

Astronomical Society of South Africa (Cape Centre) Twenty-eighth Session

Minutes of fifth ordinary meeting, held at the Royal Observatory on Wednesday the 11th March 1942 at 8.15 P.M.

Mr. Hirst presided. The attendance was good.

The Minutes of observational meeting held on the 11th February 1942 were read and confirmed.

Dr. Jackson said that the recently discovered comet was still approaching the sun, and would continue to do so until late in April. It was of about the 8th magnitude.

Mr. Simenhoff gave a short description of the appearance of the moon during the total lunar eclipse on March 2. Mr. Hirst and Dr. Stoy described the observation of occultations made during the eclipse. All members who had observed this phenomenon were unanimous in asserting that at totality the moon was very dark and of a deep reddish-brown colour.

Mr. Hirst in an address on "Stars in Orbital Motion" gave a description of the methods used to observe double stars, and a list of the first orbital motions to be discovered, with the name of their discoverer. The best known binary stars were described in detail, and at the conclusion of the lecture lantern slides were shown on the screen to illustrate some of the points ^{mentioned} touched on by the speaker.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Hirst, proposed by Dr. Jackson, was carried by the meeting, those present expressing their appreciation in the usual manner.

This concluded the business for the evening.

8th April 1942

J. Jackson.