

O.F.S. and Klerksdorp Branch

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the St. Helena Club on Wednesday, 27th July, 1977, at 7.30 p.m.

Present

Mr A. N. Shand (Chairman), and Dr M. D. G. Salamon (President of the South African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy).

Also present were:

Two Fellows: Z. J. Lombard (Committee member), G. J. C. Young (Committee member).

Five Members: J. G. Cockburn, E. J. Dominy (Committee member), G. S. Lee, K. Pearce, J. Scott.

Three Associates: D. R. Lings, P. Kraus, A. J. Johansen.

Four Graduates: A. R. Godfrey, D. A. Holtum, A. M. Jones, G. S. Worthington.

Two Students: M. R. O'Brien, D. W. Butcher.

Eighteen Visitors.

Thirty lady guests were also present.

Total Present: Sixty-five.

Apologies

Messrs F. J. Bayley, B. P. Christos, A. B. Cook, G. L. H. Diering, H. Eschenburg, E. C. Hunter, A. R. F. MacDonald, P. D. K. Robinson, P. S. Wentworth and A. N. Morris.

Welcome

The Chairman declared the meeting open and extended a special welcome to Dr M. D. G. Salamon, President of the S.A.I.M.M., and Mrs Salamon, who had travelled from Johannesburg to be present.

Minutes of the Previous General Meeting

The Minutes of the General Meeting held on 9th March, 1977, were taken as read, and their adoption was proposed by Mr Lombard and seconded by Mr Young.

Chairman's Annual Report for 1976-1977

The Chairman presented his Annual Report, which is incorporated in the Annual Report of the Institute (see page 95).

Declaration of Office Bearers

The Chairman announced that, with the retirement of Mr B. J. Drysdale, the present Vice-Chairman, he had been asked by the Committee to accept a second term as Chairman. Thus, in terms of the Constitution, the outgoing Committee had elected the following Office Bearers for the ensuing year:

Chairman: A. N. Shand

Vice-Chairman: H. M. W. Eschenburg

Immediate Past Chairman: G. J. C. Young

Honorary Secretary: A. R. Godfrey.

With regard to the incoming Committee, there were just sufficient nominations to fill the vacancies on the

Committee. Thus, no election was necessary, and the following members who accepted nomination would serve on the Committee during the coming year.

E. J. Dominy, A. E. Edwards, E. C. Hunter, Z. J. Lombard, J. Scott, and P. S. Wentworth.

Address by Dr M. D. G. Salamon

The Chairman introduced Dr Salamon by outlining his career and achievements, which had been many.

After graduating with distinction at the University of Sopron, he was appointed Assistant Lecturer in Mining. He later moved to Britain, joining the National Coal Board, where he participated in the Mining Engineering Training Scheme. He accepted an appointment in 1959 as a Research Associate at the Mining Department of the University of Durham, where he was awarded a Ph.D. in 1962 for research done in the field of mining rock mechanics.

After moving to South Africa, he held several important posts before taking up an appointment in 1974 as Research Adviser to the Chamber of Mines, a position that must undoubtedly rate as one of the most important research positions in South Africa. He was a joint recipient of the Gold Medal of the Associated Scientific and Technical Societies, and was also awarded a Gold Medal and Certificate of Merit by the South African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy.

The President commenced his address by thanking Mr Shand for his kind words and saying how pleased he and Mrs Salamon were to have the opportunity of visiting the local branch and meeting the members. He extended the greetings of Council to all members and to the new Office Bearers.

The President went on to give a most interesting talk on recent developments in the activities of the Institute. As little as ten years ago, the entire activities of the Institute had consisted in holding ten rather poorly attended meetings a year and publishing a journal each month. Interest was low, and a re-examination of objectives had taken place. Since that time several ideas had been tried that had been largely successful.

Firstly, the monthly meetings had been dropped and replaced by quarterly colloquia at which papers were presented on a particular subject. The papers were practical and brief, and this had led to much increased interest. The Institute had then expanded its activities further by holding Vacation Schools on relatively new subjects, using the best available lecturers from overseas. These had been very successful, and in this way many more members were being reached.

Dr Salamon went on to describe some of the more recent advances that were being made. When the front line of mining activity moved away from Johannesburg, local branches were formed, and this year for the first time a major colloquium will be held in the O.F.S. The Institute had also inaugurated company affiliate membership to help raise funds, and were also hoping to

enter the publishing field with monographs on specialized subjects.

In conclusion, the President wished the Branch every success with the forthcoming colloquium.

A vote of thanks to Dr Salamon was proposed by Mr G. J. C. Young.

Closure

Before declaring the meeting closed, the Chairman

reminded those present that the O.F.S. Colloquium would be held on 16th and 17th November, 1977. He thanked Dr Salamon for being present, and the members and visitors for their attendance. The Chairman also thanked the hosts, St. Helena Gold Mines, Limited, for the hospitality accorded to the members on this occasion.

The meeting closed at 8.15 p.m., after which refreshments were served.

Book review

Advances in extractive metallurgy, 1977. Proceedings of the third symposium organised by the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy held from 18-20th April 1977. London, the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy, 1977. 244 pp. £18,50.

This volume contains the thirty papers that were selected by the Organising Committee as best suited to its search for improvements in metallurgical production to counter 'rising energy and labour costs, environmental constraints and ever decreasing ore grades'.

A paper on copper metallurgy is prominently placed, followed by a paper giving a good coverage of lead. Also featured are antimony, beryllium, calcium, cobalt, iron, nickel, silver, titanium, and zinc. Statistically, the emphasis is on pyrometallurgy, followed by hydro-

metallurgy (chiefly copper) with some accent on electrolysis.

Most of the papers originated in the U.K., eight came from Australia, and the balance, adding useful variety, from nine countries. It would be inappropriate to select any of these excellent papers for separate mention. The overall total is an impressive story of metallurgical success and a triumph for the imaginative planning of the Organising Committee.

This volume earns its place on the bookshelves of every Extraction Metallurgist and in all metallurgical libraries.

(Details of the relative discussions at the symposium and a full index will be available shortly.)

H.B.

Coal preparation

A meeting of the Organising Committee of the Eighth International Coal Preparation Congress took place in Moscow on 24th and 25th May, 1977. Representatives from Australia, France, FDR, Poland, USSR, USA, and UK attended, and the meeting was chaired by Dr I. G. Blagov, Chief Coal Preparation Engineer for the Mining Ministry, USSR.

It has been agreed that the Eighth Congress will be held in Donetsk in May 1979. The theme of the Congress will be 'Let Coal Preparation have Progressive Techniques and Technology'. The aim of the Congress will be to have detailed discussion on technical and scientific progress in coal preparation and environmental protection. Some 25 to 30 papers will be presented, and the official Congress languages will be English, German, Russian, and French. The main subject headings are as follows:

Preliminary Preparation of Coal
New Coal Preparation Methods
Preparation of Fine Coal
Flotation
Coal Dewatering and Treatment of Fine Effluents
Testing and Control
Utilisation of Refuse
Plant Design
Automation
Organisation of Labour.

Anyone wishing to present a paper will be required to submit a summary of approximately 500 words by 30th November, 1977. Prospective authors should submit six copies of their summaries direct to Mr V. A. Ruban, Congress Secretary, 8th International Coal Preparation Congress, USSR, 117071, MOSCOW B-71, Leninsky Prospect 29.