

## Astronomical Society of South Africa (Cape Centre)

## Thirty-First Session

Minutes of ~~second~~<sup>third</sup> Ordinary Meeting of the Session, held at the Royal Observatory on Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup> October 1944 at 7.45 P.M.

Mr Schonegevel presided. There was a good attendance.

The Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> September 1944 were read and confirmed.

Dr. Jackson informed the meeting that he was going to Hermanus on the following Tuesday, and would convey the best wishes of the Society to Mr. Forbes, and the sympathy of members for his wife's illness, and hopes of her recovery in the near future.

Miss Flux in her paper on "The Great Change-Over: Copernicus to Flamsteed" gave a short biographical sketch of some of the earlier astronomers, and of some astrologers. The work of Kepler on the movements of the planets was mentioned, and some extracts from Pepys's diary were read to show the trend of scientific thought in his day.

A vote of thanks to Miss Flux, proposed by Mr. Schonegevel and seconded by Dr. Hay, was endorsed by those present in the usual manner.

Members were informed that Mr. Davies was to read a paper on "The Pleiades" for the November meeting.

This concluded the business for the evening.

15 Nov 1944

H. W. Schonegevel

only possible to distinguish six individual bright stars of the group. It was possible that one of the brighter stars had become fainter, and was now no longer easily seen.

The stars of the cluster all had a common proper motion, which serves to distinguish them from the background stars.

Dr. Jackson said that the Pleiades was the most photographed region of the sky. The small size of the group made it very suitable for photography, for astrographic telescopes.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Davies, proposed by Dr. Hay, was passed with acclamation by those present.

Mr. Schoneveld informed members that the next formal meeting of the Centre would take place in March 1945, but that an observational meeting would be arranged for February.

For the months of December & January, although no meetings would be held, members were invited by Dr. Jackson to use the meeting-room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month as an informal meeting-place to discuss astronomical subjects.

This concluded the business for the evening.

1945 Feb 21

J. Jackson