

## Astronomical Society of South Africa (Cape Colony)

### Twenty-Sixth Session

Minutes of fourth Ordinary meeting held at Yorkshire House, 38 Strand Street, Capetown, on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> November, at 8.15 p.m. Capt. D. Cameron-Swan was in the chair. The attendance was moderate.

The Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> October, 1939, were read and confirmed.

A letter received from Mr. A. F. J. Forbes was read to the meeting. Mr. Forbes said that he had observed Juttle's Comet, which was in a favourable position in the morning sky, and of the ninth magnitude. He gave its approximate position on November 17.

The Rev. Canon E. B. Ford delivered a very interesting lecture on "The Helicology of Mars." During the recent opposition of Mars he had made many observations of the planet through the twenty-seven inch refractor of the Lennox-Hussey Observatory at Navee Hill, Bloemfontein, where he had been in close contact with Dr. Rossiter, Director of the Observatory - and the Society's President for the current year - and Dr. Slipher. He displayed, by means of the epidiascope, a number of drawings of the planet, made by himself at the telescope, which clearly showed the changes in the appearance of the planet's surface with which his lecture dealt.

In the discussion which followed, Dr. Jackson paid a tribute to the patience and skill displayed by Canon Ford's observations, and to the clearness and reasonableness of the deductions he formed from them.

Canon Ford, in reply, appealed to members for further assistance in the work of the Planetary Section, and particularly for observations of Venus at its approaching conjunction with the Sun. He delivered to the meeting a message of greeting from Dr. Rossiter, who hoped to be able to deliver his Presidential Address in person at the Society's Annual Meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

20. Mar 1940

H. M. Schonegevel  
Chairman