

Astronomical Society of South Africa (Cape Centre)

Twenty-Fifth Session

Minutes of fifth Ordinary Meeting held at Yorkshire House, 38 Strand Street, Cape Town on Wednesday the 15th March at 8.15 P.M. In the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, Dr. R. H. Lloyd presided. There was a good attendance.

The Minutes of Ordinary meeting held on the 16th November 1938, were read and confirmed.

Members were informed that an invitation had been received from Mr. T. L. MacDonald, Director of the Lunar Section, British Astronomical Association, for members of the Society to co-operate in lunar work.

Dr. Lloyd said that a series of instructional lectures in elementary astronomy was to be given at some of the Cape Centre's meetings, and that the first lecture of this nature would be given by Dr. Jackson in May.

Professor James in a very interesting lecture on "Spectra", traced the evolution of the science of the analysis of light from the days of Newton to the present time. Fraunhofer was the first to use a slit for the light to enter the spectroscope, instead of a round hole. Kirchhoff and Bunsen in 1860 discovered the reason for the dark lines in spectra. Huggins was the first to apply spectroscopic analysis to the light of stars. He analysed light received from the Nebula in Orion.

At the conclusion of the lecture, a vote of thanks to the lecturer, proposed by Dr. Jackson, was passed with acclamation by the audience.

Professor Hergzsprung, of Leiden University, who was present, gave a short description of the equipment of the Southern station of Leiden University at Johannesburg, and outlined the programme of work undertaken at that establishment.

It was announced that Mr Krumm would speak at the meeting in April, on "The Internal Structure of the Stars". The meeting then closed.

R Watson
1939 April 19

Committee Meeting.

At a meeting of the Cape Centre Committee held at 38 Strand St., Cape Town at 8 P.M. on the 19th April 1939, the name of Mr. Albertas Daniell Keet, c/o Prof. B B Keet, Stellenbosch, vs. Mr. Henjes, sec. Mr. Turner, was considered and passed for election.

12. 6. 39.

W. Schryver