

SPOTLIGHT

on the Johannesburg Branch of the SAIMM

by G.T.G. EMÈRE*

The Johannesburg Branch of The South African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy was officially inaugurated at a General Meeting held in Kelvin House on Monday, 18th January, 1988.

In addition to nominating committee members, Mr G.T.G. Emère delivered a presentation on the Barbrook gold-mining project, which is currently in the development phase some 40 km east of Barberton. The mine, which is administered jointly by the Anglo American Corporation and Rand Mines Limited and is managed by the latter company, provided an excellent example of the type of topic that the Committee will endeavour to present to the Branch at future meetings.

At a subsequent Committee meeting on Thursday, 21st January, 1988, the following office bearers were formally elected: G.T.G. Emère (Chairman), D. Haddock (Vice Chairman), D.J. Milella (Secretary), Dr E. Kirby (Treasurer), J. Cilliers, P. Smith, B. Moore, and Drs C. Seymour, N. Gay, and R. Morris (Committee Members). Dr R. Morris has since resigned through pressure of work—not an uncommon dilemma these days.

The objectives of the Branch have been defined as follows:

- (i) to create a forum for social interaction, based on professional interests of a wider cross-section of people in the industry, stressing the importance of interaction between earth scientists, metallurgists, miners, and engineers;

- (ii) to create a forum for people in the profession to participate in the giving and receiving of information about projects, events, etc., rather than through the popular press;
- (iii) to allow a wider participation of members in the affairs of the Institute;
- (iv) to work in association with other institutes in areas of common interest, i.e. social interaction (e.g. lunch-time lectures, evening dinners with speakers); technical sessions (e.g. colloquia at which papers and projects are presented); and visits of interest to members.

Further, it is the intention of the Committee to invite wives or partners to all ordinary meetings and other functions where feasible, and to conclude ordinary meetings with cocktails and snacks in order to enhance the social interaction.

A full programme of meetings and visits has been compiled, and members are requested to look out for forthcoming events in a two-monthly newsletter, which will be circulated together with routine SAIMM literature, etc.

On Tuesday, 10th May, Mr L. Pouroulis, the Chairman of Golden Dumps (Pty) Ltd, presented a talk on the very topical Lefkochrysos platinum project, and on Tuesday, 9th August, 1988, Dr R. Viljoen of GFSA will review current developments in geological-exploration technology, which promises to be a very exciting presentation and one that should appeal to members of all disciplines.

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From left to right: Brian Moore, Don Milella, Dave Haddock, Gerry Emère, Evan Kirby, Jan Cilliers, Colln Seymour, Peter Smith. Nick Gay was absent when the photograph was taken