

Astronomical Society of South Africa
Cape Centre
Nineteenth Session

Minutes of Ninth Ordinary Meeting
Held in Chambers of Standard Bank
A.B.C. Branch 111 St Georges Street
Cape Town, on Wednesday Evening June 21.
1933 at 8.15 pm

Mr R. Watson in the Chair. There was a fair attendance.

Minutes of Eighth Ordinary Meeting Held May 17, were read and confirmed.
S^r J. A. J. van Rensburg M.A., D. Phil.,
Diocesan College Rondeburch
was unanimously elected to membership.

The following nomination was received,
and submitted to the Committee for consideration.
Miss Ada Fredrica du Randt.

Boetap Gignaland West
Proposed by Mrs K. Boks.

Seconded by Mr W. Schmegevel.

The meeting then proceeded to consider replies to questions that were left in abeyance at the April Meeting.

The question "Why do the planets sometimes appear stationary?" was replied to by Capt. Cameron-Swan who ~~submitted~~ ^{exhibited} a diagram of Mars showing the motion with reference to the earth, and another of ~~transit~~ ^{Neptune} showing the apparent path in the sky for four years.

The question "What is the best type of observing hut for an eight or nine inch reflector?" was replied to by Inst Capt Ainslie, who said he always made his own observations in the open.

If a hut was required to house the instrument he advised a square building constructed so that the roof could slide off. He discouraged the use of a revolving dome, which gave a lot of labour and always restricted the view of the sky.

The question "Does the March Equinox always occur on the same day of the month? if not why not, and how much can the date vary?" was replied to by the Chairman Mr R Watson, who explained the reason of the insertion of intercalary days in Leap years and why in some years they were omitted, this caused a shift of the date of the Equinox which may occur from 19th to 22nd of March.

Several diagrams were exhibited and further elucidated by means of the blackboard.

A question relating to determining the sun's position at different times of the year in relation to house planning which was to have been replied to by Mr McIntyre was deferred to a later meeting. Mr McIntyre stating that the questioner was not present and owing to the lateness of the hour he thought it advisable to delay the reply as he was prepared to deal with it at some length. A question re Earth-rise on the moon was replied to by Mr Houghton.

There was some discussion after the reply to each question.

This concluded the proceedings and the meeting terminated.

R Watson
1938 Aug 16