS
 REF. NO. Y-5
 EDGE SMOOTH
 MINT Lyon



UR.NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	V.G.	F.	V.F.	E.F.
71	1857 D	-----	2.75	4.00	7.50	11.00

Note: D mintmark on reverse; a tiny anchor appears before the date and a lion after the date. This coin is similar to the preceding type, but the design is much sharper, and the coin in general shows a much better grade of workmanship.

20 CENTÉSIMOS 1877-1893

METAL .900 SILVER
 DIAMETER 24 MM
 WEIGHT 5 GRAMS
 REF. NO. Y-12
 EDGE REEDED
 MINT 1877-Paris
 1893-Santiago



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	V.G.	F.	V.F.	E.F.
72	1877 A	1,500,000	1.25	2.50	3.25	5.25
73	1893/73 S	750,000	1.50	3.00	4.00	6.50

20 CENTÉSIMOS 1920

METAL .800 SILVER
 DIAMETER 25 MM
 WEIGHT 5 GRAMS
 REF. NO. Y-20
 EDGE REEDED
 MINT Santiago



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
74	1920	2,500,000	1.50	2.50	4.50	8.50

20 CENTÉSIMOS 1930

METAL .800 SILVER
 DIAMETER 25 MM
 WEIGHT 5 GRAMS
 REF. NO. Y-21
 EDGE REEDED
 MINT Paris



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
75	1930	2,500,000	1.25	2.00	3.50	6.50

Commemorates 100 years of independence (see also UR58 and UR120.)

20 CENTÉSIMOS 1942

METAL .720 SILVER
 DIAMETER 18½ MM
 WEIGHT 3 GRAMS
 REF. NO. Y-25
 EDGE REEDED
 MINT Santiago



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
76	1942 §	18,000,000	.50	.75	1.25	2.50

20 CENTÉSIMOS 1954

METAL .720 SILVER
 DIAMETER 18½ MM
 WEIGHT 3 GRAMS
 REF. NO. Y-32
 EDGE REEDED
 MINT Utrecht



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
77	1954	10,000,000	.50	1.00	1.50	2.25

20 CENTÉSIMOS 1965

METAL ALUMINUM
 DIAMETER 20½ MM
 WEIGHT 2.5 GRAMS
 REF. NO. Y-40
 EDGE SMOOTH
 MINT Santiago



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
78	1965 §	40,000,000	.01	.02	.05	.20

25 CENTÉSIMOS 1960

METAL COPPER-NICKEL
 DIAMETER 18 MM
 WEIGHT 3 GRAMS
 REF. NO. Y-36
 EDGE REEDED
 MINT London



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
80	1960	48,000,000	.05	.10	.25	.40

40 CENTÉSIMOS 1844

METAL COPPER
 DIAMETER 38 MM
 WEIGHT 35 GRAMS
 REF. NO. Y-3
 EDGE SMOOTH
 MINT Montevideo



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	G.	V.G.	F.	V.F.
82	1844	1st die*	17.50	27.50	39.50	60.00
83	1844	2nd die*	Rare			
87	1854	Definitely exists	Rare			

* See Page 40.

40 CENTÉSIMOS 1857

METAL COPPER
 DIAMETER 38 MM
 WEIGHT 35 GRAMS
 REF. NO. Y-6
 EDGE SMOOTH
 MINT Lyon



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	V.G.	F.	V.F.	E.F.
89	1857 D	-----	3.00	4.50	7.50	12.50

D mintmark on reverse; a tiny anchor before the date and a lion after the date. Most of these large, heavy copper coins have moderate to heavy edge bruises.

50 CENTÉSIMOS 1877-1894

METAL .900 SILVER
 DIAMETER 34 MM
 WEIGHT 12½ GRAMS
 REF. NO. Y-13
 EDGE REEDED
 MINT 1877A-Paris
 1893S-Santiago
 1894-Buenos Aires



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	V.G.	F.	V.F.	E.F.
90	1877 A	400,000	3.00	5.00	7.00	12.00
91	1893/73 S	500,000	3.00	5.00	7.00	12.00
92	1894	800,000	2.50	4.50	6.00	10.00

50 CENTÉSIMOS 1916-1917

METAL .900 SILVER
 DIAMETER 30 MM
 WEIGHT 12½ GRAMS
 REF. NO. Y-22
 EDGE * LETTERED
 MINT Buenos Aires



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
93	1916	6,000,000	4.00	7.00	13.00	25.00
94	1917		2.50	5.00	7.50	12.50

A pattern for 1916 also exists of the above type, in which the bust is completely different from this illustration (please see URP105 in the pattern section.)

*Edge lettering reads: REPUBLICA ORIENTAL DEL URUGUAY *(date)*.

50 CENTÉSIMOS 1943

METAL COPPER-NICKEL
 DIAMETER 22 MM
 WEIGHT 7 GRAMS
 REF. NO. Y-37
 EDGE REEDED
 MINT Santiago



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
96	1943 S	10,800,000	1.00	1.50	2.25	4.00

50 CENTÉSIMOS 1960

METAL
DIAMETER
WEIGHT
REF. NO.
EDGE
MINT

COPPER-NICKEL
22 MM
7 GRAMS
Y-37
REEDED
London



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
97	1960	18,000,000	.05	.20	.30	.50

50 CENTÉSIMOS 1965

METAL
DIAMETER
WEIGHT
REF. NO.
EDGE
MINT

ALUMINUM
23½ MM
3 GRAMS
Y-41
PLAIN
Santiago



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
98	1965 §	50,000,000	.05	.10	.15	.35

UN PESO FUERTE 1844

METAL
DIAMETER
WEIGHT
REF. NO.
REF. NO.
EDGE
MINT

.875 SILVER
38 MM
27 GRAMS
Y-10
EL. Type 1
*
Montevideo



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	V.G.	F.	V.F.	E.F.
100	1844	1,500	175.00	250.00	325.00	450.00
101	1844	Both Types	200.00	300.00	375.00	500.00

No. 101 has the inverted reverse. * See section, "About the 1844 Montevideo Peso" on Page 38.

1 PESO 1877-1878

METAL	.917 SILVER
DIAMETER	37 MM
WEIGHT	25½ GRAMS
REF. NO.	Y-14
REF. NO.	EL Type 2
EDGE	REEDED
MINT	Paris



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	V.G.	F.	V.F.	E.F.
103	1877 A	300,000	10.00	17.50	25.00	35.00
104	1878 A	100,000	150.00	200.00	300.00	400.00

The Paris mint struck 100,000 coins dated 1878 but the ship carrying them was sunk. Although most of the coins were recovered, 43,200 were sent back to the mint to be melted because of heavy corrosion.

It will be noted that the obverse of this type does have appreciable differences from the following type and it should also be noted that the metallic composition and the weight are completely different.

1 PESO 1893-1895

METAL	.900 SILVER
DIAMETER	37 MM
WEIGHT	25 GRAMS
REF. NO.	Modified Y-14
EDGE	REEDED
MINT	1893 S-Santiago 1893-Buenos Aires 1895-Buenos Aires



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	V.G.	F.	V.F.	E.F.
105	1893 S	500,000	7.00	15.00	25.00	37.50
106	1893	600,000	5.00	10.00	15.00	20.00
107	1895	1,000,000	4.00	9.00	14.00	18.00

(The 1893 S is much scarcer than the 1893 without mint mark.)

UN PESO 1917

METAL .900 SILVER
 DIAMETER 37 MM
 WEIGHT 25 GRAMS
 REF. NO. Y-23
 REF. NO. EL. TYPE 3
 EDGE * LETTERED



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	V.G.	F.	V.F.	E.F.
108	1917	2,000,000	9.00	14.00	18.00	28.00

This coin was minted in Buenos Aires, by the "CASA DE MONEDA DE BUENOS AIRES". There also exists one or more small uniface patterns, which were minted at Buenos Aires, presumably in 1916. (See the pattern section.)

*Edge lettering reads: REPUBLICA ORIENTAL DEL URUGUAY * 1917 *

UN PESO 1960

METAL .720 SILVER
 DIAMETER 27 MM
 WEIGHT 9 GRAMS
 REF. NO. Y-27
 EDGE REEDED
 MINT Santiago



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
109	1942 §	9,000,000	1.50	2.25	3.25	6.00

Head of Artigas on obverse, Jaguar on reverse.

UN PESO 1960

METAL COPPER-NICKEL
 DIAMETER 26 MM
 WEIGHT 6 GRAMS
 REF. NO. Y-38
 EDGE REEDED
 MINT London



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
110	1960	8,000,000	.10	.25	.35	.60

UN PESO 1965

METAL ALUM.-BRONZE
 DIAMETER 22 MM
 WEIGHT 3.5 GRAMS
 REF. NO. Y-42
 EDGE REEDED
 MINT Santiago



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
111	1965 §	60,000,000	.10	.15	.25	.40

UN PESO 1968

METAL ALUM.-BRONZE
 DIAMETER 17 MM
 WEIGHT 2 GRAMS
 REF. NO. Y-48
 EDGE SMOOTH
 MINT Santiago



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	E.F.	Unc.	BU.
112	1968 §	103,200,000	.05	.15	.20

UN PESO 1969

METAL ALUM.-BRONZE
 DIAMETER 17 MM
 WEIGHT 2 GRAMS
 REF. NO. Y-48
 EDGE SMOOTH
 MINT Santiago



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	E.F.	Unc.	BU.
113	1969 §	51,800,000	.05	.10	.15

5 PESOS 1930

METAL .917 GOLD
 DIAMETER 22 MM
 WEIGHT 8.485 GRAMS
 REF. NO. Y-24
 EDGE LETTERED*
 MINT Paris



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
120	1930	100,000	75.00	95.00	115.00	150.00

This gold coin, together with UR58 and UR75, was struck to commemorate the Centennial of the Republic. This is the only gold coin of Uruguay released to circulation; however, of the 100,000 struck, only 14,415 were issued.

*Edge is engraved in relief, "Republica Oriental del Uruguay".

5 PESOS 1965

METAL
DIAMETER
WEIGHT
REF. NO.
EDGE
MINT

5 PESOS 1965

ALUM.-BRONZE
25 MM
7 GRAMS
Y-43
REEDED
Santiago



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
126	1965 §	18,000,000	.15	.35	.60	.75

5 PESOS 1968

METAL
DIAMETER
WEIGHT
REF. NO.
EDGE
MINT

NICKEL-BRASS
20 MM
3 GRAMS
Y-46
SMOOTH
Santiago



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
127	1968 §	42,680,000	.05	.10	.25	.35

5 PESOS 1969

METAL
DIAMETER
WEIGHT
REF. NO.
EDGE
MINT

ALUM.-BRONZE
20 MM
3 GRAMS
Y-49
SMOOTH
Santiago



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
128	1969 §	42,320,000	.05	.10	.20	.30

10 PESOS 1961

METAL .900 SILVER
 DIAMETER 33 MM
 WEIGHT 12.5 GRAMS
 REF. NO. Y-39
 EDGE REEDED
 MINT London



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.	BU.
135	1961	3,000,000	1.25	2.00	3.00	4.00

Very popular "Gaicho"; commemorates the 150th anniversary of the revolution against Spain.

10 PESOS 1965

METAL ALUM.-BRONZE
 DIAMETER 28 MM
 WEIGHT 8 GRAMS
 REF. NO. Y-44
 EDGE REEDED
 MINT Santiago



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	F.	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.
136	1965 §	—————	.20	.50	.75	1.00

10 PESOS 1968

METAL NICKEL-BRASS
 DIAMETER 23 MM
 WEIGHT 4 GRAMS
 REF. NO. Y-47
 EDGE SMOOTH
 MINT Santiago



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	V.F.	E.F.	Unc.	BU.
137	1968 §	75,000,000	.10	.25	.40	.55

10 PESOS 1969

METAL
DIAMETER
WEIGHT
REF. NO.
EDGE
MINT

ALUM.-BRONZE
23 MM
4 GRAMS
Y-50
SMOOTH
Santiago



UR. NO. DATE
138 1969 §

MINTAGE
25,000,000

Unc.
.50

20 PESOS 1970

METAL
DIAMETER
WEIGHT
REF. NO.
EDGE
MINT

COPPER-NICKEL
21½ MM
3.89 GRAMS
Y-51
REEDED
Santiago



UR. NO. DATE
150 1970 §

MINTAGE
50,000,000

Unc.
1.00

50 PESOS 1970

METAL
DIAMETER
WEIGHT
REF. NO.
EDGE
MINT

COPPER-NICKEL
24.5 MM
5.25 GRAMS
Y-52
REEDED
Santiago



UR. NO. DATE
160 1970 §

MINTAGE
20,000,000

Unc.
1.50

50 PESOS 1971 RODO COMMEMORATIVE

METAL
DIAMETER
WEIGHT
REF. NO.
EDGE
MINT

COPPER-NICKEL
24 MM
6 GRAMS
Y-54 (?)
REEDED
Santiago



UR. NO. DATE
161 1971 §

MINTAGE
15,000,000

Unc.
.75

1000 PESOS F.A.O. COIN 1969

METAL	.900 SILVER
DIAMETER	37 MM
WEIGHT	25 GRAMS
REF. NO.	Y-53
REF. NO.	EL. Type 4 (tentative)
EDGE	* LETTERED
MINT	Santiago



UR. NO.	DATE	MINTAGE	BU.
180	1969 §	500,000 (both types)	7.50
181	1969 §		7.50

*UR180 and UR181 are identical except that the edge lettering, REPUBLICA ORIENTAL DEL URUGUAY * § *, is right-side up (that is, readable) when UR180 is held with the obverse side up. When UR181 is held with the obverse side up, the edge lettering is upside down.

The two types are apparently about equally common. In a random sample of 100 coins from original mint rolls, 43 were UR180 and 57 were UR181. This is close enough to 50-50 to conclude that it is purely a matter of chance which type any given coin is.

The edge lettering is put on the coin first in a separate operation from the regular stamping. It depends entirely on how the blank planchets with the edge already lettered are fed into the presses as to whether they come out as UR180 or UR181.

These coins were not shipped by the mint loose in bags as coins normally are. They were shipped in tightly packed rolls of 50 pieces each to minimize bag marks. Therefore almost all specimens seen can properly be described as "choice uncirculated."

PROOF, PATTERN, ESSAY, AND OFFMETAL STRIKINGS



UR. NO. P1	40 REALES Only a few minted. RRRR	1854	GOLD	Weights 135 Grains.
UR. NO. P8	1 CENTÉSIMO issue, but struck in gold.	1869A	GOLD	Same as the regular
UR. NO. P9	1 CENTÉSIMO issue, but struck in gold.	1869H	GOLD	Same as the regular
UR. NO. P10	1 CENTÉSIMO issue, but struck in silver.	1869A	SILVER	Same as the regular
UR. NO. P11	1 CENTÉSIMO issue, but struck in silver.	1869H	SILVER	Same as the regular
UR. NO. P12	1 CENTÉSIMO issue, but 12 pieces have "ESSAI" marked on them.	1924	NICKEL	Same as the regular
UR. NO. P15	1 CENTÉSIMO issue, but 100 pieces struck in 22 Kt. gold.	1953	GOLD	Same as the regular
UR. NO. P20	2 CENTÉSIMOS issue, but struck in gold.	1869A	GOLD	Same as the regular
UR. NO. P 21	2 CENTÉSIMOS issue, but struck in gold.	1869H	GOLD	Same as the regular
UR. NO. P22	2 CENTÉSIMOS issue, but struck in silver.	1869A	SILVER	Same as the regular
UR. NO. P23	2 CENTÉSIMOS issue, but struck in silver.	1869H	SILVER	Same as the regular
UR. NO. P30	2 CENTÉSIMOS issue, but 12 peices bear the word "ESSAI".	1924	NICKEL	Same as the regular
UR. NO. P35	2 CENTÉSIMOS issue, but struck in gold. Only one piece is believed to have been struck.	1943 §	GOLD	Same as the regular
UR. NO. P40	2 CENTÉSIMOS issue, but 100 pieces struck in 22 Kt. gold.	1953	GOLD	Same as the regular

UR. NO. P41 2 CENTÉSIMOS 1960 GOLD Same as the regular issue, but 100 pieces struck in gold.



UR. NO. P45 4 CENTÉSIMOS 1868 BRONZE Only 1 piece is believed to have been struck.

UR. NO. P50 4 CENTÉSIMOS 1869 A GOLD Same as the regular issue, but struck in gold.

UR. NO. P51 4 CENTÉSIMOS 1869 H GOLD Same as the regular issue, but struck in gold.

UR. NO. P52 4 CENTÉSIMOS 1869 A SILVER Same as the regular issue, but struck in silver.

UR. NO. P53 4 CENTÉSIMOS 1869 H SILVER Same as the regular issue, but struck in silver.



UR. NO. P55 4 CENTÉSIMOS none NICKEL Struck in 1901. Obverse: Radiant sun face.

UR. NO. P57 5 ————— 1899 NICKEL Reverse: REPUBLICA ORIENTAL DEL URUGUAY. "5" in field.



UR. NO. P58 5 CENTAVOS 1899 NICKEL Rev: REPUBLICA URUGUAY below is "CENTAVOS" in field "5".

UR. NO. P60 5 CENTÉSIMOS 1924 NICKEL Like regular issue but with the word "ESSAI". Only 12 pieces were struck.

UR. NO. P61 5 CENTÉSIMOS 1953 GOLD Like regular issue but 100 pieces struck in 22 Kt. gold.

UR. NO. P62 5 CENTÉSIMOS 1960 GOLD Like the regular issue, but 100 pieces struck in gold.



UR. NO. P65 10 CENTÉSIMOS 1870 SILVER Not in Gutttag. Plain edge, 18 mm. "10 CENTÉSIMOS" in wreath.

UR. NO. P66 10 CENTÉSIMOS 1870 COPPER No. G4690 g. Like the above but struck in copper.



UR. NO. P70 10 CENTÉSIMOS 1899 NICKEL Rev: REPUBLICA ORIENTAL DEL URUGUAY. Large "10" in field.



UR. NO. P71 10 CENTAVOS 1899 NICKEL Rev: REPUBLICA URUGUAY. Large "10" in field. Below is the word "Centavos".

UR. NO. P75 10 CENTAVOS 1930 GOLD Like the regular issue but 60 pieces "ENSAYO" struck in gold.

UR. NO. P76 10 CENTAVOS 1930 BRONZE Like the regular issue but 70 pieces "ENSAYO" in bronze.

UR. NO. P77 10 CENTÉSIMOS 1953 GOLD Like the normal issue, but 100 pieces struck in 22 KT. gold.

UR. NO. P78 10 CENTÉSIMOS 1959 GOLD

UR. NO. P79 10 CENTÉSIMOS 1960 GOLD Same as the regular issue, but 100 pieces struck in gold.

UR. NO. P80 20 CENTÉSIMOS 1870 SILVER 22MM. Not listed in Guttag. Plain edge.

UR. NO. P81 20 CENTÉSIMOS 1870 COPPER Like the above but struck in copper. Guttag No. 4690 f.



UR. NO. P85 20 _____ 1899 NICKEL Reverse: REPUBLICA ORIENTAL DEL URUGUAY. Large "20" in field.



UR. NO. P86 20 CENTAVOS 1899 NICKEL Reverse has the legend "REPUBLICA URUGUAY". A large "20" in the field and below the word "CENTAVOS".

UR. NO. P90 20 C^{ts} 1930 GOLD Same as the regular issue but 60 pieces "ENSAYO" struck in gold.

UR. NO. P91 20 C^{ts} 1930 BRONZE Same as the regular issue but 70 pieces "ENSAYO" in bronze.

UR. NO. P92 20 C^{ts} 1942 20 pieces struck in a mixture of silver and gold.

UR. NO. P93 20 C^{ts} 1942 10 pieces struck in a mixture of copper and gold.

UR. NO. P95 20 C^{ts} 1954 GOLD Like the regular issue but 100 pieces were struck in .983 gold with an approximate weight of 6 grams.

UR. NO. P96 20 CENTÉSIMOS 1965 SILVER Like the regular issue but struck in silver.

UR. NO. P96a 20 CENTÉSIMOS 1965 GOLD Like the regular issue but struck in gold.

UR. NO. P97 25 CENTÉSIMOS 1960 GOLD Like the regular issue but 100 pieces struck in gold.



- UR. NO. P98 40 CENTÉSIMOS 1855 COPPER (doubtful)
 UR. NO. P99 40 CENTÉSIMOS 1856 COPPER ESSAI.



- UR. NO. P100 50 CENTÉSIMOS 1870 SILVER Plain edge. 33 MM.
 UR. NO. P101 50 CENTÉSIMOS 1870 COPPER Plain edge. 33 MM.
 Similar to above. G 4690 e.



- UR. NO. P102 50 CENTÉSIMOS 1870 GOLD



- UR. NO. P105 50 CENTÉSIMOS 1916 SILVER Different from regular issue.
 UR. NO. P106 50 CENTÉSIMOS 1943 GOLD Like regular issue, but struck in gold.

UR. NO. P107	50 CENTÉSIMOS	1943	NICKEL	(Possible)
UR. NO. P108	50 CENTÉSIMOS	1960	GOLD	Like the regular issue but 100 pieces struck in gold.
UR. NO. P109	50 CENTÉSIMOS	1965	SILVER	Like the regular issue but struck in silver (quantity?).
UR. NO. P109a	50 CENTÉSIMOS	1965	GOLD	Like the regular issue but struck in gold (quantity?).
UR. NO. P110	UN PESO PUERTE	1844	LEAD	Like the regular issue but cast or struck in lead.







UR. NO. P111	100 CENTÉSIMOS	1869	SILVER	With head of Liberty.
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UR. NO. P112	100 CENTÉSIMOS	1869	SILVER	Different type than above. Plain edge. Guttag No. 4685 A.
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UR. NO. P114	1 PESO	1870	SILVER
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UR. NO. P115	1 PESO but struck in copper.	1870	COPPER	Same as previous Plain edge. 37 MM.
UR. NO. P116	1 PESO	1870	GOLD	Plain edge, 16 mm.
				
UR. NO. P117	1 PESO struck in copper.	1870	COPPER	Same as P116, but struck in copper.
UR. NO. P119	1 PESO	no date	SILVER(?)	Small uniface pat- tern for the 1917 Peso.
UR. NO. P120	1 PESO	1942	GOLD	Same as the regular issue but struck in gold.
UR. NO. P121	1 PESO	1942	NICKEL	(Possible)
UR. NO. P122	1 PESO	1960	GOLD	Same as the regular issue but struck in gold.
UR. NO. P123	1 PESO	1965	SILVER	Same as the regular issue but struck in silver (quantity unknown).
UR. NO. P123a	1 PESO	1965	GOLD	Same as the regular issue but struck in gold (quantity unknown).
UR. NO. P130	2 PESOS	1870	COPPER	Plain edge.
				
UR. NO. P135	5 PESOS	1870	GILDED COPPER	Plain edge.
UR. NO. P136	5 PESOS	1870	COPPER	Gutttag No. 4090 A.
UR. NO. P140	5 PESOS	1930	GOLD	Like the regular issue but 60 pieces in gold marked "ENSAYO".
UR. NO. P141	5 PESOS	1930	BRONZE	Like the regular issue but 70 pieces in bronze marked "ENSAYO".
UR. NO. P142	5 PESOS	1965	SILVER	Like the regular issue but struck in silver (quantity unknown).
UR. NO. P142a	5 PESOS	1965	GOLD	Like the regular issue but struck in gold (quantity unknown).

UR. NO. P143 10 PESOS 1960 GOLD Like the regular issue but 100 pieces struck in gold.

UR. NO. P144 10 PESOS 1965 SILVER Like the regular issue but struck in silver (quantity unknown).



UR. NO. P145 1 DOBLON 1870 GILDED BRONZE

UR. NO. P150 1968 Presentation Set of 5 silver proof coins, 1, 5, 10, 20, and 50 Pesos. The first 3 are the same as the regular issues of 1968; the last 2 are similar to the same denominations of the regular coinage dated 1970. These sets are sold for presentation purposes and are limited to collectors in Uruguay. 1,000 sets were minted. The estimated value of a set is \$ 65.00.

UR. NO. P150a 1968 Presentation Set of 5 gold proof coins, similar to P150 above (quantity unknown, but our correspondent says, "Unos pocos," which means only a very few.)

UR. NO. P151 1969 Presentation Set of 3 silver proof coins, 1, 5 and 10 Pesos, similar in design to the regular coinage of 1969. 1,000 sets minted, value \$ 45.00.

UR. NO. P151a 1969 Presentation Set of 3 gold proof coins, similar to P151 above (quantity "Unos pocos.")

UR. NO. P155 1969 - 1000 PESOS FAO Coin - SILVER PROOF, 250 minted.

UR. NO. P155a 1969 - 1000 PESOS FAO Coin - GOLD PROOF, 250 minted.

UR. NO. P155b 1969 - 1000 PESOS FAO Coin - COPPER ESSAY, 1000 minted.

UR. NO. P160 1971 - 50 PESOS - SILVER PROOF, 2,000 minted.

UR. NO. P160a 1971 - 50 PESOS - GOLD PROOF, 200 minted.

ABOUT THE "MONTEVIDEO" PESO

Beginning in 1842 Uruguay was in the throes of a civil war, "La Guerra Grande", in which the rest of the country laid siege to the capital city, Montevideo, a siege which lasted nine years. The siege bothered the citizens of Montevideo very little, however. The city was ably defended by 3,000 French Foreign Legion Basques and a smaller force of Italians, as well as the native forces. Life went on as usual, including the theatre and other entertainment.

José Toribio Medina, the famous Chilean author and collector whose literary works number almost 300, writes in *Las Monedas Obsidionales Hispano-Americanas*: "By the law of the 13th of December 1843, it was authorized by the government of the Montevideo siege to commemorate its heroic defense by striking a coin. On the 9th of November of the same year, the establishment of a mint had been proposed to help defray expenses of the war. After donations of silver by the citizens, final approval was given by the Assembly on the 13th of December. Then on the 2nd of February, 1844, the mint, along the banks of the Rio de la Plata, first opened its doors. That day the first of these coins was struck." Part of the reverse legend is, quite properly, SITIO DE MONTEVIDEO (Siege of Montevideo). The reverse features nine stars in a circle; Medina states that these 9 stars were to signify the number of departments in the government at the time. Inside the circle of stars is the denomination, UN PESO FUERTE; that is, strong or 'hard' peso.

The edge of the Montevideo peso is an early type of security edge, consisting of 55 pairs of leaves end to end around the coin. There are either 2 leaves side by side, or one leaf in the center with part of a leaf on either side. Each leaf is actually a double leaf open at the top, and all 55 pairs open the same direction around the coin.

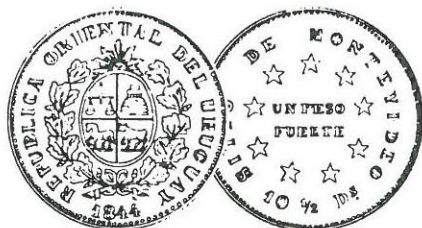
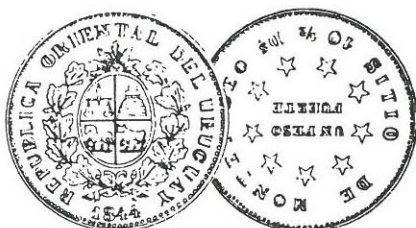
Both Medina and Andres M. Mata (*Monetario Uruguayo*) state that about 1500 Montevideo pesos were struck, and this is the figure we use in this book. Robert P. Harris (*A Guide Book of Modern Latin American Coins*) and Arunjo Villigran (*La Patria a Través de las Monedas*) state, "There were approximately 400 pieces minted." Paul Eden, Carlos Elizondo, Jr. (*8 Reales and Pesos of the New World*) and Carlos Castan (*Duros del Mundo 1831-1971*) all give the mintage as 600.

Any of the figures could be correct; we have been unable to confirm the mintage further. We use the figure of 1,500 based on the availability of the coin. It cannot be considered excessively rare, such as the Gangut ruble (Russia Y71) with 100 believed to exist, or Italy Y40, 5 Lire 1901, with a mintage of 114. The Montevideo peso is comparatively more available than either of these. It is in fact offered for sale or auction with about the same frequency as the Salvador Colon of 1925 (Y30). The latter was struck in Mexico in comparatively modern times, so the reported mintage of 2,000 can be considered valid. Almanzar's has handled perhaps ten Montevideo pesos over the past ten years.

The Medina Auction, Part I, conducted by Almanzar's, had one Montevideo peso (Lot 955), while Part II of the Medina Auction had two pieces (Lots 1451 and 1452). In addition, Lot 956 of Part I was a counterfeit Montevideo peso from Medina's own collection. This is the only false piece we have seen, though others could obviously exist.

Elizondo states that some of these coins have been struck over Latin American pesos and U.S. Dollars, but we have not seen any of these overstrikes.

UR100 is the Montevideo peso with the normal reverse, while UR101 has the inverted reverse, The term, inverted reverse, is probably best understood by studying the following illustrations:



NORMAL OR COIN-TYPE REVERSE

INVERTED OR MEDAL-TYPE REVERSE

The normal Montevideo Peso must be turned top to bottom to remain readable when it is turned over, the same as any United States coin. Stated another way, the obverse and reverse face opposite directions on a 180° rotation on the vertical axis.

The inverted reverse Montevideo Peso must be turned from side to side to remain readable, the same as any medal. Stated another way, the obverse and reverse face the same direction on a 180° rotation on the vertical axis.

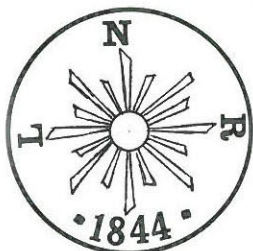
TYPES AND DIE VARIETIES OF UR82 AND UR 83,
THE 1844 FORTY CENTÉSIMOS

UR82 is the more common type of 1844 40 Centésimos and is sometimes referred to as the "First Die." UR83 is much scarcer, even rare, and has been referred to as "Second Die."

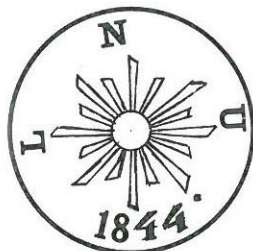
Fonrobert is the earliest reference to list two types or dies of the Uruguay 1844 40 Centésimos. Fonrobert 10159 is our UR82, while Fonrobert 10158 is our UR83. Raul Acosta Y Lara refers to the Second Die as "Sol con cabellera (sun with wig)." Clifford Adams notes that the surface of the Second Die is that of a woman, not a man, and states, "This curious portrait is almost identical to one used by Uruguay on its early postage stamps of 1859." William B. Slate knows of the existence of about four pieces of the Second Die, UR83.

Actually, not 2 dies, but 6 different obverse dies and 5 different reverse dies, mated in 10 different combinations, have been observed and catalogued, as follows.

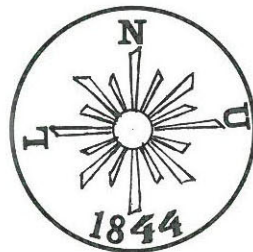
The obverse die design features a radiate surface with 8 long rays at the cardinal points of the compass and the mid-points, 8 shorter rays between the 8 long rays and many very short rays between the 16 longer rays. The six obverse dies are described as follows. Only pertinent parts of the coin are shown in the sketches; other minor die variations exist.



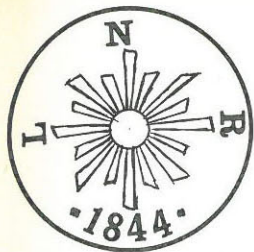
- OBV. 1 The 4s in the date are closed. At either side of the date is a square, formed by four periods that are virtually joined together or touching. The "North" sun ray (the large one pointing up) points at the right upright of the letter N in ORIENTAL.



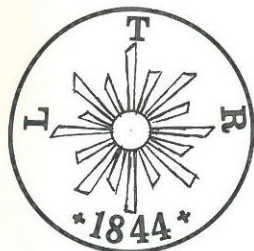
- OBV. 2 The 4s in the date are open (at the top). There is one small period or dot to the right of the date, and high. The North sun ray points just to the right of N in ORIENTAL.



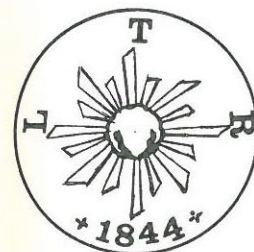
- OBV. 3 The 4s in the date are open. There is no period or device on either side of the date. The North sun ray points directly at the letter N in ORIENTAL.



OBV. 4 Similar to Obverse 1, except that all sun rays are wider or thicker.



OBV 5 The 4s in the date are closed. There is a small cross (very similar to the plus sign, +) at either side of the date. The North sun ray points directly at the stem of T in ORIENTAL.



OBV 6 Similar to Obverse 5, but the face of the sun appears to be wearing a wig. (Notice that on the sketches to the left, this is the only one of the six obverses where there is anything inside the sun, which is the small circle in the center.)

On the reverse, the value '40' is in a circle in the center, with the word CENTÉSIMOS above on a ribbon. This central design is enclosed by two wreaths entwined at the base, or bottom. Pertinent features of the five reverse dies are described below. Like the obverses, other minute differences exist, but these should be sufficient for rapid but positive identification.



REV. 1 The ribbon ends point upwards and there are five leaves on the inside or internal part of the left wreath. This is the most common reverse; it is found mated with Obverses 1 and 5.



REV. 2 The ribbon ends point upwards and there are six leaves on the internal part of the left wreath, two of them very short. This is the second most common reverse and is found mated with Obverses 2 and 3.



REV. 3 Similar to Reverse 2, but none of the six leaves is very short. Found mated only with Obverse 3 with both normal and inverted reverse; scarce.



REV. 4 Similar to Reverse 1, but there are six leaves, two of them very short. Found mated only with Obverse 4 with normal reverse; very scarce.



REV. 5 The ribbon ends point downward. There are four thick leaves on the internal part of the left wreath. This reverse is found mated with both Obverses 5 and 6. When mated with Obverse 6 (either normal or inverted reverse), it forms what is commonly referred to as Second Die.

To recapitulate, the six obverse dies and five reverse dies have been confirmed in the following ten matings. We have personally seen most of these matings and have no doubt that all ten do exist. Other matings, or even other dies, are possible. If you have any others, please correspond with the authors in care of the publisher.

VARIETY	OBVERSE DIE	REVERSE DIE	NORMAL OR INVERTED
1	1	1	Normal
2	2	2	Normal
3	3	3	Normal
4	3	3	Inverted
5	3	2	Inverted
6	4	4	Normal
7	5	1	Normal
8	5	5	Normal
9	6	5	Normal
10	6	5	Inverted

Some of the ten types confirmed also exist in specimens that have been struck from broken or shattered dies. These are so different in superficial appearance that they could be considered separate varieties. However, we do not feel that

broken dies qualify as a separate variety, and list only the matings, together with normal or inverted reverses, which we have confirmed.

Varieties 1 through 8 constitute, collectively, the so-called First Die and which is listed in this book as UR82. Varieties 9 and 10 are of course UR83, the Second Die, or the one with the distinctively different surface, "Sol con cabellera."

THE "GOLD" 5 AND 20 CENTÉSIMOS OF 1855,
UR36 AND UR70

The five centésimo and twenty centésimo Uruguay coins of 1855 are very unusual as far as the normal metallic content of copper coinage is concerned. In these two copper coins there is perhaps an unknown percent of gold. Nor are the exact details known as to how this gold got into the foundry metal from which the coins were struck. The legend is that it resulted from the loot that some robbers dumped into the molten metal while they were being chased. The robbers were subsequently slain without revealing what happened to the gold. Then it was noticed that these copper coins had an unusual yellowish color and, piecing together the trail of the robbers, conjecture has it that they must have dumped the gold loot into the molten vat of copper, since no trace of it was ever found.

Such are the stories which make interesting legends, which are usually a mixture of fact and fiction. But in any event, if you acquire either the 5 or 20 Centésimo coin in a high grade, see if you see the strange color that could be due to some gold content.

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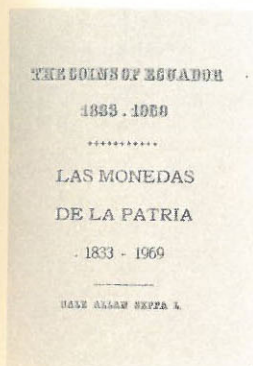
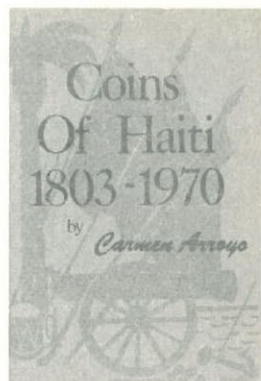
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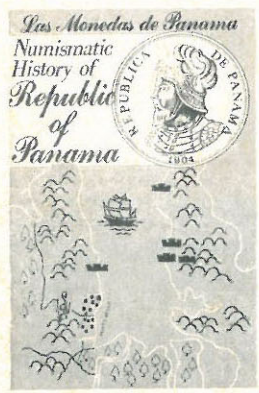
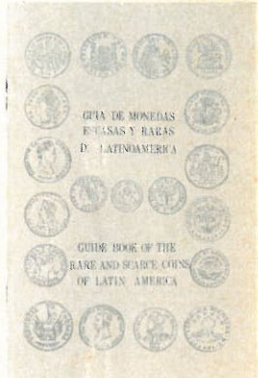
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