

Astronomical Society of South Africa, (Cape Centre)

Nineteenth Annual General Meeting.

The Nineteenth Annual General Meeting of the Cape Centre was held in the Mountain Club Room, Standard Bank Building (ABC Branch) St. George's St., on Wednesday, July 19, 1933 at 8.15 P.M.

Present: Mr. R. Watson (in the Chair), Mrs. Shepherd, Capt. Cameron-Swan, Dr. van Rensburg, Messrs Horrocks, M^o Intyre, Andrews, Houghton, Pratt, de Kock, Elett, Smith, Landers, Peers, Alletsen, Koum, Long, & several visitors. An apology was received from the Hon. Secretary Mr. H. W. Schonegevel who was unable to attend through illness.

The Minutes of the Eighteenth Annual General Meeting held on July 20, 1932, were read and confirmed.

The Annual Report of the Centre presented by the Committee showed a reduction of membership from 104 to 92 members. Five of this difference of twelve is accounted for by the transfer of members from the Cape to the Natal centre. Mr. Houghton proposed the adoption of the Report, and pointed out that whereas this was the 19th Annual Meeting, the monthly notes had appeared in the Cape Times for 20 years; this was explained by the fact that during the Great War there were no meetings for a few years. Mr. W. A. Smith seconded the motion which was adopted.

The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. R. R. Pratt, read the Financial Statement, which showed

Balance on 30 th June 1932,	£2-14-8	} Total	£50-18-10.
Receipts during year,	£46-13-9		
Expenditure,	£50-18-10		
	Debit Balance,	1-10-5	

The Honorary Treasurer explained the deficit as being due to the non-payment of subscriptions

occasioned by the depressed state of the times. The adoption of the report was moved by Mr. Andrews, seconded by Mr. D. G. McIntyre, & carried.

The following officers for the new session were unanimously elected:

Chairman:	Mr. R. Watson	{	Proposed by Mr. D. G. McIntyre
			Sec. " Capt. Cameron-Swan
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. H. W. Schonegevel	{	Mr. A. W. Long
			" H. G. Houghton
Hon. Secretary	A. Menzies	{	" D. G. McIntyre
			" Capt. Cameron-Swan
Hon. Treasurer	R. R. Pratt	{	" Mr. W. H. Smith
			" W. Andrews
Hon. Auditor	E. J. Steer	{	" A. W. Long
			" Capt. Cameron-Swan

The following were elected as Members of Committee: Messrs H. Horrocks, A. W. Long, D. G. McIntyre, B. F. Jeany, & H. E. Houghton.

A vote of thanks to the retiring Hon. Secretary Mr. H. W. Schonegevel for his valuable services to the Society throughout a continuous period of 16 years, was proposed by Mr. H. W. Smith & seconded by Capt. Cameron-Swan, and carried with acclamation.

The following were unanimously elected to membership: Mr. Alan W. Davis, P.O. Box 206, Cape Town. { Proposed by D. G. McIntyre
Sec. " H. Horrocks. The name was passed to the Committee for the usual consideration.

Mr. D. G. McIntyre addressed the meeting on "An Arithmetical Curiosity". He said that the largest number that could be expressed by three digits was the number represented by 3 nines arranged to express 9 raised to the 9th power of 9. (9^9) He made several interesting analogies to show what a colossal figure this is; one being that if the ³⁶⁰ 360,000,000 digits were printed in the usual newspaper type they would reach from Cape Town to Port Nolloth, a distance of 365 miles. The first few figures in this vast number were obtained by logs; he showed that the final figures could

be obtained by a unique use of the Binomial theorem.

Mr. Horrocks addressed the meeting on "The Phases of the Moon". He explained the manner in which the moon's orbit about the earth is made to differ from an ellipse with the Earth at one focus, by the gravitational action of the Sun on the Earth-Moon system, and traced the origin of some of the principal inequalities in the moon's motion: i.e., the elliptic inequality, the Variation, the Erection, and the Annual + Parallactic inequalities.

Mr. A. W. Long exhibited a horizontal sundial made by Mr. A. F. J. Forbes, + gave Mr. Forbes' description of it. Members were invited to inspect it after the meeting. The meeting then terminated.

R Watson

18th July 1934

Astronomical Society of South Africa, (Cape Centre), Meeting of Committee held at Carnalea, Mowbray, on 9th Aug 1933 at 8.15 P.M.
Present: Messrs A. W. Long (in Chair), H. Horrocks, D. G. Mc Intyre, H. E. Houghton, R. R. Pratt, + the Hon. Secretary, A. Menzies. An apology was received from the Chairman, Mr. R. Watson, for his absence from the Meeting.

The Minutes of the Committee meeting of July 3, 1933 were read and, after being amended, confirmed.

The Hon. Treasurer reported a balance in hand of £7.18.1[?]

The Hon. Secretary was informed of the death of Mr. H. W. Crowther, a member of the Cape Centre. After discussing papers to be read at ordinary Meetings of the Cape Centre for the ensuing session, the meeting terminated.

R Watson

1934 July 2