

# OFS Branch

## Proceedings of the Annual General Meeting of the O.F.S. Branch on Wednesday, 31st July, 1974.

The Annual General Meeting of the Branch was held at the Western Holdings Limited Canteen on Wednesday, 31st July, 1974 at 7.30 p.m.

Mr E. T. Wilson (Chairman) was in the Chair. There were also present:

Mr P. W. J. van Rensburg, President of the S.A. Institute of Mining and Metallurgy

### Seven Fellows:

Messrs R. C. Espley-Jones, N. A. Honnet, A. T. Lewis, Z. J. Lombard, R. St J. Rowland, A. N. Shand, and D. A. Smith

### Fourteen Members:

Messrs D. V. Baum, J. W. Briedenhann, D. D. Comley, J. D. Couperthwaite, E. J. Dominy, B. J. Drysdale, H. M. W. Eschenburg, A. F. Goetzsche, H. G. Mosenthal, K. G. Pearce, E. R. Penny, G. P. Rundle, D. I. Watson, and P. A. N. Wallace

### Four Associates:

Messrs A. J. Johansen, D. R. Lings, R. R. Perkin, and C. F. K. Poulton

### Three Graduates:

Messrs D. Bosley, A. M. Jones, and R. H. A. Plaistowe.

### Two Visitors

TOTAL PRESENT: Thirty-two.

Numerous lady guests were present.

The Chairman declared the Meeting open and mentioned that an apology for absence had been tendered by Mr G. J. C. Young.

He then extended a special welcome to Mr P. W. J. van Rensburg, President of Council, and his wife, who had made the journey from Johannesburg to be present. On behalf of the Branch, the Chairman expressed appreciation of Mr Van Rensburg's interest in local affairs.

### Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting

In calling for the confirmation of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 11th September, 1973, which had been published in the December 1973 issue of the *Journal*, the Chairman explained

that this procedure was not entirely constitutional as these Minutes should have been dealt with at the first General Meeting following the appearance of those Minutes in the *Journal*.

This oversight was unanimously condoned, and the Minutes were taken as read. Their adoption was proposed by Mr A. T. Lewis and seconded by Mr D. A. Smith.

### Chairman's Annual Report for 1973/1974

The Chairman presented his report as follows.

*Office Bearers:* Mr E. T. Wilson (Chairman), Mr D. A. Smith (Vice-Chairman), Mr C. J. Isaac (Immediate Past Chairman).

*Committee Members:* Messrs E. Dunstan, W. B. Evans, C. Mostert, A. N. Shand, R. G. Williams, and G. J. C. Young.

Owing to the transfer, during the year, of Messrs C. J. Isaac and E. Dunstan away from the Orange Free State, Mr H. G. Mosenthal and Mr H. M. W. Eschenburg had been invited to fill the vacancies on the Committee. Both gentlemen kindly accepted.

*General Meetings:* Four General Meetings had been held during the year:

Annual General Meeting, 11th September, 1973, present 46; General Meeting, 21st November, 1973, present 39; General Meeting, 3rd April, 1974, present 84; General Meeting, 12th June, 1974, present 64.

The good level of attendance set up during the previous year had been maintained during the period under review, and the Chairman thanked all members for their interest in and support of the Institute's affairs.

*Presentations:* The following talks/shows had been given during the year:

'Atomic Energy' — Dr J. P. Hugo.  
'Antarctic Expedition', Slide Presentation — Dr M. Kruger.

'Ordeal at Mufulira' — Film.

'Techniques in the Gravity Concentration of Gold' — Mr D. McLeod.

'TORCO Breakthrough' — Film.

'Diamond — King of Gems' — Film.

*Visits:* A visit to the Atomic Energy Board at Pelindaba had been arranged for 13th February, 1974, but, owing to fuel restrictions and the resultant poor response by members, had had to be cancelled. Because of fuel-saving measures, no subsequent visits could be undertaken, but it was hoped that the proposed visit to the Tugela Scheme would be undertaken at some future date as this would be of great interest to most members.

*Committee Meetings:* Three Committee Meetings had been held during the year. The Chairman placed on record his appreciation of the assistance given him by members of the outgoing Committee, with a special note of thanks for all the work put in by the Honorary Secretary.

*Membership:* The total membership of the O.F.S. Branch at 20th June, 1974, had been 124, made up as follows:

Fellows . . . . .	19
Members . . . . .	39
Associate Member . . . . .	1
Associates . . . . .	40
Graduates . . . . .	12
Student . . . . .	13

This figure showed an increase of 14 members on last year's membership. A recruiting drive had been launched during the year, but it was a little early to assess the result. The lack of visits of interest to members further militated against the recruitment of new members.

*Finance:* The Branch had incurred no expenses during the year. A banking account was not operated locally.

### Declaration of Office Bearers and Committee Members for the year 1974/1975

The Chairman announced that, in terms of the Constitution, the outgoing Committee had elected the following Office Bearers for the ensuing year: Mr D. A. Smith (Chairman), Mr G. J. C. Young (Vice-Chairman), Mr E. T. Wilson (Immediate Past Chairman).

The Chairman then read a letter from the scrutineers dealing with the ballot held to elect Committee Members for 1974/1975. Thirty-five

ballot papers had been returned (nil spoilt), representing a 62,5 per cent ballot. As a result of their examination, the scrutineers reported that the following had been elected to the Committee: Messrs H. M. W. Eschenburg, A. F. Goetzsche, A. T. Lewis, H. G. Mosenthal, C. Mostert, and A. N. Shand.

The Chairman congratulated the new Committee on their election to office.

#### *Induction of Chairman*

Mr E. T. Wilson introduced Mr D. A. Smith to the Meeting by briefly and humorously outlining his past career and achievements, and then called on him to take the Chair.

Mr Smith, after thanking Mr Wilson for his kind introduction, expressed his gratitude to the Committee for electing him to the office of Chairman. He undertook to endeavour to maintain the standard of his predecessors and, after congratulating the outgoing Chairman and Committee on a successful year of office, he welcomed the new Committee.

Mr Smith was of the opinion that much of the Branch's success was due to the excellent arrangements that went into the staging of the periodical General Meetings. In this regard, the Committee was greatly indebted to the managements of Western Holdings Limited, Welkom Gold Mining Co. Ltd, and St. Helena G.M. Limited, who had made available facilities for Meetings and had provided excellent refreshments on these occasions during the past year.

#### *Address by President of Council, Mr P. W. J. van Rensburg*

The Chairman called upon Mr van Rensburg to address the Meeting.

The President commenced his address by congratulating the outgoing Chairman on his report, which reflected the healthy state of the Local Branch. He was particularly impressed by the encouraging attendances at General Meetings, and urged that every effort should be made to maintain, and even improve on, this state of affairs. To the outgoing Committee and members, he expressed the Council's appreciation of past activities and achievements, and he wished the in-coming Committee well.

The President then went on to give a most interesting talk on

minerals in South Africa and the resultant impact on the country's economy brought about by mining. The interesting history of the search for minerals from early times, the value of the mining industry to the development of South Africa and its importance in the future, together with a survey of known possible resources of minerals, are aspects that were highlighted.

After the Chairman had declared the Meeting open for discussion, the President answered questions from the floor.

The Chairman then called upon Mr A. N. Shand to propose, on behalf of the O.F.S. Branch, a vote of thanks to Mr Van Rensburg.

Mr Shand pointed out that, when one considered that it was only over the past one hundred years that mining had contributed to the economy, it was not difficult to predict that, in the future, mining activity, and the income derived from it, would increase many-fold. He was optimistic that efficient and safe mining practices oriented towards making profits for South Africa would make this a great country. Mr Shand concluded by congratulating the President on his fascinating review.

#### *Closure*

The Chairman again thanked the President, Mr P. W. J. van Rensburg, and his wife for being present and finally thanked members and visitors for their attendance.

He declared the Meeting closed at 9.00 p.m., after which refreshments were served.

#### **Minutes of the Committee Meeting held in the Committee Room, Welkom Club at 4.00 p.m. on Monday, 12th August, 1974.**

#### *Present*

Mr D. A. Smith (Chairman), Mr G. J. C. Young, Mr E. T. Wilson, Mr H. M. W. Eschenburg, Mr A. F. Goetzsche, Mr A. T. Lewis, and Mr A. N. Shand.

#### *Apology*

Mr C. Mostert (on leave).

The Chairman declared the Meeting open and welcomed Committee Members to the first Meeting of the 1974/1975 Session.

#### *Minutes of the previous Meeting*

The Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on the 21st June,

1974, which had been distributed to Committee Members, were taken as read. Their adoption was moved by Mr Shand and seconded by Mr Wilson.

#### *Matters arising from these Minutes*

1. *Appointment of Sub-Committee:* It was unanimously agreed, on a proposal by the Chairman, that he (Mr Smith) and Mr R. R. Perkin would constitute the sub-committee to investigate any necessary amendments to the Rules for the Conduct of the Orange Free State Branch to bring these into line with the updated Constitution of the Institute.

2. *Date of Committee Meeting:* As it had become necessary to change the date of the Meeting currently in session, the Chairman requested the Meeting to rescind the decision to hold the Meeting on the date as minuted. This was unanimously agreed to.

#### *General Meetings and visits for the ensuing year*

After discussion, the following tentative programme of activities for 1974/1975 was agreed to:

13th October, 1974: General Meeting — President Steyn G.M. Canteen 3.30 p.m. Description and demonstration of metal-cladding techniques using Cordtex Detonating Fuse.

12th February, 1975: General Meeting. Details yet to be decided.

14th May, 1975 (tentative): Two-day bus trip to visit the Department of Water Affairs' Tugela-Vaal Scheme in the Bergville-Harrismith areas — subject to Council's approval. (The Secretary was requested to make preliminary enquiries regarding availability of accommodation and reservation lead-times).

August, 1975: Annual General Meeting. Date still to be set.

#### *Date of next Meeting*

A Committee Meeting would be convened on a date during April 1975 still to be decided, for the purpose of finalizing arrangements for the Tugela-Vaal Scheme visit. As was the case during the previous year, other business would be dealt with by the Committee when it met at times that General Meetings were convened.

#### *General*

The Chairman asked all Committee Members to continue efforts to recruit newcomers to the Institute.

The meeting closed at 4.30 p.m.

## Papers of interest

The following papers may be of interest to members.

Pulse code modulation systems, by W. A. Brading. *Trans. S. Afr. Inst. Electr. Engrs*, June 1974.  
Mechanical engineering — research, the profession, the Institution (Presidential address), by A. Whillier. *S. Afr. Mech. Engr*, June 1974.  
Surge propagation on multi-

conductor lines, by F. G. Heymann.

Maintenance and testing of modern winding plant, by W. A. J. Vanstone.

*Trans. S. Afr. Inst. Electr. Engrs*, July 1974.

Construction and operation of large pumped-storage schemes, by E. Pfisterer.

*S. Afr. Mech. Engr*, July 1974.

Electro-physiology of the electrical

shark repellent, by E. D. Smith. *Trans. S. Afr. Inst. Electr. Engrs*, August 1974.

An evaluation of the influence of anisotropy on the mechanical forming of anisotropic solids, by R. D. Venter, R. L. Hewitt, and M. C. Malherbe.

Wet grinding of tungsten carbide/steel combinations, by N. W. Thiel.

*S. Afr. Mech. Engr*, August 1974.

## Education fund

The Institute has recently brought into being a Fund to finance various educational projects.

One of the aims of this Fund is to subsidize members of the Institute who have not been able to raise the full amount required for a study or educational visit overseas. Applications are, therefore, invited from members for a contribution by the

Institute towards their travel costs. It has been decided that such contributions will not, in general, exceed R200, and successful applicants will be selected by the Education Committee. Upon his return, the traveller will be required to submit a paper or a note on his observations and experiences while overseas for possible publication in the *Journal*.

Further information may be obtained from:

The Secretary,  
S.A.I.M.M.,  
P.O. Box 61019,  
MARSHALLTOWN,  
Johannesburg.  
2107  
(Telephone: 834-1271)

## Company Affiliates

The following members have been admitted to the Institute as Company Affiliates.

AE & CI Limited.  
Afrox/Dowson and Dobson Limited.  
Amalgamated Collieries of S.A. Limited.  
Apex Mines Limited.  
Associated Manganese Mines of S.A. Limited.  
Blackwood Hodge (S.A.) Limited.  
Blyvooruitzicht G.M. Co. Ltd.  
Boart & Hard Metal Products S.A. Limited.  
Bracken Mines Limited.  
Buffelsfontein G.M. Co. Limited.  
Cape Asbestos South Africa (Pty) Ltd.  
Compair S.A. (Pty) Limited.  
Consolidated Murchison (Tvl) Goldfields & Development Co. Limited.  
Doornfontein G.M. Co. Limited.  
Durban Roodepoort Deep Limited.  
East Driefontein G.M. Co. Limited.  
East Rand Prop. Mines Limited.  
Free State Saaiplaas G.M. Co. Limited.  
Fraser & Chalmers S.A. (Pty) Limited.  
Gardner-Denver Co. Africa (Pty) Ltd.  
Goldfields of S.A. Limited.  
The Grootvlei (Pty) Mines Limited.

Harmony Gold Mining Co. Limited.  
Hartebeesfontein G.M. Co. Limited.  
Hewitt-Robins-Denver (Pty) Limited.  
Highveld Steel and Vanadium Corporation Limited.  
Hudemco (Pty) Limited.  
Impala Platinum Limited.  
Ingersoll Rand Co. S.A. (Pty) Ltd.  
James Sydney & Company (Pty) Limited.  
Kinross Mines Limited.  
Kloof Gold Mining Co. Limited.  
Lennings Holdings Limited.  
Leslie G.M. Limited.  
Libanon G.M. Co. Limited.  
Lonrho S.A. Limited.  
Lorraine Gold Mines Limited.  
Marievale Consolidated Mines Limited.  
Matte Smelters (Pty) Limited.  
Northern Lime Co. Limited.  
O'okiep Copper Company Limited.  
Palabora Mining Co. Limited.  
Placer Development S.A. (Pty) Ltd.  
President Steyn G.M. Co. Limited.  
Pretoria Portland Cement Co. Limited.  
Prieska Copper Mines (Pty) Limited.  
Rand Mines Limited.

Rooiberg Minerals Development Co. Limited.  
Rustenburg Platinum Mines Limited (Union Section).  
Rustenburg Platinum Mines Limited (Rustenburg Section).  
St. Helena Gold Mines Limited.  
Shaft Sinkers (Pty) Limited.  
S.A. Land Exploration Co. Limited.  
Stilfontein G.M. Co. Limited.  
The Griqualand Exploration and Finance Co. Limited.  
The Messina (Transvaal) Development Co. Limited.  
The Steel Engineering Co. Ltd.  
Trans-Natal Coal Corporation Limited.  
Tvl Cons. Land & Exploration Co.  
Tsumeb Corp. Limited.  
Union Corporation Limited.  
Vaal Reefs Exploration & Mining Co. Limited.  
Venterspost G.M. Co. Limited.  
Vergenoeg Mining Co. (Pty) Limited.  
Vlakfontein G.M. Co. Limited.  
Welkom Gold Mining Co. Limited.  
West Driefontein G.M. Co. Limited.  
Western Deep Levels Limited.  
Western Holdings Limited.  
Winkelhaak Mines Limited.