

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Astronomical Society of South Africa held at 35 Water Street, Cape Town, on Wednesday, the 27th July 1927 at 8 pm.

The Chair was taken by the President, Dr. H. Spence Jones. There was a good attendance.

Minutes The minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the 28th July 1926, and of the General Meeting of the 5th June 1927 were each read & confirmed.

Annual Report The Secretary read the Council's Annual Report for the Session 1926-27: the adoption of the Report was moved by Mr Cox, seconded by Mr Jackson, & agreed to.

Closing of Ballot At 8.30 pm. the Chairman declared the ballot closed, and appointed Messrs De Kock & Skewes as scrutineers.

Financial Statement The Treasurer read the Audited Financial Statement for the year ended 30th June 1927, showing a balance in hand of £22.19.8; a further sum of £5 had since been received as a donation from the Natal Astronomical Association. The adoption of the Statement was moved by Mr Cox, seconded by Mr Reid, and agreed to.

Reports of Observing Sections The Report of the Comet Section was read by the Director, Mr W. Reid. He mentioned that eleven comets had been observed during the year, of which two new comets had been discovered by Mr Blathwayt himself. The Chairman expressed the Society's congratulations to Mr Reid.

The Report of the Mars Section (Director, Dr. Mevio) was read by the Secretary. A number of drawings of the Planet by members were circulated - generally conditions at the Cape had been unfavourable and the Chairman remarked that the seeing at Johannesburg was superior for planetary observations. He expressed the Society's thanks to Dr. Mevio.

The Report of the Variable Star Section (Director, Mr. G. Ennor) was read by Mr Smith and showed that 3,400 observations

had been made by members during the session; this was a record figure. The Chairman referred to the importance of this work and offered the past use of a telescope at the Royal Observatory to any member who wished to observe variables. The Society's thanks to his honor were expressed.

Presidential Address

Dr Spencer Jones then delivered his Presidential Address on Stellar Evolutions, showing the advances made in recent years in this branch of Astronomy. The lecture was received with applause, and his Lord expressed the Society's appreciation and thanks.

New Council Result of Ballot

The Chairman stated that the nominations for the undermentioned offices were only sufficient to fill those offices, and the following were declared duly elected:-

President: Senator the Hon. A.W. Roberts, D.Sc., F.R.S.E., F.R.A.S.

Hon. Secretary: H.E. Troughton

Hon. Treasurer: W.H. Smith

Auditor: E.J. Stee

The ballot for Vice Presidents resulted as follows:-

	Votes
H.S. Spencer Jones, M.A., Sc.D.	27
H.E. Wood, M.Sc., F.R.A.S.	23
W.H. Cox	20
Miss H.E. Troughton	20

The first two named were declared duly elected as Vice Presidents.

Only 3 Vice Presidents were required and as a tie had resulted for the third vacancy the names of Mr Cox and Miss Troughton were submitted to the meeting, and after a show of hands, Miss Troughton was declared duly elected as a Vice President.

In accordance with the Council's decision Mr Cox thereupon ranked with those persons nominated as members of Council, the ballot for whom resulted as follows:-

	Votes		Votes
A. W. Long F.R.S.	30	R. Watson	14
W. Reid	26	G. E. Cusor	11
J. K. E. Halm, Ph.D., F.R.S.	25	(S. B. Jackson M.Sc.	11
H. W. Schongewel	23	B. F. Jearley	8
W. H. Cox	20	J. Mackenzie	8
D. G. W. Hutty	16	J. D. Stevens	6
Capt. A. Cameron Swan	15		

Of these the Cape Centre was entitled to 4, and the Johannesburg Centre to 2 representatives, and the Chairman thereupon declared the following duly elected as members of Council:-
Messrs. A. W. Long, W. Reid, Dr. J. K. E. Halm, Messrs Schongewel, Jackson and Stevens

Amendment of Constitution
The Voting for the proposed amendment of the Constitution resulted as follows: In favour 32; Against 0, & the Chairman therefore declared the following amendment duly adopted: viz:-

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

"(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 able himself to attend any meeting of the Council his alternate may also attend, but shall not have a vote."

The Chairman welcomed Mr Jackson, a Johannesburg member of Council, who was present at the meeting.

The meeting then terminated

Alex H. Bell