The youngest technical programme committee of The South African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy — that on Physical Metallurgy — held its second colloquium on 18th September, 1984. The topic of ‘Corrosion of Piping and Tubing in the Mining Industry’ was very appropriate since the date had been chosen to coincide with that of the Electra Mining Exhibition.

First Session

In the first session, chaired by Mr Peter Waetzel of TOSA, the first paper was presented by Mr Brian Protheroe of the Chamber of Mines Research Organization, who set the scene. He reviewed some of the corrosion and scaling problems being experienced by the industry, and mentioned some of the approaches being used by his organization to counter these problems. These include work on alloy development, which is aimed at the development of a new family of chromium-bearing abrasion/corrosion-resistant steels for underground use.

The next paper, that by Mr Graham Stead of Chemicals and Coatings Manufacturing, described the protection of low-carbon steel piping by coatings of various kinds. He paid particular attention to recent developments, including