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# KOVANICE IZ 1912. GODINE

## Rezime

Ukazom kralja Petra I Karađorđevića od 20. marta 1913. godine ministar finansija Lazar Paču podnosi Narodnoj Skupštini Predlog zakona o kovanju srebrnog i niklenog novca: srebrnika od 50 para, 1 i 2 dinara i niklenog novca od 5, 10 i 20 para. Zakon je stupio na snagu 2. aprila 1913. godine. Ministar finansija, pored već naručenih 5 miliona srebrnih dinara od 50 para, 1 i 2 dinara, naručuje još 800.000 komada od 2 dinara, 1 milion komada od 1 dinara i 800.000 komada od 50 para u ukupnoj vrednosti od 5 miliona dinara. Osim toga, naručuje niklenog novca: 5.650.000 komada od 20 para, 7.700.000 komada od 10 para i 10 miliona od 5 para u ukupnoj vrednosti od 2,40 miliona dinara. Posredstvom Narodne banke zaključen je ugovor sa Carsko-kraljevskom glavnom kovnicom u Beču gde je i iskovana najveća količina novca, a u Kraljevskoj mađarskoj kovnici iskovano je svega 1,5 miliona komada srebrnog novca od 1 dinara. Novoiskovani srebrni novci stizao je u Beograd u deset tranši, prva 18. marta 1913. a poslednja 27. jula iste godine. Nikleni novac imao je 19 pošiljki, od 13. juna do 30. septembra 1913. godine. Novac je dopreman železnicom ili brodom. Srebrni novac je bio zakonsko sredstvo plaćanja sve do 28. juna, a od nikla do 30. novembra 1931. godine.

**Ključne reči:** ministar finansija, dr Lazar Paču, srebrni novac, Narodna skupština, Ministarski Savet, Đorđe Vajfert, guverner, Privilegovana narodna banka Kraljevine Srbije, Kraljevska mađarska kovnica, kralj Petar I Karađorđević, nikleni novac, 50 para, 1 dinar, 2 dinara, 5 para, 10 para, 20 para, Carsko-kraljevska glavna kovnica u Beču

JEL: N23, E42, N43

Srebrni novac od 1 dinara iz  
1912. godine - lice

The 1-dinar coin from 1912 -  
obverse



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# COINS FROM 1912

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## Summary

Pursuant to the Decree of HRH King Petar I Karadjordjević as of 20 March 1913, the Minister of Finance, Lazar Paču, submitted to the National Assembly the Draft Law on Minting Silver and Nickel Coins, i.e. 50-para, 1- and 2-dinar silver coins and 5-, 10- and 20-para nickel coins. The Law came into effect on 2 April 1913. In addition to the already ordered 5 million pieces of 50-para, 1- and 2-dinar silver coins, the Minister ordered another 800,000 pieces of 2-dinar coins, 1 million pieces of 1-dinar coins and 800,000 pieces of 50-para coins, the total value of which amounted to 5 million dinars. Moreover, he ordered the following nickel coins: 5,650,000 pieces of 20-para coins, 7,700,000 pieces of 10-para coins and 10 million pieces of 5-para coins, the total value of which amounted to 2.4 million dinars. The National Bank signed an agreement with the Main Imperial and Royal Minting House in Vienna which minted the largest amount of coins, whereas the Royal Hungarian Minting House minted only 1.5 million pieces of 1-dinar silver coins. The newly-minted silver coins arrived in Belgrade in ten tranches, the first one on 18 March 1913, and the last on 27 July the same year. The nickel coins arrived in 19 tranches, in the period from 13 June to 30 September 1913. The coins were transported by railway or by ship. The silver coins were legal tender until 28 June 1931 and the nickel coins until 30 November 1931.

**Keywords:** Minister of Finance, dr Lazar Paču, silver coins, National Assembly, Ministerial Council, Georg Weifert, Governor, Privileged National Bank of the Kingdom of Serbia, Royal Hungarian Minting House, King Petar I Karadjordjević, nickel coins, 50 paras, 1 dinar, 2 dinars, 5 paras, 10 paras, 20 paras, Main Imperial and Royal Minting House in Vienna

**JEL:** N23, E42, N43



Srebrni novac od 1 dinara iz  
1912. godine - naličje

The 1-dinar coin from 1912 -  
reverse



V

remena u kojima su nastajale i bile u upotrebi kovanice od srebra i nikla koje su na sebi nosile 1912. godinu odlikovala su se burnim istorijskim događajima u Srbiji: Balkanski ratovi, I svetski rat, ulazak Srbije u novoosnovano Kraljevstvo Srba, Hrvata i Slovenaca, oporavak privrede, sređivanje monetarnih pitanja i dr. Dugoveke kovanice koje su u opticaju bile 18 godina zatekle su se i u periodu velike svetske ekonomske krize od koje nije bila imuna ni Kraljevina Jugoslavija, naslednica Kraljevine SHS.

Srpski ministar finansija dr Lazar Paču potrebu kovanja srebrnog novca objasnio je na sednici Narodne skupštine: "Nedovoljnost srebrnog novca oseća se svakog dana sve jače i jače. Mi inače nemamo suviše iskovanog srebrnog novca, a iskovana količina postala je sasvim nedovoljna zbog proširenja naših granica i odnošenja u Bugarsku jednog njenog dela za ishranu naše vojske pod Jedrenom, kao i zbog toga što stanovništvo novooslobođenih krajeva radije prima i tezauriše srebrni novac nego banknote, jedno iz neznanja, a drugo iz nepoverenja u banknote, usled iz prošlosti po zlu poznatih mu kajma (turska novčanica)". Rešenjem Ministarskog Saveta, 23. februara 1913. godine, ministar Paču ovlašćen je da pristupi kovanju i puštanju u opticaj 5 miliona srebrnih kovanica od 1 dinara. Samo dva dana kasnije ministar finansija ovlašćuje Đorđa Vajferta, guvernera Privilegovane narodne banke Kraljevine Srbije da zaključi ugovor o kovanju ovog novca sa kovnicom u Beču. U zaključenom ugovoru od 12. marta 1913. godine bečka kovnica se obavezuje da zajedno sa Kraljevskom mađarskom kovnicom u Kremnicu iskuje ove dinare u količini od 3 miliona komada. Nakon toga, Narodna banka u martu i aprilu iste godine zaključuje još dva dopunska ugovora o kovanju ukupno 2 miliona (1 milion+1 milion) komada srebrnog novca od 1 dinar.

Veoma brzo, samo nekoliko dana pre nego što je Narodnoj skupštini stigao Predlog zakona kojim bi se odobrilo kovanje ovog novca u Narodnu banku stigla je prva isporuka od 500.000 komada srebrnika od 1 dinara. U obrazloženju Predloga zakona navodi se da će oni nositi 1912. godinu "za uspomenu na istorijsku godinu u kojoj je otpočet zavetni rat za oslobođenje klasičnih srpskih zemalja". Na osnovu ukaza kralja Petra I Karađorđevića od 20. marta 1913. godine ministar finansija dan kasnije podnosi Narodnoj Skupštini Predlog zakona o kovanju srebrnog i niklenog novca. Predlog je sadržao dve osnovne odredbe: (1) poništava se rešenje Ministarskog saveta o kovanju i puštanju u opticaj 5 miliona komada srebrnika od 1 dinar i (2) ministar finasija može omogućiti kovanje i puštanje u opticaj dalje količine srebrnika od 50 para, 1 i 2 dinara u ukupnoj nominalnoj vrednosti od 5 miliona dinara i nikleni novac od 5, 10 i 20 para u ukupnoj vrednosti od 2,4 miliona dinara. Zakon je stupio na snagu 2. aprila 1913. godine.



Ministar finansija odlučuje da, pored već naručenih 5 miliona srebrnih dinara, naruči još 800.000 komada od 2 dinara, 1 milion komada od 1 dinara i 800.000 komada od 50 para u ukupnoj vrednosti od 5 miliona dinara. Osim toga, u planu je bilo i naručivanje niklenog novca: 5.650.000 komada od 20 para, 7.700.000 komada od 10 para i 10 miliona od 5 para u ukupnoj vrednosti od 2,40 miliona dinara. Posredstvom Narodne banke zaključen je ugovor sa Carsko-kraljevskom glavnom kovnicom u Beču i gde je i iskovana najveća količina novca a u Kraljevskoj mađarskoj kovnici iskovano je svega 1,5 miliona komada srebrnog novca od 1 dinara.

Novoiskovani srebrni novac stizao je u Beograd u deset tranši, prva 18. marta 1913. a poslednja 27. jula iste godine. Nikleni novac imao je 19 pošiljki, od 13. juna do 30. septembra 1913. godine. Novac je dopreman železnicom ili brodom. Srebrni novac je bio zakonsko sredstvo plaćanja sve do 28. juna, a od nikla do 30. novembra 1931. godine.

G

he times in which the silver and nickel coins bearing the inscribed year of 1912 were minted and used were marked by turbulent historical events in Serbia: the Balkan Wars, First World War, entry of Serbia into the newly-founded Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, economic recovery, solving of monetary issues, etc. The long-lasting coins which remained in circulation for 18 years also witnessed the period of the major global economic crisis that the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, the successor of the Kingdom of SCS, was not immune to either.

The Serbian Minister of Finance, dr Lazar Paču, explained the necessity of minting silver coins at the National Assembly session: "The lack of silver coins is increasingly felt every day. We have never had excessive amounts of minted silver coins, but now the existing amount has become quite insufficient due to the expansion of our borders and the fact that one portion of it was transported to Bulgaria to feed our army near Edirne, but also because the population in the newly-liberated regions prefers to accept and accumulate silver coins rather than banknotes, as a result of ignorance and distrust of banknotes, caused by their unfavorable past experiences with kayma (Turkish banknote)". According to the Decision of the Ministerial Council, as of 23 February 1913, Minister Paču was authorized to start minting and release into circulation 5 million pieces of 1-dinar silver coins. Only two days later, the Minister of Finance authorizes Georg Weifert, Governor of the Privileged National Bank of the Kingdom of Serbia, to sign the agreement about minting those coins with the Minting House in Vienna. The agreement signed on 12 March 1913 obliges the Vienna Minting House to mint the specified dinars in the amount of 3 million pieces, together with the Royal Hungarian Minting House in Kremnica. Subsequently, in March and April the same year the National Bank signed two additional agreements on minting a total of 2 million (1 million + 1 million) pieces of 1-dinar silver coins.

Soon enough, only a few days before the National Assembly received the Draft Law allowing the minting of these coins, the National Bank received the first batch of 500,000 pieces of 1-dinar silver coins. The explanation within the Draft Law stated that these coins would be bearing the inscribed year of 1912 "to cherish the memory of the historical year in which the holy war was commenced to liberate the common Serbian states". Pursuant to the Decree of HRH King Petar I Karadjordjević as of 20 March 1913, the Minister of Finance submitted to the National Assembly the Draft Law on Minting Silver and Nickel Coins. The Draft contained two main provisions: (1) annulment of the Ministerial Council's decision about minting and releasing into circulation 5 million pieces of 1-dinar silver coins; and (2) approval for the Minister of Finance to enable minting and releasing into circulation of 50-para, 1- and 2-dinar silver coins of the total nominal value amounting to 5 million dinars, and of 5-, 10- and 20-para nickel coins of the total value amounting to 2.4 million dinars. The Law came into effect on 2 April 1913.

In addition to the already ordered 5 million pieces of 50-para, 1- and 2-dinar silver coins, the Minister decided to order another 800,000 pieces of 2-dinar coins, 1 million pieces of 1-dinar coins and 800,000 pieces of 50-para coins, the total value of which amounted to 5 million dinars. Moreover, he ordered the following nickel coins: 5,650,000 pieces of 20-para coins, 7,700,000 pieces of 10-para coins and 10 million pieces of 5-para coins, the total value of which amounted to 2.4 million dinars. The National Bank signed an agreement with the Main Imperial and Royal Minting House in Vienna which minted the largest amount of coins, whereas the Royal Hungarian Minting House minted only 1.5 million pieces of 1-dinar silver coins.

The newly-minted silver coins arrived in Belgrade in ten tranches, the first one on 18 March 1913, and the last on 27 July the same year. The nickel coins arrived in 19 tranches, in the period from 13 June to 30 September 1913. The coins were transported by railway or by ship. The silver coins were legal tender until 28 June 1931 and the nickel coins until 30 November 1931.



Srebrni novac - 50 para - 1912.

Težina - 2,5 gr

Prečnik - 18 mm

Sastav - 835% srebro i 165% bakar

Silver coin - 50 paras - 1912

Weight - 2.5 grams

Diameter - 18 mm

Structure - 835% silver and 165% copper



Srebrni novac - 1 dinar - 1912.

Težina - 5 gr

Prečnik - 23 mm

Sastav - 835% srebro i 165% bakar

Silver coin - 1 dinar - 1912

Weight - 5 grams

Diameter - 23 mm

Structure - 835% silver and 165% copper



Srebrni novac - 2 dinara - 1879.

Težina - 10 gr

Prečnik - 27 mm

Sastav - 835% srebro i 165% bakar

Silver coin - 2 dinars - 1912

Weight - 10 grams

Diameter - 27 mm

Structure - 835% silver and 165% copper

## Srebrni novac

Lice: lik Petra I Karađorđevića, desni profil, oko profila tekst: "Petar I kralj Srbije", ispod lika ime gravera: Schwartz, po ivici polja niz tačkica.

Naličje: u sredini arapska oznaka vrednosti, naziv novčanice (para ili dinar), godina 1912. civičeno vencem od hrastovog i lovoroševog lišća sa krunom na vrhu, po ivici polja niz tačkica.

Obod: nazubljen.

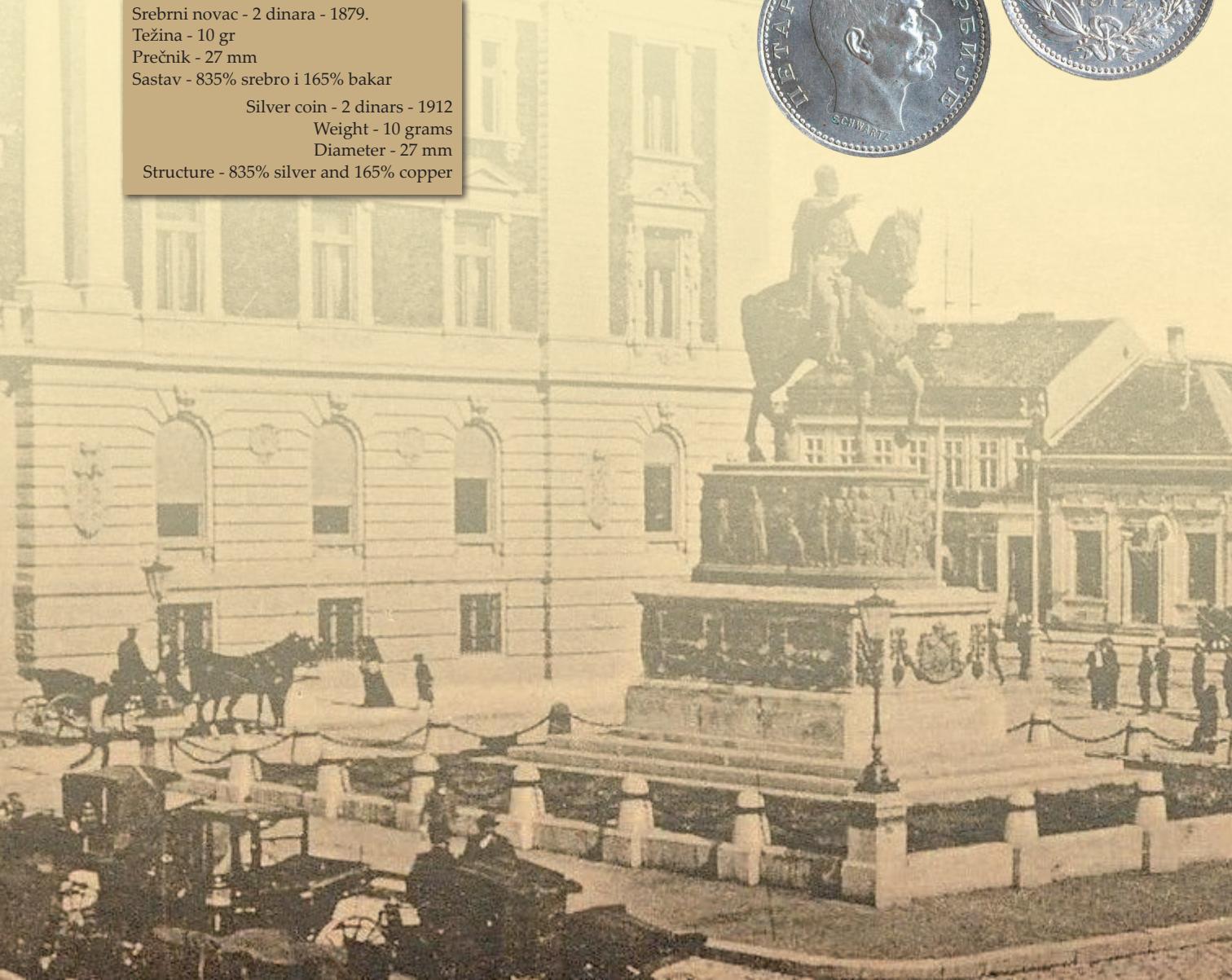
## Silver coins

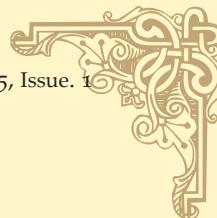
Obverse: Image of King Petar I

Karađorđević, right profile, encircled by the inscription: "Petar I King of Serbia"; below is the name of the engraver: Schwartz, and a series of dots around the edge.

Reverse: In the middle is the denomination in Arabic numbers, title of the coin (para or dinar), the year of 1912, encircled by a wreath of oak and laurel leaves with the crown on top, and a series of dots around the edge.

Rim: reeded.





### Nikleni novac

Lice: Grb Srbije, po ivici polja niz tačkica.  
Naličje: U sredini vrednost data arapskim brojem a ispod broja naziv kovanice - para, okolo natpis: Kraljevina Srbija i godina 1912. a po ivici polja su tačkice.  
Obod: gladak.

### Nickel coins

Obverse: Coat of arms of Serbia;  
a series of dots around the edge.

Reverse: In the middle is the denomination in Arabic numbers, below is the title of the coin - para, encircled by the inscription: Kingdom of Serbia and the year of 1912, with a series of dots around the edge.

Rim: smooth.



#### Nikleni novac - 5 para - 1912.

Težina - 3 gr  
Prečnik - 17 mm  
Sastav - 25% nikl i 75% bakar

Nickel coin - 5 paras - 1912

Weight - 3 grams  
Diameter - 17 mm  
Structure - 25% nickel and 75% copper



#### Nikleni novac - 10 para - 1912.

Težina - 4 gr  
Prečnik - 20 mm  
Sastav - 25% nikl i 75% bakar

Nickel coin - 10 paras - 1912

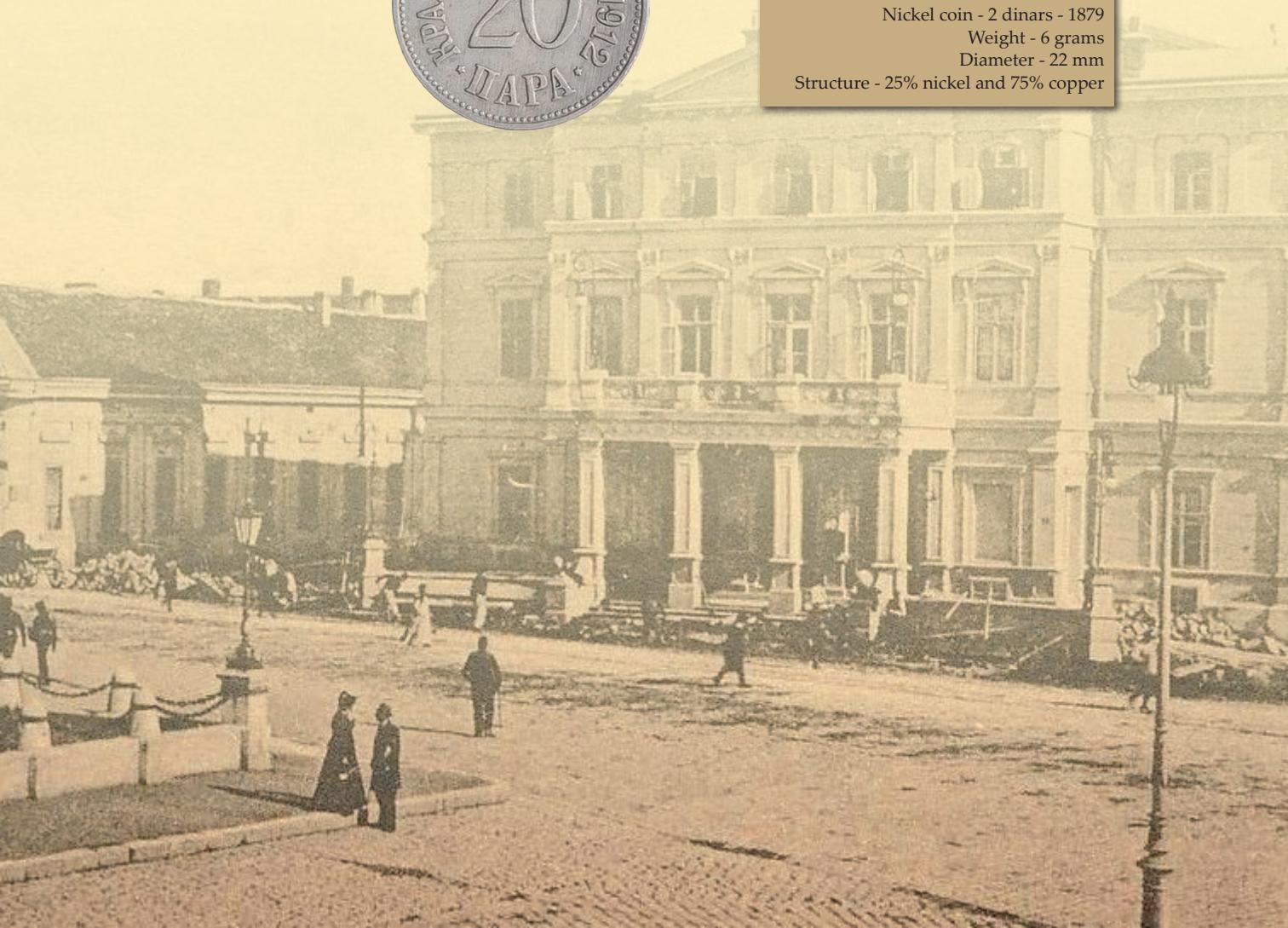
Weight - 4 grams  
Diameter - 20 mm  
Structure - 25% nickel and 75% copper

#### Nikleni novac - 20 para - 1912.

Težina - 6 gr  
Prečnik - 22 mm  
Sastav - 25% nikl i 75% bakar

Nickel coin - 2 dinars - 1879

Weight - 6 grams  
Diameter - 22 mm  
Structure - 25% nickel and 75% copper





## Lazar Paču (1855-1915)

**P**

ajčuveniji i najuspešniji srpski ministar finansija nije bio ekonomista već lekar po struci, mason po opredeljenju, Cincar iz Vojvodine po poreklu...

Mere koje je preduzeo u budžetskoj politici ne samo da su dugoročno eliminisale budžetski deficit, već je u vreme njegovog ministrovanja srpski budžet bio u stalmom suficitu. Čak i u vreme Balkanskih ratova nije dopustio da Srbija ima budžetski deficit, što je nezabeleženo u ekonomskoj istoriji i istoriji ratovanja.



Genijalnost ovog lekara koji je vodio državne finansije je u tome što je shvatio značaj javnosti u vođenju politike finansiranja državne potrošnje, značaj jačanja domaćih izvora finansiranja budžetskih rashoda, kao i čvrste finansijske discipline u naplati državnih prihoda...

(Matić, 2014.)

**G**he most famous and most successful Serbian Minister of Finance was not an economist, but a medical doctor by profession, a Freemason by conviction, and an Aromanian from Vojvodina by origin...

The measures that he took in budgetary policy not only eliminated the budgetary deficit on a long-term basis, but made the Serbian budget, during his ministerial mandate, record constant surplus. Even during the Balkan wars he did not let Serbia have budgetary deficit, which is unprecedented in the economic history and the history of wars.

The brilliance of this medical doctor who led the state finance lies in the fact that he understood the significance of transparency in leading the policy of financing the public spending, the importance of strengthening the domestic sources for the budget expenditures financing, and of the strict financial discipline in respect of the state revenues collection...

(Matić, 2014.)

## O tvrdičluku na zabavan način

**V**aše Veličanstvo", reče Nikola Pašić kralju Petru I Karađorđeviću, "znate li zašto za vašeg ministra finansija Lazara Pačua kažu da spava stojeći?"

Čika Pera, kako je narod iz milja zvao starog kralja, nije znao.

"Da mu dinari ne bi ispalili iz džepa" odgovorio je Pašić a čika Pera se na to slatko nasmejao.

Lazar Paču bio je odličan ministar finansija, ali i vrlo škrtnji čovek.

(Matić, 2014.)

## An Amusing Spin on Stinginess

**Y**our Majesty, said Nikola Pašić to HRH King Petar Karadjordjević, "Do you know why your Minister of Finance, Laza Paču is said to stand while sleeping?"

Uncle Pera, as the King was nicknamed out of endearment, did not know.

"To prevent his dinars from falling out of his pocket", replied Nikola Pašić and they both laughed heartily.

Lazar Paču was an excellent Minister of Finance, but a very stingy person.

(Matić, 2014.)



## Đorđe Vajfert (1850-1937)

Ugleđeni industrijalac i bankar, jedan od najbogatijih ljudi u Srbiji, Đorđe Vajfert, istovremeno bio je i istraživač, kolezionar, pokrovitelj kulturnih delatnosti i dobrotvor naučnih, prosvetnih i humanitarnih udruženja, koja se ne mogu pobrojati. "Treba davati da bi se opet steklo", govorio je ovaj veliki i plemeniti čovek. I imao je i darivao je, nesebično.

Đorđe Vajfert imao je veliku podršku kao guverner (od 1902-1926.) i u Lazi Pačuu koji je u vreme Balkanskih ratova bio, po treći put, ministar finansija. Vodeći mudru budžetsku politiku Ministarstvo finansija dalo je značajan doprinos očuvanju finansijske stabilnosti u zemlji i stabilnosti nacionalne valute. Srbija je izšla iz Balkanskih ratova bez budžetskog deficit-a.

Đorđe Vajfert je za života odlikovan Karađorđevom zvezdom II reda, Karađorđevom zvezdom III reda, Velikim kordonom Svetog Save, Ordenom belog orla o vratu sa zvezdom, Ordenom Miloša Velikog o vratu, Ordenom Takovskog krsta o vratu, Medaljom društva Svetog Save, ratnim spomenicama, kao i Lentom rumunske zvezde, koja se inače dodeljuje samo krunisanim glavama.

Ipak, njemu najdraži, bio je Takovski krst koji mu je sa svojih grudi dao lično Milan Obrenović, nakon što je u Srpsko-turskom ratu, za jednu noć, projahao 150 kilometara kako bi srpskoj vojsci preneo vrlo važnu informaciju. Biće zapamćen i kao jedini Nemac čija je poslednja želja bila da ga sahrane sa Takovskim krstom na grudima.

(Matić, 2014.)

## Georg Weifert (1850-1937)

A reputable industrialist and banker, one of the richest people in Serbia, Georg Weifert was, at the same time, a researcher, collector, patron of the arts and benefactor of countless scientific, educational and humanitarian associations. "One should give away in order to earn anew", was what this great and noble man used to say. And he did have a lot, and

he did bestow a lot, bigheartedly.

As the Governor (1902-1926), Georg Weifert also enjoyed the huge support of Dr Laza Paču, who was, at the time of the Balkan Wars, the Minister of Finance for the third time. By conducting a prudent budgetary policy, the Ministry of Finance significantly contributed to the maintenance of the overall financial stability in the country, and the stability of the national currency. Serbia emerged from the Balkan Wars with no budget deficit.

During his lifetime Georg Weifert was awarded: Karadjordje's Star II order, Karadjordje's Star III order, Saint Sava's Large Cordon, Medal of the White Eagle Neck Ribbon with a Star, Neck Ribbon Medal of Miloš the Great, Cross of Takovo Neck Ribbon Medal, Medal of the Saint Sava Society, war monuments, as well as the Romanian Star Cordon, which is otherwise only awarded to the members of royalty.

Nevertheless, for him, the dearest one of all was the Cross of Takovo, awarded to him personally by Prince Milan Obrenović who took it off his own chest, after Weifert, during the Serbian-Turkish War, during a single night, rode for 150 kilometers in order to convey an important piece of information to the Serbian army. He will also be remembered as the only German whose last wish was to be buried with the Cross of Takovo on his chest.

(Matić, 2014.)



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