

**THE SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF MINING AND METALLURGY**

**Income and Expenditure Account for the Year ended 30th June, 1973.**

1972		1973		1972		1973	
R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
					24 628	Subscriptions . . . . .	24 426
					220	Life membership subscriptions . . . . .	—
12 927			15 054	4 400		Company affiliates subscriptions . . . . .	9 000
125			125	514		Entrance fees . . . . .	340
				2 141		Interest received . . . . .	3 208
1 194			482	361		Dividends . . . . .	467
—			414	3 961		Surplus on sale of publications . . . . .	6 845
				24 992		Symposia and colloquia . . . . .	—
				20 000		Less Provision for printing . . . . .	—
				4 992			3 771
200			300	—		Transfer from provision for doubtful . . . . .	—
739			451			subscriptions . . . . .	250
13			92				
1 652			2 201				
1 432			1 619				
1 000			—				
1 000			—				
4 000			—				
			24 118				
			24 000				
			—				
			—				
			118				
11 530			15 692				
2 455			2 656				
13 985			18 348				
6 491			3 967				
9 568			8 398				
2 000			R2 550				
510			—				
18 569			14 915				
Cr. 4 584			3 433				
21 519			24 018				
<u>R41 217</u>			<u>R48 307</u>		<u>R41 217</u>		<u>R48 307</u>
—			465		21 519	Excess of income over expenditure . . . . .	24 018
—			10 330				
21 519			13 223				
<u>R21 519</u>			<u>R24 018</u>		<u>R21 519</u>		<u>R24 018</u>

## Visit to Prieska Copper Mines (Pty) Ltd

On 8th August, 1973, 57 members of the Institute visited Prieska Copper Mine at Copperton in the North Western Cape.

After tea, the group was welcomed by the Management of the Mine, and Mr Grobler, the General Manager, gave an introductory talk.

After they had been taken on a bus tour of the property, the members split up into groups and proceeded underground or to the concentrator.

Of special interest to the mining members were the rock-handling methods in use at the mine. The stoping method that has been adopted is the continuous, long-hole sub-level open stoping system. The broken ore is moved with rubber-

tyred front-end loaders from the stope drawpoints to the ore passes. On the main tramming levels, the ore is collected by electric locomotives and discharged into the main shaft system at the bottom. At the shaft ore-pass system, a gyratory crusher that can accept rocks up to 1 m in diameter has been installed. The crushed product (minus 150 mm in diameter) will then be hoisted by a Koepe winder, which has a rated capacity of 900 tons per hour. The mine is also served by a declined roadway from surface, which facilitates the movement of heavy equipment.

The most striking aspect is the productivity that can be achieved by the use of a trackless-mining system. For the production of

230 000 tons per month, it is estimated that 6 stopers and 7 developers will be required. The total labour force will be approximately 2500—2000 Bantu, 200 Coloured, and 300 Europeans. Training of maintenance and operating personnel is of the utmost importance, and it was interesting to note the extent to which non-White labour is being used in these occupations.

Lunch was served at the single quarters, after which the group proceeded to the airfield for the return trip to Johannesburg.

On behalf of the visitors, Professor de V. Lambrechts thanked Mr Grobler and his staff for the most interesting morning and for their hospitality.