

# Astronomical Society of South Africa Lake Centre

The Fifth Ordinary Meeting of the Session was held at Benson House 57a Long Street on Wednesday Evening March 4 1931 at 8.15 pm.

Mr H. Horrocks in the Chair there was a good attendance

Minutes of Meeting of held Dec 10 1930 were read & confirmed.  
The following were elected to Membership.

Mr W. W. Inglis P.O. Box 685 Capetown

Mr C. Collings 79 Fletcher Chambers Capetown

The chairman said that long and consistent observations <sup>at the Royal Observatory</sup> of the minor planets Eros to determine the fundamental distance of the Sun and moon had been favoured by a period of cloudless nights. In addition, a light variation of 5 hours 16 minutes had been established; later observations showed that there was a double period of two almost equal parts of 2 hours 8 minutes each but these periods were not constant. From reports received from the Union Observatory Johannesburg it appeared that Eros was elongated and the rotation agreed with the period of the light curve.

The Chairman <sup>dedicated the Chair which was assumed by the President</sup> then called upon Mr. Theodore MacKenzie FRAS. who was on a visit to Cape Town. <sup>to address the meeting</sup> He explained that the meeting had been called a week before the usual date to enable Mr MacKenzie to address the meeting.

Mr MacKenzie then gave an address entitled "How we got our Calendar" He described some ancient divisions of time by means of lunar months the discovery of the Metonic Cycle and the reforms instituted by Julius Caesar and Pope Gregory XIII. At the conclusion of the address after some discussion and questions had been replied to. Capt Cameron Swan proposed a vote of thanks which was carried with acclamation and the meeting terminated.

H. Horrocks

8 April 1931