IAC Ch 15, p.1

701—15.18(422,423) Coins and other currency exchanged at greater than face value. Any exchange, transfer, or barter of merchandise for a consideration paid in gold, silver, or other coins or currency shall be subject to tax to the extent of the agreed-upon value of the coins or currency so exchanged. This agreed-upon value constitutes the gross receipts or purchase price subject to tax. Coins or currency becomes articles of tangible personal property having a value greater than face value when they are exchanged for a price greater than face value. However, when a coin or other currency, in the course of circulation, is exchanged at its face value, the sale shall be subject to tax for the face value alone. Losana Corp. v. Porterfield, 14 Ohio St.2d 42, 236 N.E.2d 535 (1968).

EXAMPLE 1. Taxpayer operates a furniture store. The taxpayer offers to exchange furniture for silver coins at ten times the face value of any coins dated prior to January 1, 1965. Upon any exchange pursuant to the offer, the value of the coins for purposes of determining the tax on the exchange will be equivalent to the value as agreed upon by the parties without regard to the face value of the coins.

EXAMPLE 2. Taxpayer operates a hardware store. In the regular course of business, the taxpayer receives silver coins dated prior to January 1, 1965. Taxpayer has received the coins at face value for the sales price and only that value is subject to tax.

Also see Attorney General Opinion Griger to Bair, Director of Revenue, May 15, 1980, #80-5-13. This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.42(6).