

Astronomical Society of South Africa (Cape Centre)

Minutes of Twenty-sixth Annual General Meeting.

The Twenty-sixth Annual General Meeting of the Cape Centre was held at Yorkshire House, 38 Strand St on Wednesday the 17th July 1940 at 8.15 P.M. Mr. Schonegevel presided; the attendance was good.

The Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on the 19th July 1939 were read and confirmed.

Mr. Schonegevel informed members of the death of Mr. E. G. Williams of the Radcliffe Observatory. Those present were asked to ~~rise~~ stand as a mark of respect.

The Annual Report presented by the Committee and read by the Hon. Secretary was accepted by the meeting. Mr. Simehoff moved the adoption of the report, and Mr. Kruuse seconded the motion.

The Treasurer's Statement showed a balance of £2.3.11 and was read by the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Turner. Mr. Schonegevel impressed on the meeting the necessity of an increased number of town members so that the meetings of the Cape Centre may continue to be well attended.

Capt. Cameron-Brown moved the adoption of the Statement, Dr. Jackson seconded, and the Financial Statement was unanimously adopted by the meeting.

The Chairman informed members of the decision of the Committee to hold the meetings of the Centre at the Royal Observatory, with the kind permission of H. M. Astronomer, as soon as convenient. The meeting approved of this decision un. con.

Those present, on the motion of Mr. Schonegevel, passed a vote of thanks to the Hon. Treasurer and the Hon. Secretary for ~~their~~ their work during the year for the Centre.

The following officers and members of committee were elected for the coming year:

Chairman: Dr. J. Jackson, ^{hon. Dr. Hoy} sec. Mr. Landers

Vice-Chairman: Capt D Cameron ^{hon. Mr Menzies}
 Hon Secretary: Mr A Menzies ^{hon. Mr Hirst}
 Treasurer: Mr J B G Turner ^{hon. Mr Andrews}
^{hon. Mr Schonegevel}
^{hon. Mr Krumm}

Hon. Librarian: Mr Andrews ^{hon. Dr Hay}
^{hon. Mr Menzies}

Members of Committee: Messrs Krumm ^{hon. Mr Menzies}
 Dr Hay ^{hon. Mr Landers} ^{hon. Dr Jackson}
^{hon. Mr Hirst} ^{hon. Capt. Cameron}
 Mr Andrews ^{hon. Dr Hay} ^{hon. Mr Menzies} ^{hon. Mr Schonegevel} ^{hon. Mr Hirst}
^{hon. Capt. Cameron}

Mr. Schonegevel vacated the Chair at this stage, and Dr. Jackson presided.

Dr. Jackson informed members that the Annual General Meeting of the Society had been postponed to a later date, as the President Dr. Rossiter had been unable to complete his Presidential address in time for the July meeting, owing to disorganisation due to the War.

Dr. Jackson gave an account of conditions at Calvinia. The star field in the region ^{of the sky} occupied by the sun at the time of the eclipse on October 1 was very poor, the stars being of the 9th magnitude and fainter. The great trouble at Calvinia was the dust storms, as the dust played havoc with the delicate clock-work of instruments.

The train service to Calvinia was very slow, while the motor route was quicker but uncomfortable owing to corrugated road surfaces.

Dr. Hay gave an illustrated talk on matter in space, "Between the stars". The manner in which the presence of this matter was detected was explained, and the extreme tenacity of interstellar space emphasised by means of familiar illustrations.

At the conclusion of the lecture the meeting adjourned.

Dr Hay a hearty vote of thanks for his interesting talk.
This concluded the business for the evening.

1941 July 23.

J. Jackson

Astronomical Society of South Africa (Cape Centre)

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at the Royal Observatory
on the 29th July 1940, at 8.15 P.M.

Present: Dr Jackson (in the Chair) Dr. Hay, messrs Krumm,
Hirst, Andrews, Schonegevel, Turner and the Hon. Secretary.

The Minutes of Committee Meeting held on the 24th June were
read and confirmed.

Arising out of the Minutes, the Hon Secretary read
a letter received from the Secretary of the Mountain
Club on the subject of discontinuing the use of the
Mountain Club room for meetings of the Centre. The
committee decided to hold the August meeting in
the Mountain Club room, and thereafter at the Royal
Observatory.

Mr. Hirst was to speak at the August meeting, Dr. Jackson
in September on the Eclipse, October was to be devoted to
discussion of Eclipse observations, November Prof. Walker to
speak on Ice Ages.

Mr. Andrews had prepared a list of books in the
Cape Centre library, and it was decided to circulate
copies of this list to all members.

The name of Mr Seloto Modisi of Pietersburg,
N. Transvaal ^{now A. M. Leroy, see Dr. Jackson} was considered and passed for election.

The resignation of Mr M. Drake, Box 7470
Johannesburg, was accepted by the meeting.

This concluded the business for the evening.

J. Jackson