

Canadian penny has

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retirement party

Does Anyone REMEMBER!

REMEMBER "white pennies"? Minted during the Second World War, they were made of zinc-coated steel instead of copper so that the latter could go into the war effort. Their greenish-colored metal turned somewhat white with use.

White pennies were already becoming unusual when I was a small child, in the early 1950s. When told that they were not being made anymore, I began to save them. I had accumulated five when I thought, *They're only pennies!* and spent them.

Now, after many decades of living, I realize that their monetary value was the smaller of my losses.

Modern Times

By Genevieve Gaherty,
Bowmanville

To our changing world, in how we live
Past ways it seems, will have to give
The cent is going soon, they say
To obsolescence of yesterday
Dial phones, have long past
How long will letter writing
last

Technology means to rearrange
To modern ways, the past to change
So many things come to our lives
Who knows what next, will surprise
Like me you all may reminisce
To the past and
things you miss.



Susan Hundertmark QMI Agency

After 137 years on the job, the penny had a retirement party at TD/Canada Trust in Seaforth last week.

And, while customers celebrated with a slice of cake, most were underwhelmed about the occasion.

"When we told them our penny is retiring, some people said, 'Who's Penny? I don't think I've ever met her,'" smiles branch manager Miranda deBoer.

While the Canadian penny officially retired last Monday when the Royal Canadian Mint stopped circulating it, local businesses and consumers were unfazed by the change.

"I think it's pretty much a non-event," says Seaforth CIBC branch manager Katherine Wick, of the lack of reaction by most people.

Both banks are distributing heavy-duty bags, which will hold \$25 in pennies for anyone who has a stash of pennies at home and doesn't want to roll them.

"Rolling pennies is not easy and if you fill the bag up to the line, it will contain \$25," says Wick, adding that the CIBC is shipping out a lot of pennies right now. Banks can no longer distribute pennies but will continue to accept them for as long as necessary.



Susan Hundertmark QMI Agency Seaforth's TD/Canada Trust branch manager Miranda deBoer holds a handful of rolled pennies and a piggy bank while posing beside a celebratory cake customers were served last week acknowledging the retirement of the Canadian penny.