

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE CAPE CENTRE held at the SAAD on Wednesday 13 October MCMLXXXII.

After ~~the~~ the chairman Mr Mike Kramer had opened the meeting, apologies for absence were received from Mrs Pae Kramer, Mrs Leeuwenburg, Mr Cleen^{went}~~burg~~, Mr Bentley, Mr Simerhof, Mrs Spencer-Jones and Mr Noack. There were 24 members and one visitor present at the meeting.

The chairman then introduced the speaker, Dr Peter Mack, who spoke on Amateur Astrophotography, or more ^{correctly} precisely, professional astrophotography using an amateur's equipment! ^{However} Before Mr Mack's ^{lecture} ~~speech~~, Mrs Booth discussed Project Galileo and it was agreed that staying in the ~~Pres~~ President Hotel in Bloemfontein would be far too expensive. The ^{only} alternative place would be Maselspoort. Dr Mack then proceeded with his talk, firstly outlining the ~~bas~~ two basic types of astrophotography and the basic requirements for a good picture. One could either have a trail pattern or ~~fixed~~ a fixed pattern if your camera was guided. The For a good picture, a camera with a B setting, a steady tripod, an extension cable release, ^{a dew cap} and a cloudless moonless dark night ^{are} were required. He recommended certain makes of slide film and warned that the colour negative film usually gave a purple background, which was rather distracting. For normal purposes, an 85mm 200mm or wide angle lenses ^{can} ~~could~~ be used, and for deep sky photography a ~~the~~ Newtonian telescope was most suitable. ~~He~~ Most Newtonian telescopes ^{are designed} ~~were made~~ only for looking through, and often the secondary mirror and the focussing mount ^{are} were too small to cover the total field of a 35mm camera and ^{has} ~~had~~ to be enlarged. He then showed some excellent slides of what he had taken ~~through~~ with various ^{equipment} ~~apparatus~~. Some pictures were ^{exposed} up to 3 hours ~~exposures~~ and he made it sound very simple, but only those ~~with~~ who have done astrophotography ~~it was~~ really appreciated ~~at the~~ that it was a lot more complicated and that a certain amount of dedication ^{and courage} was required.

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm for tea.

Signed as correct: ~~m. r. kramer~~