

Astronomical Society of South Africa (Cape Centre)

Twenty-second Session.

Minutes of Fourth Ordinary Meeting, held at Yorkshire House, 38 Strand St., Cape Town on Wednesday the 20th November at 8.15 P.M. Mr. D. C. Alletson was in the Chair. There was a good attendance.

The Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on the 16th October 1935 were read and confirmed.

A letter received from Mr. E. J. Steer was read to the meeting, in which details of a telescope for sale of the late Major Fox were given.

The widow of Major Fox had informed the Librarian of the Cape Centre that she could donate any astronomical books of her late husband to the Society, which the Librarian, Mr. W. Andrews, considered would be of use. The meeting accepted Mrs. Fox's kind offer, and the Hon. Secretary was instructed to write a letter of appreciation to the donor.

Mr. R. H. Stoy, Chief Assistant at the Royal Observatory, was proposed as a member by Mr. A. W. Long, and seconded by Dr. J. Jackson. The proposal was to be submitted to the Committee for consideration.

Dr. Jackson, in an illustrated lecture on "Reflecting Telescopes" outlined the history of this type of instrument, and mentioned the problems that had to be solved before a useful reflector could be made.

Slides of some large reflectors of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries showed the clumsy and in some instances, dangerous mounting of the tube, when compared with ~~to day's~~ the workmanlike finish of our modern instruments.

Dr. Jackson made it clear that all the larger telescopes of the future will be reflectors, owing

to the great mechanical difficulties in the way of making large refractors.

At the conclusion of the lecture the speaker was accorded a hearty vote of thanks, those present showing their appreciation in the usual manner.

It was announced that there would be no meeting of the Centre in December.

The meeting was then declared closed.

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18/3/36

At a meeting of the Cape Centre Committee held at the Mountain Club room, Yorkshire House, 38 Strand St, Cape Town at 8 P.M., on the 18th March 1936, ^{the name of} Dr. R. H. Stoy was considered and passed for election.

D. P. Alleton
6/4/36