

SA Union: 250th Anniversary of Huguenot Settlement in the Cape

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Form: Circular

By: G. Moerdyk / Royal Mint, Pretoria

Date: 1939

Ref: AM2: 266; Laidlaw: 0402;

Variations:

Size	Metal	Mass	Value
50.5 mm	Silver	62.6 gm	\$120

Edge: Plain.

Obverse: View of the gable over the main door of the Oude Pastorie (now the Paarl Museum) in Paarl. Superimposed are three fleur-de-lis. Below: "HUGENOTE PASTORIE" and below that, ornamental line. Around above: "250 JAAR ~ HUGENOT GEDENKFEES" and below: "~ 1689 (ornamented fleur-de-lis) 1939 ~". Signed: "GM" on right. Stamped at the foot, ster hallmarks: "925 RMP".

Reverse: A three-masted ship and small boats in Table Bay and, on the shore, buildings of the Cape settlement. In the background Mountain with radiant rays above. Around and above: "CABO DE BONA SPERANCA".

Notes: There was a large exodus of Protestant Huguenots from France after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685. The stream of those who came to the Cape arrived during 1688 – 1689. Although, in terms of the total number of protestants who left France, only a small fraction (a few hundred) came to the Cape. They comprised approximately one sixth of the free population at the time. Many were skilled artisans and farmers, and so had a major influence on the subsequent development of the country.

AM2 records that only 50 medals were struck.