

recorded stars down to the 14<sup>th</sup> magnitude (Photographic).

Mr. Hirst gave details of the observations taken of an unusual double star. The observations gave a peculiar ~~curve~~ curve which would not fit any ellipse. The speaker propounded various theories to account for the observed phenomena, one being that the system was a triple, one of the components of the double being itself a double.

An interesting evening closed with the adjournment of the meeting at 21.50.

A. W. Schonegevel

#### Astronomical Society of South Africa (Cape Centre)

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at the Royal Observatory on Wednesday the 16<sup>th</sup> June 1943 at 8.0 P.M.

Present: Mr Schonegevel (in the Chair) Dr. Jackson, Messrs Hirst, Krumm, de Kock, <sup>Davies</sup> and the Hon. Secretary. Mr. Tillitts had tendered his apologies for his absence, as work at Simonstown made it impossible for him to attend.

The Minutes of Committee Meetings held on the 17<sup>th</sup> March 1943, 21<sup>st</sup> April and 19<sup>th</sup> May 1943 were read and confirmed.

Mr. Krumm reported a balance in hand of £25.

The following names were considered and passed for election. Miss Avenil Deacon, "Lotana", Portwood Rd., Green Point pro. Dr Jackson, sec. Mr Hirst: Mr. Arnold Mortimer Kirkman, 9, Adderley St., Cradock, C.P., pro. Mr. de Villiers, sec. Mr. Krumm.

The Hon. Secretary read the draft Annual Report which was adopted by ~~the~~ Committee. Dr. Jackson said that a combined meeting of the Royal Society of S. Africa and the Astronomical Society had been arranged for August, when the life and work of <sup>the late</sup> Sir David Gill would be the subject for the evening.

It was decided to hold a combined Cape Centre and Astronomical Society of S. Africa meeting for July.

This concluded the business for the evening.

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J. Jackson

Astronomical Society of South Africa (Cape Centre)

Twenty-ninth Session

Minutes of eighth Ordinary Meeting of the Session held at the Royal Observatory on Wednesday the 16<sup>th</sup> June 1943 at 8.15 P.M. Mr. Schonegevel presided. The attendance was good.

The Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> May 1943 were read and confirmed.

The following, whose names had been considered and passed by the Committee, were unanimously elected Members of the Society: Miss Averil Deacon, "Lotana", Portwood Rd., Green Point. pro Dr Jackson, sec. Mr. Hirst. Mr Arnold Mortimer Kirkman, 9, Adderley St., Cradock, C.P., pro. Mr. De Villiers, sec. Mr. Krumm.

Dr. Jackson informed the meeting that the August meeting would be devoted to a discussion of the life and work of the late Sir David Gill.

Mr. Hirst gave a short talk on <sup>the history and</sup> the methods employed in photographing the sky for minor planets, and traced the history of their discovery. A paper on the Minor Planets presented by Dr. H.E. Wood was read to the meeting by the Hon. Secretary. The use of the Blink microscope in detecting minor planet trails on plates was described. Mr. Krumm gave an account of the discovery of the Trojan group of minor planets. He said that 11 of this group were known, and that they were about 60 preceding or following Jupiter in his orbit. Dr. Jackson spoke on the large amount of computing involved in the determination of the orbits of the minor planets.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the ~~various~~ speakers on the subject for the evening.

W. H. Joy