

# Astronomical Society of South Africa.

## Cape Centre

18 Session 1931-1932

Minutes of Seventh Ordinary Meeting, held  
at Benson House Long Street April 20 1932  
at 8.15 pm.

Mr. A. Horrocks in the Chair. There was a  
moderate attendance.

Minutes of Meeting of March 16 1932 were  
read and confirmed.

The Chairman congratulated Mr Houghton on  
his discovery of a comet.

Mr Houghton addressed the meeting giving  
particulars of the discovery, stating that he had  
reported it to both the Royal and Union Observatories  
and also to Mr Forbes Director of the Comet Section.  
The orbit had not yet been worked out but Mr  
Wood Union Astronomer was busy doing so.

Charts were exhibited on the Epidiascope

Mr Houghton pointing out the position at discovery  
and the subsequent path of the Comet.

Mr Long ~~said~~ read a letter from Mr Forbes in  
which he stated that the discovery had been  
reported to the Astronomical Society of the Pacific.

The following Nominations for membership was received.

Mr E. Fodish Serowe B.S.

Proposed by Mr. A.W. Long. Seconded by Mr Watson.

The meeting then proceeded to consider the Questions  
submitted for consideration in Circular dated  
March 9.

Question 1. At a partial eclipse of the sun is the whole  
of the Moon's disc visible or only that portion which  
is in front of the Sun. - Mr. Houghton exhibited through  
the Epidiascope a magazine illustration purporting  
to be a photograph of a partial eclipse of the sun, which

showed a diffuse image of the whole moon. In the discussion which ensued it was suggested that <sup>if it was possible</sup> further details of the technique <sup>was desirable</sup> ~~had been drawn in~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~method~~ ~~used~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~past~~ ~~and~~ ~~it~~ ~~was~~ ~~desirable~~ ~~to~~ ~~draw~~ ~~up~~ ~~a~~ ~~plan~~ ~~for~~ ~~the~~ ~~future~~.

Question 2 - when is the next <sup>total</sup> eclipse of the Sun, visible in South Africa what are the conditions of time place etc? Mr. A. W. Long replied - The eclipse would take place on October 1. 1940. The path of the eclipse would pass over Francistown, Beaufort West, Graaff Reinet, King William's Town. - The data was obtained from an article published by S. Roberts in the transactions of the Philosophical Society.

The Chairman said that it was found that the path <sup>according to Oppolzer's Canon de Finsternisse</sup> would pass somewhat further to the north than that indicated by Mr. Long. a more definite path would be determined as the time approached.

Other questions were replied to by the Chairman Messrs Watson Knighton the Hon Secretary.

The Hon Secretary read a communication from S. Barnard Hon Secretary of the Mountain Club of South Africa in which he stated that the Mountain Club had engaged rooms in the Standard Bank Chambers <sup>and through</sup> ~~of~~ Messrs. J. P. J. & Co. The Committee hoped that this Society would continue to hold their meetings <sup>in</sup> ~~the~~ Club's room. The Committee of this Society had not yet had an opportunity of inspecting this meeting room, however the next <sup>of this nature</sup> meetings <sup>if</sup> they would be held there - the Committee would then be in a position to decide whether the room was <sup>available</sup> ~~suitable~~ ~~for~~ ~~holding~~ ~~the~~ ~~Society's~~ ~~meetings~~.

There being no further business the meeting terminated.

Minutes

May 18<sup>th</sup> 1932