

minutes of a special meeting of the Council of the astronomical Society of S.A. held at Bures Hotel, 57a Long St. Capetown on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1931 at 7.45 p.m.

Present: Captain Cameron-Swan (in the chair) Messrs Barrell, Horrocks, Teasey, Dr Spencer-Jones, Messrs Long, Macou, Schonegevel, Watson & the Hon. Secretary.

Natal A.A. A letter from Mr Wickes the Natal secretary was read regretting that the proposed amalgamation of the N.A.A. with the society had been delayed.

The Annual report was discussed by the meeting and various alterations & deletions made.

T'burg representation. The secretary reported that a list of members & associates in good standing had been received from the T'burg secretary the day before. No nominations from that centre had been received at all. The numbers of members in good standing ~~out~~ of the two centres were: Cape 67, T'burg 18, and the representation on the Council should therefore be 9.46 to 2.54, i.e. 9 Cape members to 3 T'burg members. Unfortunately only two T'burg names were on the ballot sheet, those of Dr Alder & Mr Wood. It was agreed however that the Council could do nothing in the matter, apart from ensuring Mr Wood's election — Dr Alder was, of course, opposed.

Annual General Meeting. It was agreed that the address should precede the business, so as to suit those present who were unable to stay late.

The meeting then terminated.

HW Schonegevel Chairman  
August 17. 1931

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Astronomical Society held at Benson House 6-7a Long St. Cape Town on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1931 at 8. pm.

Present. Captain Cameron-Swan (in the chair) and twenty-four members & visitors.

Minutes. The minutes of the last annual General Meeting were read & confirmed.

Address. Captain Cameron-Swan then gave his presidential address, on 'Rev. Fearon Fallows, the first of His Majesty's astronomers at the Cape'.

The subject was suggested to the speaker by the fact that it was the centenary of the death of Mr Fallows. He traced the history of the founding of the Observatory at the Cape, pointed out the many difficulties under which Mr Fallows laboured, & finally showed how admirably they had been overcome.

A number of lantern slides were to have been shown, but a mishap to the epidiascope prevented their being shown.

A vote of thanks, moved by Dr Spencer Jones and seconded by Mr Macou, was carried amidst applause.

Ballot. The chairman declared the ballot closed at this stage, & appointed Messrs Burrell & de Kock as scrutineers.

Annual Report. This was read by the secretary.

Financial Report. This was read by Mr Long — the balance in hand being £22-18-10, a fraction better than

the previous year's.

The adoption of both reports was moved by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Pratt, & carried unan. con.

Section reports. These were read as follows:-

(a) Variable star report <sup>and</sup> (by the secretary)

(b) Comet section report <sup>from Mr. Ennis & Mr. J. J. Forbes, Secretary</sup> (by Mr. Long)

Mr. Teasey said a few words in connection with the Mass section, while the reports of the Computing & Meteor sections were not to hand.

Result of ballot. The following <sup>officers</sup> were returned unopposed:-  
~~to the Council~~:-

President: Dr. H. L. Alden, A.B. Ph.D.

Vice Presidents: D. L. Forbes F.R.A.S.

W. H. Cox

H. W. Schoregevel.

Secretary: H. Horrocks, M.A. F.R.A.S.

Treasurer: W. H. Smith.

Auditor: E. J. Steet.

7 of the six members of council the voting was as follows:-

Captain Cameron-Swan 27

A. W. Long. 27

H. E. Wood. 25

Dr. Spencer Jones 26

B. F. Teasey. 20.

D. G. W. Lutye 23

H. C. Mason. 19.

of these Capt. Cameron-Swan, Dr. Spencer Jones, & Messrs A. W. Long, D. G. W. Lutye, H. E. Wood & B. F. Teasey were declared elected.

Amendment to Constitution. This was carried by 22 votes to nil.

Article XIX of the Constitution be amended by altering the title to "Honorary members and members emeriti" and by the addition of the words "Upon the recommendation of the Council, a General Meeting may elect as a Member Emeritus any member who has rendered distinguished and outstanding services to the society. Such member emeritus shall be exempt from the payment of any subscription, but shall have all the rights and privileges of a member, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Constitution of the Society."

Members Emeriti. The chairman put before the meeting the motion of the council, which read 'Subject to the approval by the general meeting of the above amendment, the names of Dr J.K.E. Hahn & Mr E. J. Steer be submitted for election as members emeriti.'

The two gentlemen were elected with acclamation.

The chairman made a brief reference to the assistance given him during the year by the members of the Council, & hoped the new Council would meet with every success.

The meeting then terminated.

Harold L. Alden.