

primary numismatic population at large.

I wish you many more years of success.

Ivan L. Schuster

Philadelphia, Pa.

You may be interested to learn that there is a variety of the Isle of Man 1977 FAO bronze halfpenny without the PM mintmark above the word FOOD on reverse.

The Pobjoy Mint, Sutton, Surrey, England, advises that this piece is one of a few struck with the initial pre-production setting up of dies prior to the circulation mintage. Their letter is reproduced below.

The variety has already been reported in the April 1979 edition of the British coin magazine, *Coin Monthly*. You will find enclosed both varieties for comparison purposes.

T. Gibb Schweder
Vasteras, Sweden

(Regarding) the two Isle of Man halfpence pieces of 1977, on checking we have discovered that the halfpenny without the PM mintmark on the reverse was produced on the initial pre-



production setting-up dies and only a small percentage of these coins were minted.

Once the setting-up pieces were proven, all subsequent coins from production minting carried the full PM mintmark on both obverse and reverse.

A. E. Pobjoy
Sutton, England

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