Badge "To a Friend of DOBROKhIM", 1924 - 1925.

Silver, enamels. Measures 30.4 mm in height (from the tip to the bottom of the bayonet), 35.0 mm in width; the flag portion is 18.7 x 33.0 mm; weighs 10.5 g not including the screw plate. Riveted two-piece construction.

Features green flag with a bayonet for a flagpole with superimposed silver figure of a Red Army soldier who is wearing a WW I style gas mask and budyonovka cloth helmet. Reverse shows "84" silver hallmark with "Kokoshnik" and Greek character alpha signifying Leningrad Assay Inspection, additional circular "Kokoshnik" assayer's mark and triangular maker mark. The entire badge and its enamel in particular are of spectacular quality.

In fine condition. The enamel is chipped in the lower left corner of the flag, but the damage is mostly to the surface; because it penetrates to silver in just a few very tiny spots, it is not too glaring. There is also a tiny flaw, probably a resulting of an impact, that created a slightly darker area between the two lines of inscription directly between the characters Г and Х. Additionally, there are a few tiny, barely noticeable vertical scratches in the same general area. That being said, all the flaws mentioned above are relatively minor; the enamel still presents beautifully and shows nice luster.

Details of the soldier, bayonet and wreath are pristine and exceptionally crisp, show none of the usual wear to the high points. There is very attractive patina to silver throughout. The screw post is approximately 8.5 mm long; it was reduced by a few mm for convenience, but its remaining length is more than enough for proper functionality. The screw plate is a replacement.

DOBROKHIM is Russian abbreviation for "Society of Friends of Chemical Defense and Chemical Industry". Its purpose was to organize civil defense and prepare troops for chemical warfare. Later, it merged with several similar "volunteer clubs" such as Dobrolet and eventually became one massive OSOAVIAKhIM organization.

/Avers 8, p. 300, fig. 1469/.

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$750.00

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