

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN MINT FOR THE YEAR 1ST APRIL, 1967 TO 31ST MARCH, 1968.

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 1967/68

I wish to submit the following report on the activities of the South African Mint during the financial year 1st April, 1967, to 31st March, 1968.

INTRODUCTION

The introduction of the new coinage during 1965 was completed during the previous financial year and this report covers a financial year during which it was anticipated that operations would have returned to normal. It has however been the experience that the change-over to a completely new coinage and the associated withdrawal from circulation of the old coins is a process that extends over a considerable period.

It has become clear that in estimating the requirements for new coins the commercial banks overestimated the nickel coin requirements in relation to the bronze coins required. The result was that while there has been practically no further demand for nickel coins the demand for bronze coins has been maintained at an unexpected level.

It was estimated that after the introduction of the new coinage the annual total production would be approximately 40 million. The total for the year however was 70.9 million of which 61.5 million were bronze as against 4.1 million nickel coins. In view of the maintained demand for bronze coins the year was ended with a production rate of 80 million coins per year.

The slight demand for nickel coinage has made it possible to build up a supply of coins in accordance with the new policy of supplying the requirements of the banks from stock and so allowing for planning the production programme more effectively.

The sale of silver alloy obtained from the melted-down silver coins withdrawn from circulation realised R6.8 million

2/for...

for the year, thus bringing the total value of these sales to R18 million. The bulk of old silver coins has now been withdrawn and the contract for the refining of the alloy has been terminated. Small amounts of silver coins will however continue to flow back to the Mint for some considerable time.

396 Tons of bronze were sold as defaced 1c bronze coins realising R190,497. These coins also continue to flow back to the Mint in diminishing numbers.

The new Krugerrand gold coin was minted and issued for the first time during the year. This coin, which contains one ounce of fine gold, has been well received by the public. It is produced in a bright finish and carries on the obverse the image of State President Kruger of the old Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek and on the reverse the Springbok which appears on all South African gold coins. A total of 50,000 pieces was minted of which 10,000 were made available locally on the basis of one per person in order of receipt of orders. All 10,000 were sold within 2 months. It is the intention to make this number available locally every year.

In accordance with a Government resolution the former Prime Minister of the Republic, the late Dr. H.F. Verwoerd, was honoured by making the 1967 issue of the silver R1 coin a commemorative one. The image of Dr. Verwoerd appears on the obverse of the 800 standard silver coin. During the year 2.5 million were minted.

The retired first State President of the Republic, Mr. C.R. Swart, was honoured by having his image on the obverse of all 1968 coins from the 1 cent to the 50 cent.

Towards modernising the South African Mint a firm of private architects was appointed to draw up sketch plans in collaboration with the Mint staff. Attention was given to the replanning of the minting processes and approval was obtained for the complete modernisation and replanning at an estimated cost of R2.5 million for buildings and plant. Modernisation is to be carried out on the existing premises whilst maintaining production. One section at a time will be vacated and temporarily housed elsewhere while rebuilding and it is planned to complete the whole programme in this way by 1972. The Public Works Department is responsible for the building programme which is being carried out by private building contractors while the Mint staff will handle the acquisition and installation of plant. Planning has been completed and a beginning will be made with the programme which, when completed, will result in a mint satisfying modern requirements.

3/...

CHAPTER I : FINANCIAL

COMBINED MANUFACTURING, TRADING AND PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1968.

1966/67 R	Expenditure	R	1967/68 R
	Stock on hand, 1st April, 1967:-		
228,870	Work in progress at cost	603,384	
283,658	Completed coin at cost	711,092	
512,528			1,314,476
	Manufacturing Expenses:-		
901,661	Vote expenditure for year	674,884	
60,509	Less Capital expenditure etc..	36,509	
841,152			638,375
	Bullion used, including losses and gains in operation and bullion taken on charge in respect of coin replaced:-		
1,423,289	For coining	1,483,710	
25,795	For medals and other products	10,642	
2,228,858	For sale	2,502,500	
3,677,942			3,996,852
	Metals used for alloys:-		
8,217	Copper for silver coins	818	
4,995	Alloys for dental gold	5,537	
13,212			6,355
10,931	Premium included in price of gold		12,884
57,783	Provision for depreciation and interest on capital.....		64,644
34,218	Sundry non-vote expenses		25,044
5,147,766			6,058,630
	Less Stock on hand, 31st March, 1968:-		
603,384	Work in progress at cost	380,850	
711,091	Completed coin at cost	865,535	
1,314,475			1,246,385
R3,833,291	Value of sales		R4,812,245
	Receipts:		
2,046,250	Sale of currency coin	3,640,343	
228,945	Sale of proof coin	608,268	
8,116,221	Sale of alloys of old silver and bronze coins, withdrawn from circulation	7,079,441	
2,564,722	Sale of sundry products, services and gold and silver for industrial purposes	2,759,424	
12,956,138			14,087,476
3,833,291	Less Value of sales		4,812,245
R9,122,847	Net. Profit for the year		R9,275,231

SOUTH AFRICAN MINT

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH, 1968

31st March, 1967	LIABILITIES	R	31st March, 1968
R			R
626,309	Capital as at 1st April, 1967	660,209	
55,419	Additions during the year	41,185	
681,728		701,394	
21,519	Sales and depreciation written off	15,296	
660,209	Balance as at 31st March, 1968		686,098
924,432	Sundry Creditors		808,694
1,524,318	S.A. Reserve Bank for gold deposited		1,081,516
3,275,000	Treasury-Advances for purchase of bullion .		3,825,000
27,720	Advance payment by customers		38,007
R6,411,679			R6,439,315
	ASSETS		
795,464	Buildings - Original cost price	795,464	
-	Additions during the year	12,960	
795,464		808,424	
562,064	Less Depreciation ..	564,400	
233,400	Value as at 31st March, 1968		244,024
2,555,269	Machinery and equipment - Original cost price	2,610,688	
55,419	Addition during the year	28,225	
2,610,688		2,638,913	
2,201,879	Less: Depreciation etc.	2,214,839	
408,809	Value as at 31st March, 1968		424,074
18,000	Land		18,000
70,649	Sundry Debtors		42,667
1,526,952	Gold bullion on hand (including bullion in coin on hand)		1,085,003
3,337,033	Other bullion on hand (including bullion in coin on hand)		3,632,701
192,346	Stock of coin on hand at cost		378,120
443,357	Work in progress		35,145
181,133	Cash with Paymaster-General		579,581
R6,411,679			R6,439,315

5/...

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

(a) The sale of ordinary currency coins to the banks increased by R1,594,093 during the year under review as compared with the previous year, mainly as the result of the Verwoerd Silver-rand coin which was minted during 1967 in commemoration of the late Dr. H.F. Verwoerd, the previous Prime Minister of the Republic of South Africa. The sale of silver coin realised R1,962,537 as compared with R409,000 in the previous year.

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

	1966/67	1967/68
Silver coin	R14,011,425	R624,636
Bronze coin	821,460	258,864

(c) During the year under review the sale of metals recovered from the refining of the 500 standard silver alloy obtained from the old silver coins withdrawn from circulation realised R6,878,495 in respect of 10,081,265 ozs. (troy) of the alloy delivered to the contractor, Messrs. Engelhard Industries Ltd., of Newark, New Jersey, U.S.A., as compared with R7,898,354 in the previous year in respect of 16,560,634 ozs. (troy). The average revenue per oz. (troy) of alloy refined during 1967/68 was R0.682 as compared with R0.477 during 1966/67, due to the increased prices for silver and copper ruling on the London Metal Exchange during 1967/68

(d) In addition to the silver alloy which was refined by the contractor for sale of the constituent metals a further 253,317.74 ozs. (troy) (150,121.74 ozs. fine weight) were taken on charge at the average holding price for silver bullion; total value R154,678. This amount is reflected as a credit in the expenditure for bullion used for coining.

(e) The contract for the refining of the silver alloy derived from the old silver coins withdrawn from circulation was closed off during the year under review as the bulk of the old silver coins have been returned to the S.A. Mint. A total weight of 31,823,985.53 ozs. troy (approximately 1,091 tons) of alloy was delivered to the contractor. The total proceeds of the sale of the constituent metals amounted R18,063,323. The total expenditure in respect of refining, transport and storage charges paid under the contract amounted to R440,415.

6/The prices...

The prices obtained for the metals sold at the prices ruling on the London Metal Exchange, fluctuated from 93.65 to 140.42c per oz. troy for silver and from R680 to R1,300 per long ton for copper. The average prize realised for 17,744,762.75 ozs. (troy) (fine weight) of silver sold, was 102.77c per oz. troy and for 421 long tons of copper R881.46 per long ton.

(f) 396 Short tons of old 1 cent bronze coins were defaced and sold as bronze alloy by public tender. The total amount realised was R190,497 as compared with R217,866 obtained for the sale of 500 tons of bronze alloy in the previous financial year.

(g) The sale of proof coins increased by R354,787 during the year under review as compared with the previous year, mainly as a result of the sale of 10,007 Krugerrands which yielded R310,217 in revenue.

(h) The revenue derived from the sale of sundry products, services and the sale of gold and silver for industrial purposes increased by R194,702 during the year under review. This is mainly due to the increase in the volume of gold and silver sold to manufacturing jewellers, dentists, etc., and also the fact that the premium included in the price of gold was increased from 30c to 50c per fine ounce with effect from the 24th July, 1967. The price of silver, which is sold at the daily price ruling on the London Metal Exchange, also increased considerably during the year under review. The particulars of the sales are as follows:

	1966/67	1967/68	Increase	Decrease
Sale of Badge and medal products and gold and silver	2,373,322	2,747.324	374,002	-
Gold coin manufactured for the Chamber of Mines	10,500	12,100	1,600	-
Gold proof coins manufactured for the Rhodesian Government	180,900	-	-	180,900
	R2,564,722	R2,759,424	R375,602	R180,900

Net. Increase : R194,702

7/...

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 gold changed from R25.10 to R25.30 per fine oz. plus 1% (the basic price plus ½% is paid to the Reserve Bank.)

The preparation charge of granules and dental gold remained unchanged.

Gold Coins:

A total of 22,026 gold proof coins (11,013 of R2 and 11,013 of R1 coins) were struck for sale in 10,000 proof-sets of 9 coins (R2 - 1c) and 1,013 proofsets of 2 coins (R2 - R1).

In addition to the above 10,171 non-proof R2 coins, 10,055 non-proof R1 coins and 10,015 Krugerrand coins were minted for sale, as well as 200,000 R2 coins and 40,050 Krugerrand coins for the Chamber of Mines of South Africa.

Gold Transactions:

There was a decrease in the total weight of gold transactions as compared with the previous year mainly as a result of an order for Rhodesian gold coins which was not repeated in the current financial year.

Weight of Gold Transactions in 1967/68 compared with 1966/67:-

Different carat grades converted to fine oz. troy.

	1967/68	1966/67
Received from the S.A. Reserve Bank etc.	75,442.22	171,943.12
Granulated and dental gold sold	76,609.19	67,897.33
Medals, wire and sheet gold sold	150.83	204.08
Weight of R2, R1 and Krugerrand coins	17,484.88	7,420.50
Transferred to Die and Medal Section	600.12	575.21
Received from Die and Medal Section	462.70	204.08
Transferred to Coinage Section	9,254.61	50,493.31
Received from Coinage Section	-	9,122.44
	180,004.55	307,860.07
Value at the approximate basic price of R25.30 per fine oz. (R25.10 during the previous financial year.)	4,554,115.12	R7,727,287.00

2. SILVER:

Weight of Silver Transactions converted to fine ozs. troy:

	1967/68	1966/67
Bought from Rand Refinery Ltd. and Sundry persons ...	1,279,011.27	2,461,019.60
Coin withdrawn from circulation (500 Std.,800 Std)	687,620.21	11,604,677.60
Granules and strip sold ...	521,076.30	398,697.74
Medals and other items sold	6,876.76	16,816.33
Issues to Die & Medal Section	-	31,564.71
Received from Die & Medal Section ..	-	12,673.60
Issues to Coinage Section..	709,862.23	1,491,655.80
Received from Coinage Section (not coin)	-	116.05
Coin received from Coinage Section	959,342.88	548,782.34
Issues for various alloys..	5,264.95	6,269.00
	4,169,054.60	16,572,272.77

Purchase of Silver:

Approximately 1,278,890.63 ozs. fine were purchased from the Rand Refinery Ltd., mainly for the manufacture of silver coin and granules.

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 R1.36 per fine oz.

Withdrawal of 500 Std. and 800 Std.

Silver coin for remelting:

During the year silver coins to the value of R579,980 were withdrawn from circulation.

The last consignment of melted silver coins to be refined by Engelhard Industries of Newark, New Jersey, U.S.A. was despatched in November, 1967.

3. NICKEL:

Weight of nickel in lbs. avoirdupois:

	1967/68	1966/67
Blanks purchased for coinage	235,888	383,713
Weight of coins received ...	26,374	351,997
Transferred to Die & Medal Section	28	-
	262,290	735,710

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
12,181.00 lb.	155.00 lb.	12,336.00 lb.

Non-Ferrous Metals Transactions:

	LB
Issued to Coinage Section for Silver Coin	3,981.14
Weight of bronze issued to Coinage Section	114,224.96
Weight of bronze coin received from Coinage Section	460,425.28
Weight of cupro-nickel issued to Coinage Section	4,103.54
Weight of cupro-nickel received from Coinage Section	2,858.70
Transferred to Die & Medal Section	7.64
Weight of Metals for various alloys	2,196.87
	587,798.13

Withdrawal of Bronze Coin:

During the year coin to the value of R96,190.00 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:-

Denomination	Receipts from Coinage Section during		Issued to Banks, etc. during	
	1967/68	1966/67	1967/68	1966/67
	R C	R C	R C	R C
Gold:				
2 Rand	42,368.00	42,024.00	36,416.00	27,520.00
1 Rand	21,068.00	21,006.00	18,884.00	14,079.00
Silver:				
One Rand	2,487,200.00	1,422,583.00	2,057,071.00	715,455.00
Nickel:				
50c	64,313.50	1,989,809.00	1,245,041.50	2,072,596.50
20c	28,141.80	1,619,417.80	4,016.60	276,738.80
10c	12,567.30	736,953.50	92,008.30	1,886.90
5c	188,287.35	687,291.10	347,004.15	522,933.60
Bronze:				
2c	487,417.88	515,416.50	348,003.66	531,378.00
1c	372,264.04	623,068.52	307,901.83	826,217.91
	3,703,627.87	7,657,569.42	4,456,347.04	4,988,805.71

6. PROOFSETS:

The Mint made 10,000 nine coin proofsets (R2-1c), 1013 gold proofsets (R2 - R1) and 15,000 seven coin proofsets (R1-1c).

7. COINS MANUFACTURED FOR OTHER COUNTRIES:

An order for 2,400,000 tickeys received from the Reserve Bank of Rhodesia 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	1966/67
Parcels despatched by Post	19,890	9,771
Parcels, other than coin, despatched by rail.....	32 (1156 lb)	170 (10,442 lb.
Boxes of coin despatched by rail	2,595 (281,740 lb)	3,043 (373,311 lb.)

11/...

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	1968		1967	
	Posts	Staff	Posts	Staff
a) Administrative	6	4	4	4
b) Professional	2	-	2	-
c) Technical	7	8	7	7
d) Clerical	13	10	15	12
e) General Divisions A & B excluding items (g) to (i)	19	12	19	12
f) Temporary employees against posts under items (a) to (e)	-	8	-	10
g) Special Craftsmen	6	7	5	7
h) Artisans and Toolmakers	9	7	10	7
i) Male Operators	10	13	10	13
j) Apprentices	2	2	2	2
k) Woman Operators and Supervisors	35	44	35	59
l) Security Officers	6	6	6	6
m) Bantu Guards and Bossboys	13	12	13	11
n) Bantu Messengers and Female Cleaners	8	8	8	8
o) Bantu and Coloured Labourers	71	77	71	93
TOTAL	207	218	207	251

There was a decrease of 33 in the number of staff employed 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 11 additional temporary employees were in service at the end of the year against 44 in the previous year.

2. STAFF TURNOVER:

Entrants	- Appointed :	95
	- Transferred :	2
	TOTAL	97
Withdrawals	- Resigned :	78
	- Transferred :	1
	- Deceased :	1
	- Retired:	2
	- Discharged:	46
	- Absconded :	2
	TOTAL	130

3. POST STRUCTURAL CHANGES:

The number of authorised posts remains unchanged at 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 Artisan was converted to Special Craftsmen in the Maintenance Section from the 1st May, 1967.

(ii) One post of Administrative Assistant was converted to Administrative Officer in the Staff Section from the 1st June, 1967.

(iii) One post of Administrative Assistant was abolished, one post of Administrative Control Officer created and the Administrative Division re-grouped from the 1st March, 1968.

4. STAFF CHANGES:

(i) Mr. H.C. de Kock, Works Manager, was promoted and transferred from the Department of Labour from the 1st April, 1967.

(ii) Mr. G.I. Schneider, Chief Accountant, retired on the 29th February, 1968.

(iii) Mr. D.R. Wallace, Works Manager, retired on the 30th June, 1967.

(iv) Mr. W.A.G. Kotzè, Accountant, received merit progression from the 1st October, 1967.

(v) Mr. S.C. Scharfetter, Administrative Officer, was transferred from the Department of Defence from the 8th January, 1968.

(vi) Mr. L. Nel, Senior Foreman, received merit progression from the 1st October, 1967.

(vii) Mr. R.W. Bunton, Special Craftsman, died on the 1st July, 1967.

13/...

(c) MINT MUSEUM AND LIBRARY:

1 (a) The following gifts were received:-

Received from:	Item:
The Director, French Mint, Paris.	One 100 Franc and one ½ Franc coin.
The Director, Osaka Mint, Japan.	Two nickel coins - one 100 Yen and 1 50 yen coin.
The Director, Spanish Mint, Madrid	Two nickel coins - one 1 Peseta and 1 50 Centimos
The Director, Austrian Mint, Vienna.	50 Schilling commemorative coin.
The Director, Portuguese Mint, Lisbon.	20 Escudos.
Mr. M. Hersch, Thaba'Nchu.	Two Lesotho 50 Licente and two Botswana 50 cent coins.
Mr. R.F. Pearce, Manager, Sherrit Gordon Mines Ltd., Toronto, Canada.	One pure gold Anthony Henday 1966 medallion and two pure nickel medallions, struck by Sherrit Gordon Mines Ltd., Canada.
Miss E. Munscheid, Pretoria.	One cast iron medallion table and 2 cast iron wall plates.

The gift received from Miss Munscheid is of exceptional Mint historical importance. Her father, the late Friedrich Theodor Gustav Munscheid, was in the employ of the Imperial Mint, Berlin, when he was appointed to establish a new Mint for the Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek in Pretoria during 1891. The artistic cast-iron medallion table and wall plates were presented to him by the Berlin Mint as a farewell gift. In recognition of Miss Munscheid's friendly gesture she was invited to strike a Krugerrand gold coin at the S.A. Mint on one of the original coinage presses which at the time was erected by her father in the old Republican Mint. This Krugerrand was presented to her.

(b) The following foreign bank notes were donated by the Postmaster-General. These were found in uncollected letters and are no longer legal tender.

Germany:	100,000 Mark
"	20,000 "
"	100 "
Belgium	3 100 Francnotes
"	20 Francs
Israel	3 1 pound notes
Portugal	50 Escudos
"	20 Escudos
Egypt	5 Piastres
Japan (Hong Kong)	1 Dollar
Italy	100 Lire

14/Gifts...

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

(a) A gift of a Dr. H.F. Verwoerd commemorative one Rand silver coin in leatherette case was made to each of the following Mints and the Reserve Bank of Rhodesia:

Argentine
Australia
Belgium
Brazil
Britain
Canada
Finland
France
Italy
Japan
Netherlands
Portugal
Spain
Switzerland
Sweden
U.S.A.
Western Germany - Stuttgart and Hamburg
Reserve Bank of Rhodesia
- Governor
- Chief Cashier

(b) At the request of the British Decimal Currency Board, two short sets, one 1964 first decimal coinage (50c - ½c) and one of the second current series (R1 - 1c) were posted to the South African Embassy, London. These were required by the Board to enable them to compare the proposed decimal coins for the United Kingdom with those introduced elsewhere.

(b) A 1966 Short Proofset was sent on loan to the South African Consul General in New Zealand in answer to a request by a Savings Bank. These were required for a window display depicting New Zealand's change to decimalisation.

3. Purchases made:

(a) One set of Canadian Centennial coins consisting of 7 coins - $20, $1, 50c, 25c, 10c, 5c and 1c.

(b) One set of 1967 New Zealand coins - $1, 50c, 20c, 10c, 5c and 1c.

4. Visitors:

During the year 2,534 people, including 53 from overseas, visited the Mint. There were 1145 adults and 397 children. 1740 scolars on organised tours and 252 Bantu scholars from the Ciskei.

15/Chapter III...

CHAPTER III - PRODUCTION

1. MELTING SECTION:

During the year 7,134,442.47 ozs. old silver coin were melted down and delivered to Engelhard Industries of Newark, New Jersey, U.S.A., for refining. This contract was completed in November, 1967.

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

Gold:

Fine Gold granules	6,878.21 ozs.
22 ct. gold granules	35,143.92 "
18 ct. " "	2,686.22 "
9 ct. " "	28,899.75 "
18 ct. Gold for Die and Medal	192.26 "
9 ct. " " " " "	741.88 "
22 ct. " " Chamber of Mines	620,968.79 "
22 ct. " " Coinage	9,060.80 "
TOTAL	704,571.83 "

Silver:

800 Std. Silver for Coinage	1,783,107.49 ozs.
925 " " for Die and Medal	30,750.54 "
Fine silver for Die and Medal	5,268.13 "
Fine silver granules	546,997.08 "
TOTAL	2,366,123.24 "

Bronze:

Coinage bronze melted	620,052 lbs.
800 and 500 Std. coins remelted for refining	12,217,356 ozs.

16/2. ROLLING SECTION...

2. ROLLING SECTION:

The production in this section was:-

(a) Bars rolled and blanked:

800 Std. Silver	2,254,298.86	ozs.
22 ct. Gold	578,407.54	"
TOTAL	2,832,706.40	"
Coinage bronze	588,917.00	lbs.
Cupro Nickel	11,587.50	"
TOTAL	600,504.50	"

(b) Blanks annealed and cleaned:

800 Std. Silver	2,153,404	Pieces
Standard Gold (Krugerrand, R2 & R1)	303,528	"
2c and 1c Bronze	61,347,558	"
Cupro nickel (Rhodesian Tickey)	2,408,898	"
	66,213,388	"

(c) Blanks cleaned:

Nickel (50c, 20c, 10c and 5c)	4,224,497	Pieces

3. COINAGE SECTION:

(a) Coinage Production:

The number of coins minted during the year amounted to 70,937,571 pieces as reflected in the following schedule:-

17/...

COIN PRODUCTION

Denomination	Bars Cast ozs.	Bars Rolled ozs.	Blanks Coined ozs.	Good coins Produced 1967/68 No. of pieces	Good coins Produced 1966/67 No. of pieces
GOLD					
Krugerrand			54,630.34	50,065	-
R2	630,029.59	578,407.54	56,812.59	221,012	321,012
R1			2,706.14	21,068	21,006
TOTAL	630,029.59	578,407.54	114,149.07	292,145	342,018
800 Std. silver R1	1,783,107.49	2,254,298.86	1,199,275.33	2,487,200	1,422,583
TOTAL	1,783,107.49	2,254,298.86	1,199,275.33	2,487,200	1,422,583
NICKEL:					
50c	-	-	39,197.62	128,627	3,979.617
20c	-	-	27,083.72	140,709	8,097,089
10c	-	-	23,140.93	125,673	7,369,535
5c	-	-	302,200.21	3,765,747	13,745,822
TOTAL	-	-	391,622.48	4,160,756	33,192,063
BRONZE:	LBS.	LBS.	LBS.		
2c	620,052,00	588,917.00	215,175.21	24,370,894	25,770,825
1c			245,250.07	37,226,404	62,306,852
TOTAL	620,052.00	588,917.00	460,425.28	61,597,298	88,077,677
Cupro Nickel:		Lbs.	Ozs.		
Rhodesian 3d	-	11,587.50	109,484.40	2,400,000	-
TOTAL	-	11,587.50	109,484.40	2,400,000	-
GRAND TOTAL				70,937,399	123,034,341

(b) Proofsets:

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

Gold Proofset (R2 and R1)	1,013 sets
Long Proofset (R2 & R1 gold, R1-1c)	10,000 "
Short Proofset (R1 - 1c)	15,000 "
	26,013 "

4. Die and Medal and General Press Section:

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

Coinage Dies	2,752 units
Dies for medal etc.	67 "
Medals and badges	15,685 "
Gold jewellers articles	20 "
Silver jewellers articles	2,392 "
Sundries Die and Medal	2,793 "
General Press	81,575 "
Defence medals stamped	2,169 "
	107,453 "

2. Dies were manufactured for the following new coin designs:

(a) Krugerrand: A new 916.6 gold coin containing one ounce of fine gold with a diameter of 1.290".

Obverse: The cancelled obverse die used for the striking of the 2/6 piece of the Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek at the original Pretoria Mint during the period 1892 - 1900 was restored and used to make a punch, bearing the image of State President S.J.P. Kruger of that Republic, from which a new matrix was produced.

Reverse: The Springbok design, which appears on all South African gold coins and reproduced from the model by the South African sculptor Coert Steynberg.

(b) Dr. H.F. Verwoerd commemorative silver Rand: The obverse bears the image of the late Dr. H.F. Verwoerd, first Prime Minister of the Republic of South Africa as modelled by Mr. Thomas Sasseen of the S.A. Mint, while the reverse is unchanged.

(c) State President C.R. Swart coins: All 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c, 20c and 50c coins for 1968 bear the image of the first State President of the Republic, Mr. C.R. Swart on the obverse. The image was modelled by Mr. Thomas Sasseen. The reverse remains unchanged.

19/(d)...

(d) Rhodesian Tickey: A die was hand-cut for the changed design of the reverse while the obverse design remains unchanged.

The following new medals were produced:

1. The State President's Sport Medal: 2½" Diameter in 9 ct. gold. Dies were handcut from a design by South African artist Ernst de Jongh.

2. For the Department of Defence:

(a) Pro Merito Medal: 1½" Diameter in sterling silver. The new obverse design was handcut.

(b) Cadet Corps Medal: 1½" Diameter in sterling silver. Obverse design was modelled by A.L. Sutherland of the S.A. Mint.

(c) General de Wet Decoration: 1½" Diameter in sterling silver. Obverse design, based on the statue of General de Wet in Bloemfontein, was modelled by Mr. Thomas Sasseen.

3. For the University of Pretoria:

(a) 50 Years of theological training: 1½" diameter in 9 ct. gold and sterling silver. Obverse modelled by Mr. T. Sasseen and reverse adapted from the Z.A.R. coat of arms.

(b) Grant Smith Medal: 1½" Diameter in 18 carat gold. Obverse design modelled by Mr. J. Buisset of the S.A. Mint.

4. S.A. Chemical Institute Medal: 1½" Diameter in 18 ct. gold. Obverse design was hand-cut.

5. University of Natal: - Frank Warren Medal: 2" Diameter in bronze. For the obverse design the image of Professor Warren was modelled by Mr. T. Sasseen.

6. St. Andrews College Grahamstown - Andrew Graham Medal:

1½" Diameter in bronze. For the obverse design the image of Andrew Lawrence Graham was modelled by Mr. T. Sasseen.

20/Chapter iv...

CHAPTER IV - ENGINEERING

This section is responsible for the planning, installation and maintenance of all coinage machinery and equipment as well as the manufacture of all machine tools necessary for production in the various production sections.

The work in this section is increasing each year due to enlargement in production and the use of more modern machinery coupled with planned preventive maintenance. Various tasks which were previously done elsewhere for the Mint are now being undertaken in our own workshops, for example the turning of die cones from special steels. The requirements for especially tool manufacture increased considerably during the year.

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

1. Two new Rolling Mills were installed and commissioned in No. 1 Rolling Room.

2. All pit fires in the Melting house were re-lined by Messrs. Cullinan Refractories Ltd.

3. A tumbler was manufactured for electrolytic weight reduction of gold coin blanks and successfully tested. A wash basin with water supply and drainage was erected in the Coinage Section for use in conjunction with this equipment.

4. One of the existing V3 coin counters was converted for operation in conjunction with an electronic counting unit.

5. A new alarm system with four additional alarm points was designed, manufactured and installed.

6. The 500 ton hydraulic press in the Die and Medal Section was equipped with a spacing plate between the ram and top table to rectify a 0.020 inch error in aligment between tables.

7. An extraction ventilation system with exhaust hood was installed in the coin blank cleaning room where volatile inflammable substances are used.

8. The methods of preparation of pot sheets and security control of gold melting was revised and improved.

9. The 20 K.W. furnace in the Laboratory was altered and reconnected to operate directly from mains supply following a burn out on the control transformer equipment of this furnace.

21/10.....

10. Guarding of machinery received special attention during the year under review and although many drives, guillotines, polishing heads, grinders and dangerous places were guarded and made safe, much still remains to be done in this respect. The standard of housekeeping generally remains poor, mainly on account of dislocation and temporary installations caused by demolishing and rebuilding on the premises.

11. Earthing of all electrical apparatus on the Mint premises was investigated and rectified where necessary.

12. A large bronze bush was cast, machined and fitted to the large guillotine in the Melting House.

13. An additional Bantu change room, with security screens, was erected in the Melting House to improve security control in this section.

14. The Guard's Office was renovated and a service counter installed.

The programme for the modernisation of the Mint resulted in the temporary re-establishment of certain sections to allow for the necessary building changes. Machinery and equipment had to be removed and re-installed and the electrical supplies and water connections re-adjusted.

The section was burdened with a great deal of planning work in consultation with the Department of Public Works and especially the Architects.

In this connection the following particulars are submitted:-

1. The Jewellers Section and part of the Die and Medal Section were re-housed in the former Tool Room.

2. The Boiler Maker's, Electrician's and Carpenter's sections were removed to the former General Press Section.

3. The Chief Die Sinker was re-housed in a temporary studio in the Laboratory Section.

4. Three annealing furnaces and two coin blank tumblers were removed from No. 1 Rolling Room and re-erected for temporary use in No. 2 Rolling Room.

5. The two air compressors were removed and re-erected in localities in the Melting House and First Aid Section, with associated pipe work.

6. The former small Tool Room adjoining Stores was evacuated for use by the Die Sinker and the Tool Room equipment re-installed in the Workshops.

7. An office building for medal packing and despatch and a glass scale enclosure was erected in the new location of the Jeweller's Section.

22/8. ...

8. Rolling mill cooling water discharge pipes had to be relayed in the floor of No. 1 Rolling Room to discharge into the drain on the Southern side of the building on account of excavations on the Northern side.

9. A substantial security fence with access doors was erected in the former Tool Room for coin blank storage.

10. European change rooms and toilets in the former General Press Section were converted for use by Bantu males, with temporary screening separate entrance to this area.

The following work was carried out by the Department of Public Works:-

1. A new temporary 11 K.V. sub station was built and new 11 K.V. switchgear installed with cable connections to the two existing transformers.

2. A new switchboard was installed in the No. 1 Rolling Room with supply cables to the new rolling mills and the existing low voltage sub-station.

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 the Section during the year:-

1. Precious Metal Assays:

Gold:-	Mint Office	783	samples	
	S.A. Bureau of Standards	236	"	
	Pyx	14	"	1,033
Silver:	Bars	697	samples	
	Pyx	89	"	
	Mint Office, Badge & Medal Section	330	"	
	S.A. Bureau of Standards	50	"	1,166
				2,199

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

2. Precious Metal Melting & Recoveries:

Gold Troy Ounces	Silver Troy Ounces	Description of Metals
1.02	115.53	Mint Office Reclamations
424.24		Bars for Badge & Medal Section
820.00		Assay Office experimental melts.
1,245.26	115.53	

3. General Chemical Analysis:-

(a) Illicit Gold Trade:-

Assays on 338 exhibits in 227 court cases were carried out for the S.A. Police, Gold Staff.

216 Pieces of gold were cast for trapping purposes.

In two cases the Assayer was subpoenaed to give evidence in court.

(b) Counterfeit Coins:

59 Pieces were handed in as alleged counterfeits of which 42 proved to be counterfeit after investigation.

(c) Prospectors:

2 Samples were received on which 2 determinations were done.

(d) Miscellaneous:

(i) Chemical analysis of bronze and nickel samples:

Bronze: 4027 Copper determinations.
3578 Tin Determinations.
Nickel: 240 Nickel determinations.

(ii) Acid Baths: 192 tests were done on the acid baths.

(iii) 200 Gold blanks were test weighed for rolling room.

Theodor Wald.
DIRECTOR OF THE S.A. MINT.

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