

# SPOTLIGHT

## on the SAIMM 95th Anniversary Banquet

The South African Institute for Mining and Metallurgy celebrated its 95th anniversary with a banquet at The Carlton on Friday, 2nd June, 1989. This event was attended by 600 people, including the Presidents of AS&TS, constituent societies, and other kindred bodies, together with members and their guests. The guest speaker was Mr Murray Hofmeyr, Chairman of the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company Limited, who gave an interesting and thought-provoking talk entitled 'Will we still be the best in the year 2000?'.

### Address by Mr Murray Hofmeyr

According to Mr Hofmeyr, 'there can be no doubt that gold-mining operations will be more complex and difficult as we enter the 21st century than they are today.

'Insofar as the availability of capital and the willingness of entrepreneurs to embark on new ventures is concerned, the tax structure is of enormous importance. Following the report of the Margo Commission, the State appointed a Technical Committee under the chairmanship of Dr Org Marais with the prime objective of formulating a tax system for the future that will ensure an optimal investment in new mining projects and the optimal exploitation of ore in existing mines. The Marais Committee has performed a commendable task, and the State has indicated its acceptance of the Committee's recommendations by including them in the recent budget. The most important proposal provides for tax rates and surcharges to decrease to the same level as those of industrial companies while retaining the important feature of 100 per cent write-off of most items of capital expenditure. This important concession will be phased in over a period of seven years'.

On the availability of skilled manpower, he stated: 'it is well known to all that mining and metallurgical graduates, both from South African universities and from

overseas, are declining in numbers. As far as overseas graduates are concerned, it has become more difficult to attract them because the packages offered them have become uncompetitive as a result of the weak rand. Clearly, every effort must be made to stop this unacceptable trend. It must be recognized, however, that the industry will have to look increasingly to the technicians to identifying, developing, and training Black people.'

### Acknowledgements

The Institute would like to record its appreciation to the sponsors for their continued support, without which this annual event would not be possible.

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Dr Oskar Steffen proposing a toast to the SAIMM

## Banquet Photographs (left to right):

**Murray Hofmeyr, Marge Steffen, and  
Gordon Mosenthal**



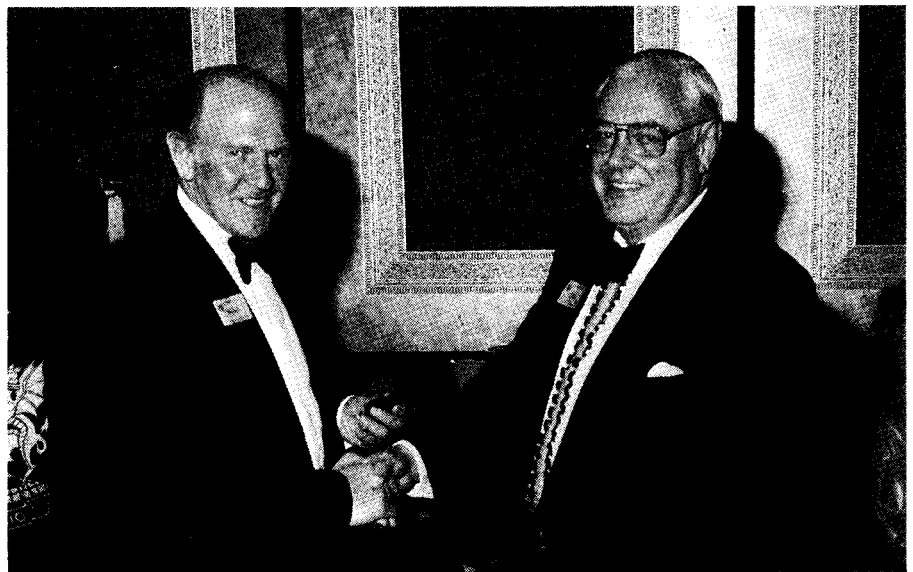
**Annelore Wagner and Dr Horst Wagner**

**Dr John Cilliers and Cecile Cilliers,  
with Dee and Rob Pullen**





**Murray Hofmeyr and Josie Fivaz**



**Murray Hofmeyr and Gene Fivaz  
(President, SAIMM)**



**Erich and Paula Stoltz, with Anne-  
marie and Ronnie Snodgrass**

**Charles and Valerie Oertel**



**Maude and Peter Roberts**



**Gladys James and Nobby Martin**





**Hester Smith, with Peter and Hilary Harrison**



**Pamela Binstead and Jack Brillard**