

Minutes of a General Meeting of the Astronomical Society of South Africa held at 35 Wiles Street, Cape Town, on Wednesday, 5th June 1927 at 8.15 pm.

The President, Dr. H. Spencer Jones M.A. Sc.D. took the Chair. There was a fair attendance.

Mr Reid  
Address

After introductory remarks by the Chairman, Mr William Reid (President for the 1925-26 Session) delivered his Presidential address on "Amateur Observations with a Six-Inch telescope". After giving an account of the activities of the Society, Mr Reid gave a description of the various heavenly bodies and phenomena as seen by him with his telescope, and mentioned the deductions he has arrived at from these observations. The lecture was received with applause.

Several members spoke & the Chairman expressed the appreciation of the meeting to Mr Reid.

The meeting then terminated.

H. Spencer Jones

1927 July 27

Minutes of a meeting of the Council of the Astronomical Society of South Africa held at the Wesleyan Church School, Rosebank on Monday, 20th June 1927 at 8 pm.

Present Dr. Spence Jones (President) in the Chair, Messrs Cox, Folger, Janssen, Long, McIntyre, Reid, Schoneveld, Smith & Throughton (Hon. Secretary)

Attendance The Secretary reported that Capt. Cameron-Swan had appointed Mr. McIntyre as his alternate.

Minutes The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. Long stated that a sum of £10.5.0 had been subscribed towards the purchase of a gift for Dr. Halm. A case of drawing instruments, a parallel ruler, & the balance of £1 had been presented to Dr. Halm. Mr. Long also mentioned that the "Cape Times" would shortly print a report of Mr. Reid's Presidential Address given on the 8th June.

Correspondence The Secretary laid on the table the letters received & copies of those written since the last meeting. The following were considered: Letter of 22 March to Mr. Blackwagt conveying the Council's congratulations on his discovery of a comet in January, and his reply of 27 March. Mr. Reid stated that the medal awarded for that discovery had been received by Mr. Blackwagt.

Letter of 21 May from the Secretary to the Natal Astronomical Association stating that the Association would shortly consider the question of joining the Society.

Letter of 6 June from Mr. C. J. Hooper regarding his rotating ether theory. The Secretary was instructed to reply to him that it was hardly possible to give an opinion on the theory without a reasoned and connected account, in which the whole subject of aberration and the motion of light in moving media would need to be considered.

Letter of 13 June from C. J. Greenway, Alkmaar, Etosvlei, asking as to joining the Society. The Secretary was instructed to give the necessary information.

Letter of 12 April from Mr. J. R. Miller; the Council

approved the supply to him free of charge of 24 charts for the Universal Journal  
Correspondence with the Cape & Pharmasburg Centres regarding members  
in good standing at 31 May, & the nominations for the next Council.

### Financial Position

The Treasurer reported a balance in hand of £ 1. 16. 10; the following  
payments were however outstanding: Journal £ 5. 17. 3; Dr. H. Alun  
(Universal Journal Book - half forewds) £ 1. 5. 6; Treasurer 5/9; and  
small sums for electric light and bank charges. He has however  
since received £ 11. 16. 0 from the Pharmasburg Centre (made up of  
£ 10. 15. 0 as current year's contribution, <sup>(10/6 arrears)</sup> and 10/6 donation). He  
also expected a payment from the Cape Centre at the end of  
June. Mrs. Yealey kindly donated £ 3. 2. 0 to the Society's  
funds which was warmly received. It was agreed that  
the Society should pay the £ 1 due as rent for the room  
used for the general meeting on the 8th June.

### Journal Committee

The Editor reported the matter in hand for the next Journal; he  
kinds Presidential Address, and reviews of three books; the Annual  
Reports of the Society & Centres would also be included. Discussion took  
place as to the cost of the last Journal - Vol. 2. No. 1 (£ 30. 17. 3) and  
the extra charge made for tabular matter. It was thought that  
quotations from other firms might be obtained though the work  
of the present printer was very satisfactory and their charges  
not unreasonable. An advertisement of Dr. H. Alun's Universal  
Journal would be inserted in the next Journal. The purchase  
of wrappers for the Journal previously approved had not been  
made and was again ~~approved~~ authorized.

### Nominations for next Council

The Secretary stated that at 31 May the Cape Centre had  
48 members in good standing and the Pharmasburg Centre  
19; giving a quota on the Council of 8.6 for the Cape and  
3.4 for Pharmasburg. It was agreed that the Pharmasburg  
Centre should have 4 representatives. Discussion took  
place regarding the late payment by members of their sub-  
scriptions and it was thought that the reminders usually

circulated should be sent at an earlier date. Mr Schaeffer mentioned that one or two names would probably be struck off the roll of the Cape Centre as lapsed, and also that three members had paid their subscriptions since 31 May. It was agreed to send Voting Papers to the latter, but the above quota would not be changed. After informal discussion the following nominations were handed in:

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Seconded</u>
President	Senator the Hon A.W. Roberts.	Dr Spencer Jones	Mr Houghton
Vice President	W.H. Cox	Mr Long	Mr Reid
do.	Dr H. Spencer Jones	.. Reid	.. Cox
do.	H.E. Wood	.. Reid	.. Cox
Secretary	H.E. Houghton	Dr Spencer Jones	.. Long
Treasurer	W.H. Smith	Mr Cox	.. Inchtipe
Members of Council	Capt. D. Cameron-Swan	.. Inchtipe	.. Reid
do.	G.R. Innes	.. Smith	.. Long
do.	Dr J.K. Halm	.. Cox	.. Long
do.	B.F. Jersey	.. Reid	.. Schaeffer
do.	Mr Long	.. Inchtipe	.. Jersey
do.	J. Mackenzie	.. Long	.. Smith
do.	D.G. Inchtipe	.. Reid	.. Schaeffer
do.	W. Reid	.. Schaeffer	.. Houghton
do.	H.W. Schaeffer	.. Inchtipe	.. Reid
do.	R. Watson	Dr Spencer Jones	.. Reid
Auditor	E. Steer	Dr Spencer Jones	.. Jersey

The Johannesburg Centre had been asked to send at least 4 nominations and they were being sent on the 23rd June. If that Centre nominated a Vice President, making with the three Vice Presidents nominated above a total of 4, a ballot for the 3 Vice Presidents prescribed would be necessary, and the Council decided that in such case after the ballot the unsuccessful nominee for Vice President would rank with the persons nominated as members of Council, of which only



six in all would be declared elected.

The Secretary stated he would probably be away from Cape Town for some months and it was suggested that Mr. S. Skewes be asked to act as his alternate and as Secretary of the Society.

### Amendment of Constitution

After discussion the following amendment of the Constitution proposed by Messrs. Thompson, Long, McIntyre, Reid and Chapman was handed in, and in accordance with Article XXII would be circulated with the ballot papers:

"Section (iii) of Article VII of the Constitution shall be amended to read as follows: the words to be added are underlined:

'(iii). The Council shall meet at Headquarters. Any member of Council domiciled more than fifty miles from Headquarters or who otherwise has obtained the permission of the Council may, by notification in writing to the Secretary of the Society, appoint an elected member of the Society to be his alternate for the period of his office. In the event of his being <sup>ably</sup> himself to attend any meeting of the Council his alternate may also attend, but shall not have a vote.' "

### Annual Report

The Secretary read the draft Annual Report of the Council which after certain amendments was approved.

### Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will be held on 27 July: the President stated that his address would probably deal with Stellar Evolution.

### Computing Section

No action had been taken, but volunteers will be invited in the Council's Annual Report.

The meeting then terminated.

Notes by Secretary The following further nominations were received on 27 June

	<u>Vice President</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Seconded</u>
Members of Council:	Miss H.L. Thompson	Mr Stevens	Mr Forrest
	W.B. Jackson	Miss Thompson	Mr Stevens
do.	J.D. Stevens	Mr Geddes	Mr Forrest

B. Spencer Jones

1927 Aug 15.