

Proceedings

SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING

The September General Meeting of the Institute was held in the Mining and Geology Block, University of the Witwatersrand, on 17th September, 1969 at 8.00 p.m.

Mr V. C. Robinson (Vice-President) was in the Chair.

There were also present nineteen Members, including Messrs R. C. J. Goode, P. Lambooy, Prof R. P. Plewman, Messrs J. A. Nixon and P. W. J. van Rensburg (Council Members), J. C. Hall, S. D. Hill, A. T. Lewis, C. S. Macphail, W. D. Ortlepp, E. Pavitt, N. F. Peverett, P. C. Pirow, D. Savile Davis, Dr M. D. G. Salamon, Messrs G. Schmidt, D. L. Starkey and S. G. Taussig.

Eleven Associate Members, including Messrs I. E. Clarke, M. H. Fennell, A. Hazell, N. C. Joughin, H. A. D. Kirsten, R. More-O'Ferrall and G. R. Still.

Two Graduates, Messrs T. J. Kotze and J. Sutherland.

One Student, Mr R. P. W. Henrard.

Three Visitors, including Messrs C. C. de Jongh and L. Vieira. Secretary, Mr D. C. Visser.

Total present: Thirty-eight.

MINUTES

The Vice-President: "May we confirm the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 27th August, 1969, as published in the *Journal*?"

MEMBERSHIP

The Vice-President: "I have much pleasure in announcing that the names of the under-mentioned candidates, having been published in accordance with By-Law 5.2.2, Council has elected them to membership of the Institute in the following grades":

Members: Colin Allan Border, Eric Charles Wilfred Brereton, Georges Squire Nel, Alfred Louis Gilmour.

Associate Members: Edward Braver, Johann Christian Botha, John McDonald Wotherspoon.

Graduate: James McLuskie.

Affiliates: Fred du Preez, Duncan Kenyon Harper, Philippus Jacobus Nel, Marthinus Mattheus van den Heever, Robert Martin Erasmus.

Students: Jacobus Cornelius Gideon Kotze van der Colf, Lorenzo Charles Woollacott, Jan Daniel Minnaar, George Francis Bainbridge, Rodney Evan Mitchell, John Thomas Davies, Dirk Bakker, Clinton Charles Smythe.

MEMBER TRANSFERRED TO A HIGHER GRADE

From Associate Member to Member: John Meredith Ferguson.

"I welcome the newly elected members to the Institute and congratulate the member who has been transferred to a higher grade."

GENERAL BUSINESS

The Vice-President: "Are there any matters to raise under the heading of general? If not, we will proceed to the next item on the agenda which is the presentation of tonight's paper."

PAPER FOR PRESENTATION

The Vice-President: "Professor Plewman, may I call on you to deliver the paper entitled 'The development and application of a digital computer method for the solution of strata control problems', written jointly with F. R. Deist and W. D. Ortlepp."

After the introduction of the paper the Vice-President said: "As one of those who had from his own very hard-won experience to design the workings of mines and stoping layouts, I am particularly glad that I am in a position to comment on Professor Plewman's paper. It has given all of us, I think, a great deal of pleasure to read, and interest in watching the presentation. I am perfectly certain that he is correct when he talks about the interest in the results of mistakes made by the fumbling efforts of men who were working purely on experience and nothing else, in what happened to their mines after the design had been laid down and the mine developed.

Again I would like to say that this is a demonstration of a phenomenon of our time—the infinite variety of uses of this most versatile tool, the computer. From programmed landings on the moon where split-second timing is everything, to the fundamental design of a mine is a long step. But this tool enables us to avoid all these disasters which so easily happen in mining, not only accidents, but increased costs and lower profits from bad design. I believe that we owe a terrific debt of gratitude, that the records of this Institute will have in it papers as complete and as important, as this, and I would like on your behalf to thank Professor Plewman and his team for the presentation of this paper, and for the way they have put over their exhibition tonight. As a layman in this business, I have not seen all the snags and things which, I have no doubt, were arising continuously throughout the demonstration—it is a demonstration to me which worked, and that is quite an extraordinary thing in the modern world."

Messrs A. Hazell and T. J. Kotze, R. C. More-O'Ferrall, S. G. Taussig, J. W. Wilson (contribution read by Mr A. T. Lewis), Dr M. D. G. Salamon and Mr H. A. D. Kirsten then contributed to the paper. (These contributions will appear in a later issue of the *Journal*.)

PAPERS OPEN FOR DISCUSSION

The Vice-President: "Listed on the agenda are papers open for discussion. I would suggest that anyone wishing to contribute to these papers submit their contributions to the Secretary in writing.

CONCLUSION

The Vice-President: "I do not want to close, gentlemen, without just mentioning here that the University has kindly given us the use of this hall and the computer. We thank them and also Professor Plewman for making the evening as interesting as it has been.

I would like to thank members and visitors for their attendance, and I declare the meeting closed."

The meeting closed at 9.35 p.m.

Witbank-Middelburg Branch

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Branch was held in the Witbank Golf Club on Thursday, 28th August, 1969 at 5.00 p.m.

Mr C. G. Sowry (Chairman) was in the Chair.

There were also present:

Ten Members: Messrs J. Meintjes (Vice-Chairman), J. E. van Aswegen, A. C. Hofmeyr, I. Botha, B. F. v. d. Merwe, C. H. Coxon, R. Canny, R. C. J. Goode, A. Bain, G. E. Carlyon. Six Associate Members: Messrs B. T. Hosking, R. E. Powell, W. Weber, T. Bulloch, E. J. Jackson, P. J. Muller. Fourteen Visitors. Total Present: 31.

The Chairman declared the meeting open and extended a welcome to all visitors including Mr R. C. J. Goode, President of the Institute.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING

The Minutes of the General Meeting held on the 26th June, 1969, were read and adopted.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman presented a report outlining the activities of the Branch during the past year. Membership of the local Branch had increased from 80 to 99 during the year.

DECLARATION OF OFFICE BEARERS

The Chairman announced that owing to his transfer out of the Witbank area, he was unable to accept the

nomination as Chairman for a further year of office. The outgoing committee had elected Mr J. Meintjes Chairman and Mr A. Bain Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

Mr J. Meintjes then took the chair.

Mr J. Meintjes thanked Mr C. G. Sowry for his successful steering of the Branch during its period of inauguration.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Chairman then read the Scrutineers' Report and declared the following eight members elected as Committee Members for the 1969-1970 year:

Messrs I. Botha, A. W. Brereton, G. E. Carlyon, B. T. Hosking, E. J. Jackson, B. D. McNeice, P. J. Muller, B. F. van der Merwe.

TALK

The Chairman then called upon Mr A. Bain to present his talk and film show on 'Impressions of the mining and metallurgy congress tour to Australasia'.

CLOSURE

After thanking the speaker for an interesting talk, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.

Notices

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SYMPOSIUM ON THE RECOVERY OF PYRITE

The proceedings of the Symposium on the Recovery of Pyrite held in June, 1969 will be published shortly. Members who wish to obtain a copy free of charge, are invited to write to the Secretary, S.A.I.M.M., P.O. Box 1183, Johannesburg, before 19th December, 1969.

A further notice will appear in the *Journal* when the publication price is known to enable non-members to place their orders.

ERRATA—OCTOBER, 1969 JOURNAL

1. Contents, Line 10, insert after "classification", "of coke for use in interpreting".
2. Page 55, second last line, for "16-18 lb" read "12-18 lb".
3. Page 56, fourth last line, for "16-18 ft" read "10-18 ft".
4. Page 56, last line, for 19 lb read 18 lb.