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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN MINT

FOR THE YEAR 1st APRIL, 1975 TO 31st MARCH, 1976

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICAN MINT

The Secretary for Finance
Union Buildings
PRETORIA

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN MINT FOR 1975/76

I wish to submit the following report on the activities of the South African Mint during the financial year 1st April, 1975 to 31st March, 1976.

INTRODUCTION

An unexpected demand for coinage was experienced during the year so that production amounted to 220 million coins as against 141 million during the previous year. This is an increase of 56%. Despite this increased production it was not possible to meet the demand in full and urgent steps are being taken to do so by the acquisition and commissioning of additional plant.

The sales of circulation coins increased to R11 147 529 from R5 133 824 during the previous year.

The demand for collector's coins remained active particularly for items including gold coins and Proof-Krugerrands. Sales amounted to R3 655 450 which is a 100% increase over the previous year. The profit from this source amounted to R2 981 512.

Uncirculated quality Krugerrands marketed by the Chamber of Mines of South Africa remained in demand and 4,3 million were produced during the year which is almost the same as during the previous year.

Total sales of all Mint products for the year amounted to R27 617 678 yielding a nett profit of R11 715 749 against R5 262 906 for the previous year.

The increase in the extent of the Mint's activities was made possible by the new Mint building being fully occupied during the year together with the new equipment commissioned and the associated reorganisation.

The activities of the various departments are set out in the following chapters.

CHAPTER 1 - FINANCIAL

COMBINED MANUFACTURING, TRADING AND PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1976

1974/75			1975/76
R	EXPENDITURE :	R	R
41 121	Work in progress 1st April, 1975		34 649
1 035 982	Coin stocks on hand 1st April, 1975 at cost		983 726
10 544 965	Operating costs for year :-		15 965 369
	Bullion	15 028 713	
	Conversion Costs	936 656	
133 227	Sales Expenses		171 264
9 186	Credit allowed in the manufacture of coin for foreign governments		19 867
11 764 481			17 174 875
	LESS :		
28 313	Value of new coin issued in replacement of old coin withdrawn from circulation	2 014	
983 726	Coin stocks 31 March 1976 at cost	1 088 121	
34 649	Work in progress 31 March 1976	182 811	1 272 946
10 717 793	Cost of sales		15 901 929
	RECEIPTS :		
15 953 377	Sales		27 617 678
27 322	Value of bullion taken on charge ex recoinage accounts		Nil
15 980 699			27 617 678
10 717 793	Less cost of sales		15 901 929
5 262 906	Nett profit for the year		11 715 749

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH, 1976

31 March 1975 R	LIABILITIES	R	31 March 1976 R
	MINT CAPITAL		
3 469 131	Balance 1st April, 1975	3 792 323	
323 192	Additions during the year	351 394	
3 792 323		4 143 717	
100 782	Less sales, depreciation and write-offs	201 976	
3 691 541	Balance 31 March, 1976		3 941 741
323 044	OPERATING CAPITAL		334 793
513 047	SUNDRY CREDITORS		866 700
501 085	RAND REFINERY LTD. - for gold deposited at statutory price		300 371
4 689 000	THE TREASURY - advances for purchases of bullion		3 851 000
	OPERATING SUSPENSE ACCOUNTS		43 775
1 145 698	ADVANCE PAYMENTS by customers		1 254 761
10 863 415			10 593 141
	ASSETS		
3 501 605	BUILDINGS at cost	3 770 953	
269 348	Additions during the year	97 223	
3 770 953		3 868 176	
651 454	Less accumulated depreciation	682 649	
3 119 499	Value 31 March, 1976		3 185 527
3 089 352	PLANT AND EQUIPMENT at cost	3 773 196	
53 844	Additions during the year	254 171	
3 143 196		4 027 367	
2 589 154	Less sales, accumulated depreciation and write-offs	3 289 153	
554 042	Value 31 March, 1976		738 214
18 000	LAND		18 000
53 233	STORES at cost		40 852
489 543	SUNDRY DEBTORS		193 431
	BULLION (including bullion in coin stocks) :-		5 356 527
2 142 420	Gold	1 242 150	
3 092 624	Other	4 114 377	
195 915	COIN STOCKS (excluding bullion)		152 081
34 649	WORK IN PROGRESS at cost		182 811
36 295	OPERATING SUSPENSE ACCOUNTS		
2 460	MINT MUSEUM STOCK at cost		2 825
1 124 735	CASH with Paymaster General		722 873
10 863 415			10 593 141

1. Comparative statement of sales

	1975/76 R	1974/75 R	1973/74 R
Circulation coin	11 147 529	5 133 824	6 408 760
Proof and Collector's Coin	3 655 450	1 819 955	1 353 571
Gold and Silver	12 049 463	8 338 051	9 058 729
Die and Medal products laboratory and Sundry services	164 877	102 234	131 259
Manufacture of gold coin for Chamber of Mines	429 850	446 006	143 181
Manufacture of coin for foreign governments	170 509	113 307	46 250
TOTAL	27 617 678	15 953 377	17 141 750

2. Comparative statement of conversion and sales costs

	1975/76 R	1974/75 R	1973/74 R
Conversion costs	936 656	825 529	601 287
Selling costs	171 264	133 227	132 440
TOTAL	1 107 920	958 756	733 727

The increase of 11,86% in respect of conversion costs for 1975/76 compared with 1974/75 is most satisfactory when production figures are considered. For 1975/76 this was approximately 223 172 000 and in 1974/75 approximately 141 760 000. The respective average costs per 1000 pieces are R4,20 and R5,82.

3. Operating results

a) Combined

	1975/76 R	1974/75 R	1973/74 R
Sales	27 617 678	15 953 377	17 141 750
Net profit	11 735 616	5 262 906	5 877 388
% Profit on sales	42,49	32,99	34,29

b) Circulation Coin

	R	R	R
Sales	11 147 529	5 133 824	6 408 760
Net profit	8 277 151	3 727 456	5 125 878
% Profit on Sales	74,25	72,61	79,98

c) Proof and Collector's Coin

	R	R	R
Sales	3 655 450	1 819 955	1 353 571
Net profit	2 981 512	1 139 415	548 266
% Profit on sales	81,56	62,61	40,51

d) Sundry Accounts

	1975/76	1974/75	1973/74
	R	R	R
Sales	12 814 699	8 999 598	9 379 419
Net profit	476 953	396 035	203 244
% Profit on sales	3,72	4,40	2,17

The contribution of circulation coin to total profit is 70,53% against 70,82% for 1974/75. The contribution of proof and collector's coin however was 25,41% against 21,65% for 1974/75 which is attributable to an increase in sales over 100%.

4. Comparative statement of capital additions

	1975/76	1974/75	1973/74
	R	R	R
Buildings	97 223	269 348	458 061
Machinery and equipment	254 171	53 844	156 948
TOTAL	351 394	323 192	615 009

In the case of Buildings the figures for 1975/76 represent final payments and adjustments.

5. Circulation coin manufactured for foreign governments

	1975/76	1974/75	1973/74
	R	R	R
Face value	620 400	76 180	46 250

6. Gold coin delivered to the Chamber of Mines

	Number of pieces		
	1975/76	1974/75	1973/74
Krugerrand	435 900	4 327 987	1 363 499
R2 Gold	-	207 677	200 064
R1 Gold	-	-	-
TOTAL	435 900	4 535 664	1 563 563

7. Comparative statement of stores used

	1975/76	1974/75	1973/74
	R	R	R
Direct purchases	73 653	56 081	24 930
Issued ex stores	56 876	62 887	82 045
TOTAL	130 529	118 968	106 975

Stores referred to do not include bullion. Bullion issued amounted to R15 028 713 against R9 719 436 in 1974/75; an increase of 54,63%.

CHAPTER II - ADMINISTRATION

A. MINT OFFICE :

The Mint Office is responsible for the purchase of all coinage metals, the issue thereof to the production sections and the issue of all coins, medals and products manufactured by the S.A. Mint.

1. GOLD :

The basic price of monetary gold remained at R30,05 per fine oz. plus 1%.

The average selling price of Industrial gold was R116-97 per fine ounce, compared with R112-16 in the previous year. The selling price of gold sold for Industrial purposes is determined in accordance with the average ruling prices on the free market over a period of a month, as adjusted and approved by the South African Reserve Bank, plus a commission of 1%.

A total fine mass of 2 890,76 Kg of gold was sold during the year whereas 2 134,25 Kg was sold during the previous year.

Gold coins:

A total of 39 000 gold proof coins (19 500 of R2 and 19 500 of R1) was struck for sale in 12 500 proofsets of 10 coins (R2 - ½c) and 7 000 proofsets of 2 coins (R2 - R1).

In addition to the above 12 010 prooflike R2 coins, 12 026 prooflike R1 coins and 5 600 proof Krugerrand coins were minted for sale as well as 4 359 000 Krugerrand coins for the Chamber of Mines of South Africa. A further 10 000 R1 coins were minted for members of the S.A. Jeweller's Association.

Gold transactions:

There was a decrease in the total fine mass of the gold transacted as compared with the previous year as follows:

	1975/1976 Kg.	1974/1975 Kg.
Received from the Rand Refinery Ltd ...	2 625,26	3 110,35
Granulated and dental gold sold	2 890,76	2 134,25
Medals, wire and sheet gold sold	16,83	10,59
Mass of R2, R1, Krugerrand	608,06	554,87
Transferred to Die & Medal Section ..	25,70	28,66
Transferred to Coinage Section	-	773,25
	6 166,61	6 611,97

2. SILVER :

Silver transactions by mass

	1975/1976 kg	1974/1975 kg
Bought from Rand Refinery Ltd and Sundry persons	12 386,90	9 460,79
Coin withdrawn from circulation 500 Std., 800 Std.	8,50	865,29
Granules and strip sold	12 223,25	9 476,58
Medals & Other items sold	199,41	167,81
Coin received from Coinage Section	461,57	428,01
Issues for various alloys	135,35	162,36
	25 414,98	20 560,84

Purchase of Silver :

12 386,90 kg. of silver was purchased from the Rand Refinery Ltd., mainly for sale in granulations.

Basic selling price of silver ;

It was necessary for the Mint, with Treasury approval, to vary its basic selling price of silver in conformity with the rise and fall in the overseas market price. Silver is sold at the daily cash price ruling on the London Metal Market. The average selling price was R3-47 per fine ounce compared with R3-18 in the previous year. The total fine mass sold during the year was 12 223,25 kg. whereas 9 476,58 kg. was sold during the previous year.

Withdrawal of 500 Std. and 800 Std. Silver coin for remelting :-

During the year silver coins to the value of R300,55 were withdrawn from circulation.

3. NICKEL :

Nickel transactions by mass in kg.

	1975/1976	1974/1975
Blanks purchased for coinage	517 500,00	64 969,95
Mass of coins received	337 815,02	127 813,44
Transferred to Die & Medal Section ...	12,42	7,52
	855 327,44	192 790,91

4. BASE METALS :

The following are the receipts of and the transactions in base metals. This involved mainly issues to the Coinage Section for the production of gold, silver and bronze coin as well as a small amount of copper for the alloying of the different grades of gold sold to industry.

Base Metals Transactions by mass

	kg.
Bronze issued to Coinage Section	300 816,53
Bronze coin received from Coinage Section	352 960,64
Metals for various alloys	1 843,67
Bronze issued to Die & Medal Section	146,25
Bronze received from Die & Medal Section	360,20
Rhodesian bronze coin received from Coinage Section	110 436,13
	766 563,42

Withdrawal of bronze coin :

During the year coin to the value of R6 470 was withdrawn from circulation.

5. COIN RECEIVED AND ISSUED :

The following is a comparative schedule in respect of gold, silver, nickel and bronze coins received from the Coinage Section and issued by the Mint Office :-

Denomination	Receipts from Coinage Section 1975/76	Receipts from Coinage Section 1974/75	Issued to Banks, etc. during 1975/76	Issued to Banks, etc. during 1974/75
	R c	R c	R c	R c
GOLD				
2 Rand	63 020,00	58 738,00	58 696,00	59 162,00
1 Rand	41 526,00	39 401,00	41 028,00	38 943,00
SILVER				
1 Rand	38 252,00	35 475,00	40 834,00	72 069,00
NICKEL				
50c	2 474 380,50	978 404,00	2 473 327,00	1 331 135,50
20c	3 984 047,60	490 158,40	3 465 127,80	556 334,20
10c	2 487 140,20	991 160,00	2 198 865,40	992 867,10
5c	1 308 874,85	1 093 977,05	1 546 032,70	1 170 333,55
BRONZE				
2c	817 930,54	506 310,14	817 013,08	528 508,68
1c	589 202,36	593 445,30	669 006,54	610 966,46
½c	21 139,66½	39 355,00	20 864,57	38 584,87½
	11 825 513,71½	4 826 423,89	11 330 795,09	5 398 904,36½

6. PROOFSETS :

The Mint made 12 500 ten coin proofsets (R2-½c), 7 000 gold proofsets (R2 - R1) and 5 512 eight coin proofsets (R1 - ½c). 5 600 proof quality Krugerrands were minted.

7. COINS MANUFACTURED FOR OTHER COUNTRIES :

	1975/1976	1974/1975
½c	R 50 005	-
1c	R197 690	R76 180
5c	R175 000	-
10c	R197 700	-

8. PACKING AND DESPATCH SECTION :-

The number of parcels despatched by post and by rail compared with the previous year was :-

	1975/1976	1974/1975
Parcels despatched by Post	14 385	12 168
Parcels, other than coin, despatch by rail	4 (21 Kg)	8 (149 Kg)
Boxes of coin despatched by rail	7 920 (457,964 Kg)	5 065 (268,391 Kg)

B. PERSONNEL

1. SCHEDULE OF POSTS AND PERSONNEL EMPLOYED

The following comparative schedule shows the number of posts and the personnel employed at the end of the year as compared with the previous year :

	CATAGORIES	1976		1975	
		Posts	Personnel	Posts	Personnel
(a)	Administrative	6	6	6	6
(b)	Professional	3	0	3	2
(c)	Technical	9	7	9	8
(d)	Clerical	11	8	11	10
(e)	General Divisions A & B excluding items (g) to (j)	25	13	25	13
(f)	Temporary employees against posts under items (a) to (e)	-	16	-	11
(g)	Senior Special Craftsman	2	1	2	2
(h)	Special Craftsman	6	4	6	4
(i)	Artisans	6	6	6	6
(j)	Male Operators	11	11	11	11
(k)	Apprentices	2	2	2	2
(l)	Female Operators and Supervisors	38	38	38	38
(m)	Messengers	4	-	4	-
(n)	Bantu Guards and Bossboys	13	14	13	14
(o)	Bantu Messengers and Female cleaners	4	8	4	8
(p)	Bantu Labourers	71	70	71	70
	TOTAL	211	204	211	205
(q)	Additional to Establishment				
	(i) Temporary Artisans	4	1	2	1
	(ii) Temporary Senior Operators	7	7	2	1
	(iii) Female Operators	23	17	9	7
	(iv) Bantu Labourers	25	23	9	9
	GRAND TOTAL	270	252	233	223

There was a decrease of 1 in the number of persons employed while the number of posts remained unchanged. 48 Additional temporary employees were in service this year.

2. PERSONNEL TURNOVER

Appointments - 182
Resignations - 152

3. POST STRUCTURAL CHANGES

a) The number of authorised posts remained unchanged.

b) 59 Temporary units were additionally appointed to the establishment as a result of increased production.

4. PERSONNEL CHANGES

a) Mr. W.A G. Kotzé Senior Accountant, retired on pension on 1st October, 1975 after 16 years of service.

b) Mr. A.S. Fourie Accountant, was transferred from the Provincial Administration with effect from 1st January, 1976.

c) Mr. J.B.N.H. Buisset Senior Die Sinker and Medallist, retired on pension on 1st October, 1975 after 13 years of service.

d) Two Bantu Labourers retired on pension :-

i) Elias Masinga (No. 53) on 1st August, 1975 after 8 years of service on account of ill health.

ii) Ishmael Mateni (No. 5) on 1st December, 1975 after 35 years of service.

e) Three Bantu Labourers died during the year -

i) Paulus Mashaba (No. 250) on 19th July, 1975 after 7 months of service.

ii) Prince Matseng (No. 38) on 18th January, 1976 after 12 years of service.

iii) Thomas Rakgatla (No. 24) on 17th February, 1976 after 24 years of service.

f) Mr. L.P. de Lange was transferred from the Department of Posts and Telecommunications with effect from 12th May, 1975 and promoted to Chief Die Sinker and Medallist.

g) Mr. A.L. Sutherland Die Sinker and Medallist, was promoted to Senior Die Sinker and Medallist with effect from 1st October, 1975.

h) Mr B.A. van der Westhuizen Special Craftsman, was promoted to Senior Special Craftsman with effect from 1st November 1975.

i) Mrs. G.H. Grobler Clerical Assistant, was promoted to Senior Clerical Assistant with effect from 1st November, 1975.

j) Jeremiah Ndhlapo (No. 22) Bantu Labourer was promoted to Bantu Bossboy with effect from 1st June, 1975.

k) Abiot Mampana (No. 12) Bantu Labourer was promoted to Bantu Bossboy with effect from 1st January, 1976.

l) Mr. G. van Harmelen Artisan, died on 5th September 1975 after 2 years temporary service.

C. MINT MUSEUM AND LIBRARY

A. Gifts

1. Gifts received :

	Donated by	Item	
1975	Japanese Mint	2 Sets	100, 50, 10, 5, 1 Yen coins in plastic covers.
		1	100 Yen Expo '75 commemorative coin.
1975	Swiss Mint	2	5 Franc commemorative coins 100 yrs. new constitution; historical monuments year.
1976	Royal Mint, Norway	2	proof sets each consisting of: 5 Kroner, 1 Kroner, 50 Øre, 25 Øre, 10 Øre, 5 Øre and 2 commemorative coins viz: 100 years decimal currency; 150 years emigration to America.
1976	Staatliche Münze, West Germany	1	Deutsche Mark commemorative coin - historical monuments year.

2. Gifts presented :

	To	Item	
1975	Japanese Mint	1	Uncirculated 1974 set (R1-½c)
1976	Royal Mint, Norway	1	Uncirculated 1975 set (R1-½c)

B. VISITORS

During the rebuilding of the Mint in accordance with the program of modernisation, no visitors were permitted.

C. STAFF

Mrs. M.C.A. Lör commenced duty as librarian on the 1st March, 1976.

CHAPTER III - PRODUCTION

1. MELTING SECTION

The following schedules show the activities of the section for the year :-

GOLD

Fine gold granules		365,246 Kg
22 ct. gold granules		714,943 Kg
18 ct. gold granules		235,840 Kg
9 ct. gold granules		332,108 Kg
18 ct. gold Die & Medal		50,038 Kg
9 ct. gold for Die & Medal		277,403 Kg
	TOTAL	1 975,578 Kg

SILVER

925 Std Silver for Die & Medal		1 286,953 Kg
Fine Silver for Die & Medal		132,110 Kg
Fine Silver granules		10 074,499 Kg
	TOTAL	11 493,562 Kg

BRONZE

Coinage Bronze	613 975,25 Kg

2. ROLLING SECTION

The production in this section was as follows :-

a)	800 Std Silver	2 702,00	Kg
	Coinage Bronze	706 105,44	Kg
b)	Blanks annealed and cleaned :-		
	Std gold Krugerrand	4 408 246	Pieces
	Std Gold R2	32 140	Pieces
	Std Gold R1	42 770	Pieces
	800 Std Silver	72 066	Pieces
	2c, 1c & ½c Bronze	108 125 388	Pieces
	Rhod 1c & ½c Bronze	30 765 400	Pieces
	TOTAL	143 446 010	Pieces
c)	Blanks cleaned	600 509,88	Kg
d)	Blanks cleaned		
	50c Nickel	5 000 000	Pieces
	20c Nickel	10 000 000	Pieces
	10c Nickel	10 000 000	Pieces
	5c Nickel	13 200 000	Pieces
	Rhod 10c Cupro-Nickel	2 000 000	Pieces
	Rhod 5c Cupro-Nickel	3 540 000	Pieces
	TOTAL	43 740 000	Pieces
e)	Blanks cleaned	201 821,12	Kg

3. COINAGE SECTION

a) The number of coins minted during the year amount to 219 685 482 pieces as reflected in the following schedules :-

COIN PRODUCTION

Denominations	Bars Cast	Bars rolled	Blanks Coined	Good Coin Produced	
				1975/76 No. of pieces	1974/75 No. of pieces
GOLD					
Krugerrand			190,013	5 600	6 352
R2			251,708	31 510	29 369
R1			165,858	41 526	39 401
TOTAL			607,579	78 636	75 122
800 STD SILVER					
R1			573,778	38 252	35 475
TOTAL			573,778	38 252	35 475
NICKEL					
50c			47013,229	4 948 761	1 956 808
20c			119 521,42	19 920 238	2 450 792
10c			99 485,608	24 871 402	9 911 600
5c			65 443,74	26 177 497	21 879 541
TOTAL			331 463,997	75 917 898	36 198 741
BRONZE					
2c			163 586,1	40 896 527	25 315 507
1c	613 975,25	706 015,44	173 760,06	58 920 236	59 344 530
½c			8 455,86	4 227 933	7 871 000
TOTAL	613 975,25	706 015,44	345 802,02	104 044 696	92 531 037
CUPRO NICKEL					
Rhod 10c			11 179,935	1 977 000	
Rhod 5c			9 898 062	3 500 000	
TOTAL			21 077,997	5 477 000	
BRONZE					
Rhod 1c			79 076,12	19 769 000	7 618 000
Rhod ½c			3 000,3	10 001 000	
TOTAL			82 076,42	29 770 000	7 618 000
Chamberof Mines					
Krugerrand			147 905,53	4 359 000	4 327 987
R2					207 677
TOTAL			147 905,53	4 359 000	4 535 664
GRAND TOTAL			929 507,321	219 685 482	140 994 039

(b) Proofsets :-

The following proofcoins were minted and delivered to the Mint Office :-

SOUTH AFRICAN

(a)	Gold Proofsets (R2-R1)	7 000	Sets
(b)	Long Proofsets (R2 & R1 gold, R1-½c)	12 500	Sets
(c)	Short Proofsets (R1-½c)	5 512	Sets
	TOTAL	25 012	Sets

4. DIE AND MEDAL SECTION

1. The number of units produced in this section during the year amounted to :-

Coinage dies	6 530
Dies for Medals etc.	56
Medals and Badges etc.	20 854
Gold Jewellers articles	132
Silver Jeweller's articles	257
Sundries Die and Medal	43 335
Articles engraved	611
Defence Medals stamped	1 597

The following Medals were produced :-

1. Afrikaans Language Monument Medals :-

38 mm. Diameter medals in 18ct. gold, silver and bronze, sets of three medals all numbered.

Obverse :- Depicts the Afrikaans Language Monument at Paarl. The sketch was prepared by E. de Jong.

Reverse :- Wording in Afrikaans "Afrikaans - Dit is ons Erns" with the date "10 Oktober 1975" in the centre.

Modelled by J. Buisset.

2. Free-State Language Festival Medals :-

38 mm. Diameter Medals in 18ct. gold. Only 14 were minted and delivered to the Bloemfontein Language Festival Committee.

Obverse :- The design was drawn by the late G.R. von Wielligh, as suggested by the Rev. S.J. du Toit, with the words in Afrikaans "Ver Moedertaal en Vaderland".

Reverse :- Wording in Afrikaans "Ons Taal, Ons Trots". "Ter herdenking aan die Vrystaatse Taalfees 1875-1975"

Modelled by A. Sutherland.

3. S.A. Corrosion Institute :-

50 mm. Medals minted in 18 ct. gold and silver.

Obverse :- Symbolic design depicting an arrow reaching upwards, towards clean environment.

Reverse :- Lettering "South African Corrosion Institute" Suid-Afrikaanse Korrosie Instituut"

Modelled by N. le Roux

4. High School Hottentots-Holland :-

38 mm. Diameter Medals struck in 18 ct. gold.
Obverse :- The emblem of the school.
Reverse :- Laurel-wreath
Modelled by A. Sutherland.

5. Honoris Crux Decoration :-

New decoration for the South African Defence Force.

Obverse :- Two Swords in saltire surmounted by a circular protea wreath, in gold. Thereon a Maltese cross, enamelled green, charged with a rounded tierced horizontally in orange, white and blue enamel within a green border with eight diamonds.
Reverse :- Coat of Arms of the Republic of South Africa.
Modelled by L.P. de Lange.

6. Pro Merito and Southern-Cross Medal

New medals for the South African Defence Force,
Design : A circular silver Medal with five triple pencil rays there between single rays, and thereon a blue rounded charged with a representation of the Southern Cross and Disa flower respectively.
Modelled by W. Rompelman.

7. Institute of Land Surveyors of Transvaal

38 mm. Silver gilt medal.
Obverse :- Institute's Coat of Arms
Reverse :- Laurel Wreath and wording "Institute of Land Surveyors Transvaal Landmetersinstituut. "
Modelled by N. le Roux.

CHAPTER IV - ENGINEERING

The function of the section is the installation and maintenance of machinery and plant in all sections of the Mint as well as the manufacture of tooling for production requirements.

In the execution of the section's function the following special tasks were performed :-

1. 4 New double-die Grábener coining presses of 200 ton capacity each were installed and commissioned. The blank feeding equipment, no blank detector and braking systems were re-designed and altered to improve productive efficiency.

2. A new electronic coin counting machine was designed and manufactured together with equipment for handling of all coin denominations produced for circulation.

3. A new double headed edge marking machine for coin blanks was installed and commissioned and a slipping clutch mechanism was introduced to eliminate damage due to shock loads.

4. A new mesh-belt furnace was installed and commissioned in the Gold Section for annealing of Krugerrand coin blanks.

5. The continuous casting plant was commissioned and produced 614 tons of coinage bronze in strip form.

6. Change and restroom facilities were established in the Coinage Section for Bantu Male employees.

7. 3 Tumbling barrels used for processing of Krugerrand coin blanks were removed from the Coinage Section and re-established in the new Gold Section.

8. 4 Steel tables were manufactured for use in conjunction with strip handling at the rolling mills.

9. New cupboards were manufactured and installed in the restrooms of the Maintenance Department, Coinage and Rolling Sections and the Die and Medal Department.

CHAPTER V - ASSAYING

This section is responsible for the assaying of all coinage metals and metals for the manufacture of medals. The control of all chemical processes is maintained and a considerable amount of assaying is done for the South African Police in connection with illicit gold and platinum dealings and the investigation of counterfeit coins. The assaying of minerals is undertaken for bona-fide prospectors.

The following work was done by this section during the year :-

1. (a) Precious Metal Assays :-

Gold	Mint Office	1046 samples	
	S.A. Bureau of Standards	6 samples	
			1052
Silver	Mint Office	164 samples	
	S.A. Bureau of Standards	- samples	
			164
		Total	1216 samples

(b) Other Metal Assays :

Bronze	512 copper determinations
	168 zinc determinations
	168 tin determinations

(c) Illicit Gold Trade :

192 Exhibits in 59 court cases were assayed for the Diamond and Gold Branch of the S.A. Police. 57 Pieces of gold were assayed for trapping purposes. The assayer was not subpoenaed to give evidence in court.

2. General Chemical Analysis :-

(a) Assaying for prospectors — 1 sample

(b) Gas Analysis — 10 samples of gas taken at the coin blank annealing plant were analysed for carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide and oxygen content.

(c) 4127 blanks were tested for acceptance.

(d) 2503 routine tests were carried out on coins in production.

Groenewald G.

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