

Minutes of a meeting of the Council of the
Astronomical Society of South Africa held at the Wesleyan
Church School, Rosebank, on Monday, 7th Nov. 1927 at 8 p.m.

Present

Dr Roberts (President) in the chair, Dr. Spencer, Mrs. Capt.
Cameron-Swan, Messrs Cox, Forbes, Long, Kinnear, Mr Hutchings, Skewes,
Smith, Strangman (Hon. Secretary)

The Chairman expressed his pleasure at his election
as President and said that although political duties were
claimed all his time, his interest in Astronomy which
had extended over 40 years, was unabated. The
Secretary explained that owing to Dr Roberts' early departure
from Cape Town, the usual 14 days' notice of the meeting had
not been given.

Alternates

The Secretary reported that -
Mr Wood had appointed Mr. Hutchings as his alternate, &
Dr Halm as . . . Capt. Cameron-Swan . . . ; the
Council approved the latter appointment.

Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were read & confirmed.
The Secretary stated that he had written to Mr. Ryall (Associate)
in Durban with his subscription & had received no reply. Mr.
Ryall's name was therefore ordered to be removed from the
list of associates. Inquiries were being made as regards
Professor Plummer & Mr. Tiffin.

Computing
Section

Regarding the formation of a Computing Section, there
had not yet been time for any response from members to
the note included in the Council's Report for 1926-27. The
Chairman questioned the ability of amateurs to undertake
much work of value in computing, & it was thought that,
thanks to the kindness of the Royal Meridian Observatories, little
additional work by members seemed necessary.

The Secretary mentioned that Mr H. Horrocks had arrived
at the Royal Observatory as successor to Dr. Halm & had since
joined the Society.

Confer-
ence The Secretary said on the table the letters received & copies of those written since the last meeting. The following were considered:
 Letters of 21 August from Secretary to Pharmaceutical Centre regarding 3 members who were 2 years in arrears with their subscriptions.
 The Secretary was instructed to write informing them of their position.
 Letters of 9 Sept. from the Secretary, & 2 Nov. from the President, of the Natal Astronomical Assn. who after careful consideration were not at present prepared to become a branch of the Society. Several of their members had been proposed as members of the Society.

Financial
portion The Treasurer reported a balance in hand of £25.1.10. He had received an account for printing the last Journal of £42.0.6. After discussion as to how this sum was arrived at, Mr Long, Treasurer, & Secretary were appointed to look into the matter. The Treasurer was instructed to pay the printer £20 on account. The Secretary read a letter of 1 Nov. from Detroit offering to pay half the cost of the Mars Plate in the last Journal: the payment made was £29.6 of which Detroit wd. pay £1.4.9. The Council expressed their appreciation.
 The President & the Treasurer appended their signatures to a letter to Barclay's Bank giving the names of the Society's officers.

Journal The Secretary reported that 300 copies of Journal (Vol 2. No. 2) were delivered at the end of October & distributed as usual. The Chairman remarked on the excellence of that issue & referred to the good services of the Editor. The Council approved the supply to the Natal Astronomical Assn. of 35 copies of the Journal. The publisher (Messrs Ginn & Co) had promised to supply a copy of the new edition of Young's Astronomy for review. The Secretary was instructed to write for review copies of "An Outline of Stellar Astronomy" by P. Doig; "Modern Astronomy" by Hector Macpherson; and "The Universe of Stars" (Harvard Radio Talks). Reference was made to a new book on "Comets & the Sun" by Dr. J. W. Keiser, copies of which had been received by the Chairman & the Editor.

— President

Presidential
Address

The chairman said he was very willing to give his Presidential address in 1928. The date could be considered at the next meeting of the Council.

The Secretary was instructed to write to Mr. Reid, expressing the Council's regret at his absence & their sincere hope for his early restoration to health.

The meeting then terminated.

Ala W. K. K. K.