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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN MINT FOR THE YEAR 1ST APRIL, 1968 TO 31ST MARCH, 1969.

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 1968/69

I wish to submit the following report on the activities of the South African Mint during the financial year 1st April, 1968, to 31st March, 1969.

INTRODUCTION

Coinage requirements settled down to more normal levels for the first time since the introduction of the new series of coins during 1965-1966 and the total production for the year amounted to 57.5 million as against 70.9 million during the previous year.

The requirements for bronze coins in relation to nickel became more balanced but bronze was still mainly in demand resulting in 32.7 million being minted as against 23.8 million nickel coins.

It was possible to meet all coinage requirements from stock in accordance with the planned production programme of the Mint.

Revenue from the sale of currency coins amounted to R2,203,823.

The sale of coins to collectors amounted to R674,822 which is an increase of R66,554 over the previous year the reason being mainly the sale of sets of uncirculated coins packed in plastic holders introduced for the first time during the year.

Proof gold and silver coins were minted and supplied to the Government of Swaziland for issue as commemorative sets on the occasion of the country obtaining independence.

Two thousand gold medals were struck on the occasion of the dedication of the monument for General J.B.M. Hertzog at Bloemfontein.

The 1969 issue of silver one Rand coins is to be in commemoration of the late Dr. T.E. Dönges, State President elect of the Republic of South Africa, and the coins will bear his image on the obverse. The first coins were struck by Mrs. Dönges during a ceremony at the Mint.

The minting of commemorative coins for Swaziland and the striking of various special medals together with the increase in the price of gold in accordance with the free market price resulted in an increase in the revenue from sundry mint products of R443,711 to a total of R3,203,135.

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The net profit for the year amounted to R2,643,166 the reduction from the previous year being mainly accounted for by the sale of silver of over R7 million from returned silver coins during 1967. The return of old silver and bronze coins by the banks has become small, the face value of new coins issued against the old coins returned amounting to R347,107 as against R883,500 for the previous year. The alloys from the returned coins will be sold by public tender.

The first contract in connection with the modernisation of the Mint was awarded during the year and after certain sections of the Mint had been temporarily housed elsewhere the demolition of buildings could be carried out. The excavations for the new basement area have been completed and rebuilding is to proceed immediately.

CHAPTER I - FINANCIAL

COMBINED MANUFACTURING, TRADING AND PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH, 1969

1967/68 R		R	1968/69 R
	EXPENDITURE		
	Stock on hand, 1 April 1968:-		
603,384	Work in progress at cost	380,850	
711,092	Completed coins at cost	865,535	
1,314,476			1,246,385
	Manufacturing Expenses:-		
674,884	Vote expenditure for year	504,757*	
36,509	Less Capital expenditure etc.	18,148	
638,375			486,609
	Bullion used, including losses and gains in operation and bullion taken on charge in respect of coins replaced:-		
1,483,710	For coining	709,795	
2,513,142	For sale	2,409,694	
3,996,852			3,119,489
	Metals used for alloys:-		
818	Copper for gold and silver coins	572 Cr.	
5,537	Alloys for dental gold	7,019	
6,355			6,447
12,884	Premium included in price of gold		209,130
64,644	Provision for depreciation and interest on capital		66,992
25,044	Sundry non-vote expenses		30,689
R6,058,630			R5,165,741
	Less stock on hand, 31 March, 1969:-		
380,850	Work in progress at cost	535,456	
865,535	Completed coins at cost	1,191,673	
1,246,385			1,727,129
R4,812,245	Value of sales		R3,438,612
	Receipts:		
3,640,343	Sale of currency coin	2,203,821	
608,268	Sale of proof and collector's coin	674,822	
7,079,441	Sale of alloys of old silver and bronze coins withdrawn from circulation	-	
2,759,424	Sale of sundry products, services and gold and silver for industrial purposes	3,203,135	
14,087,476			6,081,778
4,812,245	Less value of sales		3,438,612
R9,275,231	Nett profit for the year		R2,643,166

* Includes value of bullion used for medals and other products - R74,804.89

BALANCE SHEET AS 31 MARCH, 1969

31 March, 1968 R		R	31 March, 1969 R
	LIABILITIES		
660,209	Capital as at 1 April, 1968	686,098	
41,185	Addition during year	11,416	
701,394		697,514	
15,296	Sales and depreciation written off	21,103	
686,098	Balance as at 31 March, 1969		676,411
808,694	Sundry creditors		743,309
1,081,516	Rand Refinery Ltd. - for gold deposited		1,770,090
3,825,000	Treasury advances - for purchase of bullion		3,575,000
38,007	Advance payments by customers		19,948
R6,439,315			R6,784,758
	ASSETS		
795,464	Buildings - Original cost	808,424	
12,960	Additions during year	1,270	
808,424		809,694	
564,400	Less Depreciations	566,840	
244,024	Value as at 31 March, 1969		242,854
2,610,688	Machinery & Equipment - Original cost	2,638,913	
28,225	Additions during year	10,146	
2,638,913		2,649,059	
2,214,839	Less Depreciations	2,233,502	
424,074	Value as at 31 March, 1969		415,557
18,000	Land		18,000
42,667	Sundry Debtors		31,940
1,085,003	Gold bullion on hand (including bullion in coin on hand)		1,486,043
3,632,701	Other bullion on hand (including bullion in coin on hand)		3,540,473
378,120	Stock of coin on hand at cost		356,743
35,145	Work in progress at cost		211,550
579,581	Cash with Paymaster-general		481,598
R6,439,315			R6,784,758

The following comments on the aforementioned financial statements are submitted:-

(a) The sale of currency coin for the year, compared with the previous year was as follows:-

	1968/69 R	1967/68 R
Silver coin	-	1,962,537
Nickel coin	1,806,201	1,290,662
Bronze coin	397,620	387,144
	R2,203,821	R3,640,343

The decrease of R1,436,522 is mainly due to the Verwoerd Silver Rand which was minted during the previous year. The silver rand coin has become a collector's piece and there is no demand for the coin for ordinary purposes.

(b) In addition to the coins which were sold to the banks, new coins were also issued in replacement of the following old coins which were withdrawn from circulation (face value):-

	1968/69	1967/68
Silver coins	R312,502	R624,636
Bronze coins	34,605	258,864

(c) The sale of proof- and collector's coins realised R66,554 more during the year under review, as compared with the previous year. The increase was mainly as a result of the sale of uncirculated coins minted during 1967 and 1968. These coins were offered for sale to collectors in sets of seven coins each ranging from the silver R1 to the bronce 1c, for English and Afrikaans respectively, in sealed plastic packages. The following numbers of sets of the uncirculated coins were sold during the year:-

1967	Afrikaans	5997
1967	English	5523
1968	Afrikaans	9396
1968	English	7583
	Total	28,499

(d) During the year 527,463.97 ozs. (troy) gross weight of old silver alloy were taken on charge as silver bullion after the old silver coins which were withdrawn from circulation were melted down. The fine weight of the silver content of the alloy was 307,618.96 ozs. (troy) and the total value thereof at the average book value of silver in stock amounted to R317,023.47. This alloy will be disposed of during the following year by sale by public tender.

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(e) Old half cent coins to the value of R22,050, which were withdrawn from circulation and returned by the banks to the S.A. Mint for demonetising, had again to be issued for circulation due to the continued demand for the coins by commerce. The minting of the half cent coin was not undertaken during the change-over to the new coin series as it was expected that the need for it would disappear.

(f) The revenue realised from the sale of sundry products, services and gold and silver for industrial purposes, amounted to R3,203,135 for the year under review, as against R2,759,424 for the previous year. The increase of R443,711 is mainly as the result of the increase in the price of gold sold for industrial purposes due to the introduction of the free market price for gold of this nature during the year under review, the striking of 2661 J.B.M. Hertzog and Chris Barnard medals for outside bodies which sold it for fund raising purposes, the minting of 2,400,000 tickeys for the Reserve Bank of Rhodesia and the minting of 2000 gold coins and 10,000 proof coin sets for the Swaziland Government in connection with their becoming independent. The particulars of the sales, as compared with the previous year, are as follows:-

	1968/69	1967/68	Increase
	R	R	R
Sale of badge & medal products, and gold & silver	2,991,296	2,747,324	243,972
Gold coins manufactured for the Chamber of Mines	16,400	12,100	4,300
Cupro nickel coins for Rhodesia	15,312	-	15,312
Gold coins and proof coin-sets for the Swaziland Government	180,127	-	180,127
	R3,203,135	R2,759,424	R443,711

(g) The nett profit for the year amounted to R2,643,166 as compared with R6,632,065 is due to the fact that the sale of bullion derived from old silver coins, realised R7,079,411 during the previous year, whereas no revenue was obtained from this source during the year under review.

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:

Basic selling price of gold:

The basic price of monetary gold remained at R25.30 per fine oz. plus 1% (the basic price plus ½% is paid to the Rand Refinery Ltd.) The basic price of Industrial gold varied between R26.56 and R29.96 per fine oz. plus 1%.

The preparation charge of granules and dental gold remained unchanged.

Gold coins:

A total of 22,000 gold proof coins (11,000 of R2 and 11,000 of R1 coins) were struck for sale in 10,000 proofsets of 9 coins (R2 - 1c) and 1,000 proofsets of 2 coins (R2 - R1).

In addition to the above 10,019 non-proof R2 coins, 9,360 non proof R1 coins and 10,077 Krugerrand coins were minted for sale, as well as 200,000 R2 coins, 100,000 R1 gold coins and 30,000 Krugerrand coins for the Chamber of Mines of South Africa.

Gold transactions:

There was an increase in the total weight of gold transactions as compared with the previous year.

Weight of Gold transactions in 1968/69 compared with 1967/68:

Different carat grades converted to fine oz. troy.

	1968/69	1967/68
Received from the S.A. Reserve Bank etc.....	142,549.73	75,442.22
Granulated and dental gold sold	84,246.28	76,609.19
Medals, wire and sheet gold sold ...	2,570.74	150.83
Weight of R2, R1, Krugerrand and Swaziland 'Lilangeni' coins	19,430.21	17,484.88
Transferred to Die & Medal Section ..	6,465.79	600.12
Received from Die & Medal Section ..	213.75	462.70
Transferred to Coinage Section	48,115.36	9,254.61
Received from Coinage Section	19,660.59	-
	323,252.45	180,004.55

/SILVER...

2. SILVER:

Weight of Silver transactions converted to fine ozs. troy:

	1968/69	1967/68
Bought from Rand Refinery Ltd. and Sundry persons	1,400.95	1,279,011.27
Coin withdrawn from circulation .. 500 Std., 800 Std.)	242,659.31	687,620.21
Granules and strip sold.....	283,308.66	521,076.30
Medals & other items sold	4,456.22	6,876.76
Issues to Coinage Section	49,622.63	709,862.23
Received from Coinage Section (not coin)	5,529.80	-
Coin received from Coinage Section	257,872.75	959,342.88
Issues for various alloys	6,364.15	5,264.95
	851,214.47	4,169,054.60

Purchase of Silver:

No purchases were made during the financial year.

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. The average price was R1.55 per fine oz.

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

During the year silver coins to the value of R312,502 were withdrawn from circulation.

3. NICKEL:

Weight of nickel in lbs. avoirdupois:

	1968/69	1967/68
Blanks purchased for coinage	135,154.54	235,888
Weight of coins received	185,779.93	26,374
Transferred to Die & Medal Section	-	28
	320,934.47	262,290

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4. NON-FERROUS METALS:

The following are the receipts of and the transactions in non-ferrous 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.

Receipts of non-ferrous metals (in lbs. avoirdupois):-

Copper	Brass	Total
61,780.00 lb.	-	61,780.00 lb.

Non-Ferrous Metals Transactions:

	LB.
Issued to Coinage Section for Silver Coin	844.71
Weight of bronze issued to Coinage Section	123,408.00
Weight of bronze coin received from Coinage Section	238,675.59
Weight of cupro-nickel issued to Coinage Section	3,787.31
Weight of Cupro-nickel received from Coinage Section	4,648.80
Weight of Metals for various alloys	1,909.35
	373,273.76

Withdrawal of bronze coin:

During the year coin to the value of R34,605.00 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 Bullion Office:-

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Denomination.	Receipts from Coinage Section 1968/69		during 1967/68		Issued to Banks etc. during 1968/69		1967/68	
	R	c	R	c	R	c	R	c
GOLD:								
2 Rand	42,038.00		42,368.00		35,380.00		36,416.00	
1 Rand	20.360.00		21,068.00		18,450.00		18,884.00	
SILVER:								
1 Rand	616,521.00		2,487,200.00		45,990.00		2,057,071.00	
NICKEL:								
50c	1,670,854.00		64,313.50		866,025.00		1,245,041.50	
20c	26.590.40		28,141.80		8,791.40		4,016.60	
10c	64,358.50		12,567.30		276,402.20		92,008.30	
5c	984,093.20		188,287.35		901,199.50		347,004.15	
BRONZE:								
2c	209,067.04		487,417.88		221,880.04		348,003.66	
1c	222,317.77		372,264.04		192,940.35		307,901.83	
	3,856,199.91		3,703,627.87		2,567,058.49		4,456,347.04	

6. PROOFSETS:

The Mint made 10,000 nine-coin proofsets (R2 - 1c), 1,000 gold proofsets (R2 - R1) and 15,000 seven coin proofsets (R1 - 1c).

7. COINS MANUFACTURED FOR OTHER COUNTRIES:

An order for 2,000 Gold Proof coins (Lilangeni) and 10,000 silver proofsets each containing 5 silver coins (R1 - 5c), received from the Swaziland Government was executed.

8. PACKING AND DESPATCH SECTION:

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

	1967/68	1968/69
Parcels despatched by Post	19,890	19,960
Parcels, other than coin, despatched by rail	32 (1156 lb)	43 (1956 lb)
Boxes of coin despatched by rail	2,595 (281,740 lb)	1,715 (226,419 lb)

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B. STAFF

1. SCHEDULE OF POSTS AND STAFF EMPLOYED

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

CATAGORIES	1969		1968	
	Posts	Staff	Posts	Staff
a) Administrative	6	6	6	4
b) Professional	2	1	2	-
c) Technical	7	9	7	8
d) Clerical	13	10	13	10
e) General Divisions A & B, excluding items (g) to (i)	18	13	18	12
f) Temporary employees against posts under items (a) to (e)	-	9	-	8
g) Special Craftsman	6	6	6	7
h) Artisans and Toolmakers	9	6	9	7
i) Male Operators	11	13	11	13
j) Apprentices	2	1	2	2
k) Woman Operators & Supervisors	35	38	35	44
l) Security Officers	6	6	6	6
m) Bantu Guards and Bossboys	13	13	13	12
n) Bantu Messengers and Female Cleaners	8	8	8	8
0) Bantu and Coloured Labourers	71	70	71	77
	207	209	207	218

There was a decrease of 9 in staff whereas the number of posts remained unchanged. This is the result of a reduction in the number of temporary employees who are employed additional to the basic establishment at increased production. Only 2 additional temporary employees were in service at the end of the year against 11 in the previous year.

2. STAFF TURNOVER

Entrants	-	Appointed :	46
	-	Transferred	2
		Total	48

/Withdrawals...

Withdrawals	-	Resigned	38
	-	Retired	4
Services terminated		-	14
	-	Absconded	1
			57

3. POST STRUCTURAL CHANGES

The number of authorised posts remains unchanged on 207 with additional temporary posts at an approved scale on increased production of more than the accepted basic annual production. The following structural changes took place during the year:-

(i) One post of TN 4 Senior Guard and four posts of TN 5 Gatekeeper were converted to TN 3 Security Officer and TN 4 Security Officer in the Protection Section from the 1st October, 1968.

(ii) Three posts of TN 7 Special Grade Duty Worker were converted to TN 6 Special Operators in the Die & Medal Section from the 1st March, 1969.

4. STAFF CHANGES

(i) Mr. W.S. van As was promoted to Administrative Control Officer from the 1st April, 1968.

(ii) Mr. J.D. Smook was promoted to Administrative Officer from the 1st April, 1968.

(iii) Mr. H.S. Lombard, was promoted to Senior Technician from the 1st July, 1968.

(iv) Mr. C.S. Mair, Special Craftsman, retired on the 30th September, 1968.

(v) Mr. P.J. Odendaal was appointed Chief Professional Officer from the 1st November, 1968.

(vi) Mr. T.B. Barnard, Accountant, was transferred from the Department of the Interior from the 1st December, 1968.

C. MINT MUSEUM AND LIBRARY:

1. The following gifts were received:-

Received from	Item
The Deputy Master, Royal Mint, London.	Set of United Kingdom decimal coins (Cupro-nickel - 10 NP and 5 NP - Copper - 2 NP, 1 NP, ½ NP)
The Director, Brazilian Mint, Rio de Janeiro	Set of Stainless Steel coins - 1 Cruzeiro, 50 centavos, 20 centavos, 5 centavos, 2 centavos & 1 centavos.
Government of Swaziland	1 Lilangeni gold proof coin and 1 Silver proofset - 1 Luhlanga, 50c, 20c, 10c and 5c.

2. Gifts made by the S.A. Mint:-

Made to	Item
Dr. R. Jaeger, Vice President of the German Republic	One 1967 Long Proofset
Professor Daniel A. Vintimilla Ramivez, Director of the Library in Cuenca, Ecuador	One 1967 Short Proofset
The Director, Brazilian Mint, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	One 1968 Short Proofset
The Royal Cabinet of Coins and Medals, Stocholm, Sweden	One 1968 Short Proofset

3. Purchases made:-

One set 1968 New Zealand coins - $1, 50c, 20c, 10c, 5c and 1c.

4. Visitors:-

During the year 2,136 people visited the Mint of which 74 were from other countries. There were 799 adults and 1,337 children, the latter figure including 609 European and 249 non-European children on organised tours.

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CHAPTER III - PRODUCTION

1. MELTING SECTION:

The following schedules show the melting activities in this section during the year:-

Gold:-

Fine Gold granules	10,911.19 ozs.
22 ct. " "	43,201.23 "
18 ct. " "	4,277.01 "
9 ct. " "	25,396.99 "
22 ct. Gold for Die & Medal	3,120.84 "
18 ct. " " " "	6,345.08 "
9 ct. " " " "	1,303.51 "
22 ct. " " Chamber of Mines	420,841.67 "
22 ct. " " Coinage	88,967.84 "
Total	604,365.36 "

Silver:

800 Std. Silver for Coinage	1,279,400.09 ozs.
925 Std. " " Die & Medal	6,187.19 "
Fine " " "	3,773.62 "
Fine silver granules	277,744.23 "
	1,567,105.13 "

Bronze:-

Coinage bronze melted	412,850 lbs.
800 and 500 Std. coins remelted	533,062.64

2. ROLLING SECTION:

The production in this section was:-

(a) Bars rolled and blanked:

800 Std. Silver	1,297,260.43 ozs.
22 ct. Gold	542,479.76 "
Total	1,839,740.19 "
Coinage bronze	412,850 lbs.

(b) Blanks cleaned and annealed:

800 Std. Silver	1,167,915 Pieces
Std. Gold (Krugerrand, R2 & R1)	321,505 "
2c and 1c Bronze	32,343,156 "
Total	33,832,576 "

(c) Blanks cleaned:

Nickel (50c, 10c & 5c)	25,048,199 Pieces

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3. COINAGE SECTION:-

(a) Coinage Production:

The number of coins minted during the year amounted to 57,483,216 pieces as reflected in the following Schedule:-

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COIN PRODUCTION

DENOMINATION	BARS CAST OZS	BARS ROLLED OZS	BLANKS COINED OZS	GOOD COINS PRODUCED 1968/69 No. of Pieces	GOOD COINS PRODUCED 1967/68 No. of Pieces
GOLD					
Krugerrand	229,708.10	412,539.08	43,743.11	40,077	50,065
R2	279,259.74	129,940.68	56,768.28	221,020	221,012
R1			15,464.93	120,360	21,068
TOTAL	508,967.84	542,479.76	115,976.32	381,457	292,145
800 STD SILVER					
R1	1,279,400.09	1,297,260.43	297,120.94	616,521	2,487,200
TOTAL	1,279,400.09	1,297,260.43	297,120.94	616,521	2,487,200
NICKEL:					
50c			1,019,079.31	3,341,708	128,627
20c			25,745.64	132,952	140,709
10c			82,681.47	643,585	125,673
5c			1,581,784.21	19,681,864	3,765,747
TOTAL			2,709,290.63	23,800,109	4,160,756
BRONZE	LBS	LBS.	LBS.		
2c	412,850.00	412,850.00	92,455.48	10,453,352	24,370,894
1c			147,220.11	22,231,777	37,226,404
TOTAL	412,850.00	412,850.00	239,675.59	32,685,129	61,597,298
CUPRO NICKEL					
Rhodesia 3d					2,400,000
TOTAL					2,400,000
GRAND TOTAL				57,483,216	70,937,399

(b) Proofsets:

The following proofsets were minted, packed in leatherette cases and delivered to the Mint office:-

Swaziland:-

(a)	One gold Proof coin in case (Lilangeni)	2,000 cases
(b)	800 Std. Silver Proofset (R1 - 5c)	10,000 sets

R.S.A.

(a)	Gold Proofset (R2 & R1)	1,000 sets
(b)	Long Proofset (R2 & R1 Gold, R1 - 1c)	10,000 "
(c)	Short Proofset (R1 - 1c)	15,000 "
		26,000 sets

Polishing of coin dies, previously undertaken by the Die & Medal Section, has now been made a function of the Coinage Section where this work is performed by two female operators with good results and a saving of skilled manhours in the Die & Medal Section.

A further advantage of this arrangement flows from added security in that dies no longer have to be taken out of the section for re-polishing or cleaning and also results in time saving on account of the polishers being on the spot.

4. DIE & MEDAL AND GENERAL PRESS SECTION:-

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

Coinage Dies	3,372	Units
Dies for medals, etc.	91	"
Medals and badges	19,083	"
Gold jewellers articles	17	"
Silver jewellers articles	1,246	"
Sundries Die & Medal	3,503	"
General Press	71,131	"
Defence medals stamped	2,716	"
	101,159	"

For the purpose of improved security and quality control a card and number system was developed and introduced into the process of coin die manufacture.

This will result in total security and more efficient quality control when the relevant sections are housed under one roof in the new building.

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2. Dies were manufactured for the following new Coin Designs:-

Dr. T.E. Dönges Commemorative Silver Rand:-

Diameter	-	32.69 mm.
Thickness	-	1.575 mm.
Weight	-	15 gm.
Metal	-	800 Std. Silver

Obverse:

The effigy of the late Dr. T.E. Dönges, State President designate of the Republic of South Africa, as modelled by Mr. T. Sasseen of the South African Mint.

Reverse:-

The Coat of Arms of the Republic of South Africa as modelled by Mr. T. Sasseen.

The following dies were manufactured to strike Proof Coins for the Swaziland Government on the occasion of that Country's Independence celebrations:

Lilangeni:

Gold coin of 916.6 Standard with a diameter of 32.69 mm.

Obverse:

The effigy of King Sobhuza the Second as modelled by Mr. T. Sasseen.

Reverse:

The Swaziland Coat of Arms as modelled by Mr. T. Sasseen.

Luhlanga:

800 Std. Silver coin with a diameter of 32.69 mm.

Obverse:

As for the Lilangeni.

Reverse:

The shield of a Swazi Warrior as modelled by Mr. T. Sasseen.

50 Cent Coin:

800 Standard Silver with a diameter of 27.84 mm. Obverse and Reverse designs as for the Luhlanga.

20 Cent Coin:

800 Std. Silver with a diameter of 24.33 mm. Obverse and reverse designs as for the Luhlanga.

/10 Cent Coin ...

10 Cent Coin:

800 Standard Silver with a diameter of 20.7 mm. Obverse and Reverse designs as for the Luhlanga.

5 Cent Coin:

800 Standard Silver with a diameter of 17.35 mm. Obverse and Reverse designs as for the Luhlanga.

Dies were manufactured for the following Mayoral Chains:

Municipality of Warmbaths:

The die for the links was hand-cut by Mr. A. Sutherland who also modelled the 18 ct. gold drop.

Municipality of Pretoria:-

(a) Deputy Mayor's Chain in 9 ct. and 18 ct. gold.

(b) Mayor's informal chain in 18 ct. gold.

(c) Deputy Mayoress' chain in 18 ct. gold.

Design by Mr. T. Sasseen and Drops hand cut by Messrs. J. Buisset and A. Sutherland.

The following new medals were produced:

1. Associated Scientific and Technical Society of South Africa:

   18 ct. Gold Medal - 38.1 mm. Diameter - hand cut by Mr. J. Buisset.

2. Department of Prisons:

   Bravery Medal: 9 Ct. gold. The medal is in the shape of the old Cape Castle within a diameter of 42.86 mm. The obverse design depicts the scales of justice at the top with a life-buoy. The reverse bears the inscription - Vir Dapperheid - For Bravery. The die was hand cut.

   Merit Medal: Stg. Silver - 38.1 mm. Diameter.

   Obverse: Coat of Arms of the Republic of South Africa.

   Reverse: The words - For Merit - Vir Verdienstelikheid.

   The die was hand cut.

   Faithful Service Medal: Bronze.

   Obverse: The Coat of Arms of the Department of Prisons.

   Reverse: The words - Vir Troue Diens - For Faithful Service.

   The die was cut by hand.

3. Stigting Simon van der Stel: 18 ct. gold medal - 63.5 mm. diameter. The die was hand-cut.

   Obverse:

   Simon van der Stel Coat of Arms.

   Reverse:

   Side view of old Cape-Dutch Gabled House.

4. Hertzog Monument Commission:

   18 Ct. gold - 32.69 mm. diameter.

   Obverse:

   The Bust of Gen. J.B.M. Hertzog.

   Reverse:

   The Statues of the Hertzog Monument in Bloemfontein. Obverse and reverse modelled by Mr. T. Sasseen. 2,000 medals were struck.

5. University of Natal:

   J.H. Neal Medal: 18 ct. Gold - 38.1 mm. diameter.

   Obverse: Effigy of Prof. J.H. Neal.

   Reverse: Laurel Wreath.

6. Tregardttrek Commission: 38.1 mm. Diameter. Stg. Silver and bronze medals.

   Obverse: Memorial gardens in Lourenco Marques.

   Reverse: Wagon wheel with inscription - Tregardttrek - 1835-1838.

   The dies were hand cut.

7. Chris Barnard Fund: 22 Ct. Gold - 38.1 mm. diameter medals in Afrikaans and in English. Altogether 661 medals were struck.

   Obverse: Effigy of Prof. Barnard with inscription - Christiaan Neethling Barnard.

   Reverse: Groote Schuur Hospital with inscription - First Heart Transplant, Groote Schuur R.S.A. Dec. 1967.

8. Beaufort West Municipality: 150th Anniversary Medals, 38.1 mm. diameter in Stg. Silver and Bronze. 450 medals were struck.

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CHAPTER IV - ENGINEERING

The Engineering Section is responsible for the planning, installation and maintenance of all machinery and plant as well as for the manufacture of all tooling for production machinery.

A measure of dislocation has had to be endured as the result of temporary accommodation for certain sections during the Mint's modernisation programme.

As stated in the previous report the activities of the section continue to expand as new machinery and equipment are installed.

Whereas in die past the function of the section was mainly confined to the maintenance of old-fashioned machinery and plant, the position is now changing with the installation of modern and more sophisticated equipment where the emphasis is on techical know-how. This creates a problem in that more exacting demands are made on artisans for the maintenance of such equipment and where the section already labours under a shortage of personnel the difficulties are increased by the need for men with higher technical qualifications.

In the execution of the sections function the following special tasks were performed.

1. Pitfires in the melting house were relined where necessary.
2. A coin packaging machine with high frequency sealing apparatus was installed for the packaging of uncirculated coin sets into plastic envelopes.
3. During the period under review it was necessary to conduct an extensive investigation into the melting and casting process for gold and silver in order to endeavour to establish a more favourable relationship between the amount of metal east and the final product obtained therefrom.

As the emphasis moved to better quality it became evident that the method of casting into vertical open moulds was not satisfactory.

After much experimenting it was established that better results are obtained from casting into open horizontal moulds The bars obtained in this manner are not brittle and scalping of surfaces renders the further processing 100% effective with better weight control of coin blanks.

For the scalping operation a lathe was suitably equipped with end mill attachments and erected in the melting house.

4. Three H.M.E. Coinmaster presses were overhauled and equipped with safety guards, two of which operate automatically.

5. A broken shaft on the drive motor of an old Taylor and Challen Coining Press was replaced and this machine brought back into service.

6. Apparatus for chrome plating of coin dies was developed and installed in the laboratory. This process has resulted in better quality proof coin being obtained.

7. The six H.M.E. Coinmaster presses were provided with a separate direct pipe connection to the main air receiver for constant air pressure at each machine.

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 quantity 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 bonafide prospectors. The following work was done by this section during the year:-

1. Precious Metal Assays:-

Gold:	Mint Office	783	
	S.A. Bureau of Standards	172	955 Samples
Silver:	Mint Office	800	
	S.A. Bureau of Standards	39	839 "
	Total		1794 "

Two Silver samples and nil gold samples submitted for Assay by the Bureau of Standards were below standard.

2. Precious metal melting:-

Alloy ounces Troy	Standard	Description of metals
969.91	·9 ct.	Bars for Badge and Medal
267.67	18 ct.	Section
1237.58		

3. General Chemical Analysis:

(a) Illicit Gold Trade:

Assays on 220 exhibits in 163 Court cases were carried out for the S.A. Police, Gold Staff.

229 Pieces of gold were cast for trapping purposes. In five cases the assayer was subpoenaed to give evidence in court.

(b) Counterfeit coins:-

118 pieces were handed in as alleged counterfeits of which all were proved to be counterfeit after investigation.

(c) Prospectors:-

6 Samples were received on which 10 determinations were done.

(d) Miscellaneous:-

Chemical analysis of Bronze and nickel samples:-

Bronze	-	2162 Copper determinations
	-	2162 Tin determinations
Nickel	-	84 Nickel determinations

DIRECTOR OF THE S.A. MINT

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