

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CAPE CENTRE OF THE ASTRONOMICAL
SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA HELD AT THE S.A.A.O.
ON THURSDAY 1976 MARCH 18 AT 20h00

Present: Chairman Mr C. Turk, Honorary Secretary Mr C. Larmuth, thirty-three members and seven visitors. Apologies for absence were received from Professor Warner, Dr Feast, Mrs Middleton and Messrs Bondietti and Duveen.

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 1976 February 11 were read by the Secretary and signed by the Chairman as correct.

The Chairman announced that owing to an increase of interest shown in the S.A.A.O. by the public, it had been necessary to hold four visitors' nights this month. He also said that the committee had given serious thought to the Ron Atkins telescope and dome. Despite the Centre funds which had been spent on the building, virtually no use had been made by members, and it had been decided, subject to the approval of members, to offer the telescope and dome to the Department of Astronomy at the University of Cape Town as it was felt that it might then be used by students of U.C.T. He then asked for comments from the floor. Various suggestions were made and the Chairman said that after the meeting interested members could visit the dome and the matter would again be discussed at the next meeting.

The Chairman then introduced the speaker for the evening, Professor D. Lynden-Bell, professor of astronomy at Cambridge University England, whose subject was: The Break-Up of the Greater Magellanic Galaxy. In his lecture he said that radio astronomers had discovered a curve in the plane of our galaxy and he proceeded to discuss the various theories including his own, which had been put forward to explain this phenomenon. This was a most interesting lecture.

Dr P.A.T. Wild thanked Professor Lynden-Bell and the Chairman closed the meeting for tea at 21h30.

Signed as correct



1976 April 14.

Chairman