

Orange Free State Branch

Proceedings of the Annual General Meeting

The annual General Meeting of the Branch was held in the St. Helena Club on Wednesday, 4th August, 1971 at 8.00 p.m.

Mr N. A. Honnet (Immediate Past Chairman) was in the chair.

There were also present Mr V. C. Robinson, President of the South African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy.

Nine Fellows: Messrs J. R. F. Handley, C. J. Isaac, J. Lorenzon, J. M. Meyer, C. Mostert, D. A. Smith, S. L. S. Swart, I Thomas and R. G. Williams.

Five members: Messrs R. Campbell, A. H. Edwards, K. Pearce, G. P. Rundle and R. B. Sutherland.

Five graduates: Messrs J. E. Andrews, E. J. Shillaber, M. H. Smith, T. R. Stromsoe and D. J. van Niekerk.

Two associates: Messrs A. Paschalides and D. S. Robinson.

Eight visitors.

Total present: Thirty-one.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING

As the minutes of the General Meeting held on the 16th June, 1971, had not been published in the Journal, the Chairman moved that the adoption and discussion thereof be deferred to the next General Meeting. This motion was adopted unanimously.

The minutes of the General Meeting held on the 10th February, 1971, were taken as read. The adoption, which was proposed by Mr D. A. Smith and seconded by Mr J. M. Meyer, was carried unanimously.

At Mr Honnet's request, Mr V. C. Robinson took the chair during the presentation of the Chairman's Annual Report.

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 1970/71

1970/71 Committee—Office Bearers:

Chairman	— J. N. Saunders
Vice Chairman	— G. Y. Nisbet
Immediate Past Chairman	— N. A. Honnet.

Due to the sudden retirement of Mr J. N. Saunders, the committee, at a meeting on the 3rd February, 1971 elected Mr G. Y. Nisbet as Chairman with Mr J. M. Meyer as Vice Chairman. After the transfer of Mr Nisbet to C.D.M., the committee, as a meeting on the 12th May, 1971, decided that Mr Meyer hold the Chair in an acting capacity for the remainder of the year.

Committee members: Messrs C. J. Isaac, J. G. Kirchener, L. O. W. Leimer, R. S. Pearson, I. G. Thomas and A. von Holdt.

Transfers of several office bearers and committee members resulted in Messrs J. M. Meyer, D. N. Smith and G. C. J. Young being co-opted onto the committee.

GENERAL MEETINGS

Four General Meetings were held during the year, as follows:-

Annual General Meeting—27th August, 1970	—Present 31
General Meeting—17th November, 1970	—Present 40
General Meeting—10th February, 1971	—Present 32
General Meeting—16th June, 1971	—Present 23

This represents a slight fall off in attendance at meetings particularly the meeting of 16th June, 1971.

PRESENTATIONS

The following talks were given during the year:-

- “The Professional Engineers Act”—by Mr R. C. J. Goode.
- “Controlled Blasting in Stopes and New Explosives Developments”—by Mr A. Paschalides.
- “Uranium Extraction, Processing and Conversion for Fuel Element Manufacture”—by Mr J. Freer.
- “Latest Research Projects by the Chamber of Mines”—by Dr W. Rapson.

VISITS

The following visits took place:-

- (1) 25th November, 1970—Local visit to O.F.S. Goldfields to see innovations at Harmony, Welkom and Western Holdings. Number of Members who participated ± 60. It has been decided to make this particular visit an annual event.
- (2) 5th April, 1971—Cookhouse Tunnel—Tunnel Borer. Number of members who participated—10.
- (3) 22nd June, 1971—Rand Refinery. Number of members who participated—10.

Turnouts for the latter two visits, which were most interesting and informative, were most disappointing.

I would like again to bring to the attention of the Mine Managers and senior personnel at the mines in the district, the important part that these visits can play in broadening the knowledge and education of their employees, particularly those up and coming young men who at present fill fairly junior positions on the mines, and who in general do not get many opportunities of getting away from the job and seeing at first hand new methods, techniques and processes with which they themselves will probably have to be involved in future years. I hope that during the forthcoming year, more support will be given to these visits by the managements of the mines.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Three Committee Meetings were held during the year, and I want to thank Committee Members for their help on these occasions.

MEMBERSHIP

The total membership of the O.F.S. Branch, as at the 15th July, 1971 was 136 a decrease of 1 compared with previous year, made up as follows:-

Fellows	—	30
Members	—	42
Associates	—	30
Graduates	—	14
Students	—	20
		—
		136
		—

FINANCE

The Branch expenses for the year ending the 30th June, 1971 had been R5,00 (Bank Ledger Fees).

There being no questions, the Chairman's Annual Report was unanimously approved by the Committee. The Chairman then resumed his position in the chair.

DECLARATION OF OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR THE YEAR 1971/1972

The Chairman announced that the outgoing committee had elected the following office bearers for the coming year:-

Chairman	— J. M. Meyer
Vice Chairman	— C. J. Isaac

Immediate Past Chairman — N. A. Honnet.

As there were only three nominations for the committee namely Messrs D. A. Smith, I. G. Thomas and G. C. J. Young, it was not necessary to hold a ballot. The Chairman congratulated Messrs Smith, Thomas and Young on their re-election and informed the meeting that the Committee will co-opt three more members.

INDUCTION OF CHAIRMAN

The Chairman introduced Mr J. M. Meyer to the meeting by briefly outlining his career and, after congratulating him on his election called on him to take the chair.

Mr Meyer, after thanking Mr Honnet for his kind introduction, expressed his gratitude to the committee for electing him to the office of Chairman. Mr Meyer stated that he would endeavour to maintain the high standard that had been set by his predecessors and moved a vote of thanks and appreciation for Mr Honnet's efforts. This was carried unanimously.

GENERAL BUSINESS

The Chairman asked members to inform the Honorary Secretary of any changes of address and also to inform him of any newcomers to the area.

THE INSTITUTE OF MINING AND METALLURGY

The Chairman called on Mr V. C. Robinson to deliver his address entitled "The Institute of Mining and Metallurgy". The presentation of this talk which was most interesting and entertaining was received with applause from all present.

The Chairman, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr Robinson on behalf of all members of the O.F.S. Branch, suggested that the O.F.S. Branch could stimulate new

interest by adopting some of the ideas put forward by Mr Robinson.

CLOSURE

After thanking all present for their attendance, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.45 p.m. Refreshments were then served.