

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE CAPE CENTRE held atSAAP on Wednesday 9th February MCMXXXIII.

After the meeting was opened by the chairman, apologies for absence were received from Mr Duveen, Mr Spencer-Jones ~~and Miss~~.
 There were approximately 18 people present at the meeting, which was the first of an Astronomical course for ^{Amateur Astronomers}.
 It was then announced that informal meetings would be held ~~at~~ two weeks after every monthly meeting for observational and enrichment purposes.

The chairman then introduced the speaker, ~~who is~~ Mr Hurley, who spoke about basic positional Astronomy. Mr Hurley first explained the derivation and use of the celestial co-ordinates, ~~and~~ ^{center} RA, Declination, Galactical systems based on the ecliptic and Galactical equator and ^{he} continually compared them to ~~the~~ ^{greater} Latitude and Longitude ~~to~~ on earth for understanding. He also explained solar, standard and sideral time and ^{showed} how they are used for ^{locating} finding a star in the sky from a map.

During his talk he referred to maps in "Sky and Telescope" magazines which were handed out to all those taking part in the Astronomical course, and described. There are several ways of determining interstellar distances, one of which is parallax, ~~but~~ this ~~become~~ however, becomes increasingly inaccurate ~~as~~ for (farther away) stars. One can also use red shift for determining the speed at which a star is moving away from the earth; in general, the farther away a star is, the faster it is moving.

When the proper motion of Barnard's star was measured, certain oscillations were detected in ~~its~~ ^{and it is thought that} path. There may ~~then~~ ^{be} a few planets ^{revolving} around the star which cause the oscillations. Mr Hurley explained that the star maps ~~are not~~ are not always accurate ~~because~~ ^{constant} because of the precession of the earth's poles, and ~~corrections~~ ^{constant} have to be applied for accurate observations.

At the end of his ~~talk~~ talk, he answered all questions, and during tea-time, the 6-inch Gill telescope was made available for observations.

Signed as correct:

M. K. R. .