

Minutes of a Meeting of the ~~the~~ Council of the Astronomical Society of South Africa held at the Royal Observatory Cape of Good Hope, on Monday 14th May 1934 at 8:15 pm.

Present

Mr. McIntyre in the Chair, Dr Jackson, Capt Cameron Swan, Messrs Alleton, Andrews, Houghton, Peers, Pratt, Schonegevel, Smith and the Hon. Sec.

A letter had been received from Mr. Hankivell regretting that he would be unable to attend on account of his wife's illness.

Minutes

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 15th January 1934 were read and confirmed.

Mr. Alleton reported that he had secured permission to have the use of the Jagger Hall, Bishop's Preparatory School, at a nominal charge (not exceeding two shillings per session) for the meetings of the Mathematical Section. Other expenses were not expected to exceed two shillings monthly. The Council authorised the expenditure, and expressed thanks to Mr. Alleton for his services in making these arrangements.

The Natal Centenary Committee would require to receive the full amount of the guarantee. The treasurer reported that the sum was now available and the Council authorised immediate payment.

Correspondence. Captain Cameron Swan handed in a letter from Mr. J. L. Faboo reporting on the progress of the Natal Centre.

A letter had been received from Mr. Long thanking the Council for their expression of good wishes to himself and Mrs. Long on their sailing for England.

Financial

The treasurer stated that there was a balance of £14-5-5. Payment for the last issue of the journal had been completed.

Constitution and Byelaws

A proposal had been received by letter from Mr Sutton to the effect that ^{consideration of} the ^{of the revised} draft constitution should be held over; and that the subcommittee which had drawn it up be charged with the task of reconsidering his memorandum in toto, and ~~for~~ of furnishing detailed explanations in all cases in which the proposals had not been adopted, of the reasons for their rejection. The Council rejected this proposal and held that there was not sufficient cause to rescind its ^{decisions} at its last meeting. The remaining articles (xviii to xxiii) were then considered, the subcommittee reporting the substance of the proposed amendments that had been received and its findings thereon. ~~The~~ articles xx and xxii were amended the former so that right of appeal should be to the next meeting of the society, and the latter so that amendments to the constitution might be presented "with the signature of at least five members". Mr Sutton's ~~comments~~ ^{comments} on the introduction were then considered but it was decided to retain the form as amended at the last meeting. An amendment to article vii was then submitted by the subcommittee in accordance with the decision of the last council meeting and adopted.

The draft constitution with introduction, as amended at these two meetings of the Council, the amendments being incorporated in full in the Secretary's copy, was then adopted by the Council, Mr Sutton dissenting on two points (a) in Art xvi

The following motion was then carried. "That the amended constitution with introduction be submitted to the next annual general meeting with the recommendation of the Council that it be adopted."

The byelaws were then considered and such alterations were made as the facts of the proposed new constitution necessitated. Byelaws 4 and 10 were deleted, not having been incorporated in the constitution. Other amendments were incorporated in the secretary's copy.

That 14 days is insufficient notice for many country members

(b) in Art xxii that amendments may be passed at a special general meeting, unless the Council have power to withhold approval of such meeting being called.

It was resolved that the amended bylaws should also be submitted to the annual general meeting with the Council's recommendation that they be adopted.

It was resolved that the amended forms of the constitution and of the bylaws, as adopted by the council, be printed or reproduced by some process for distribution to the members together with ballot forms. The President and Secretary were empowered to place an order for this to be done in whatever manner should commend itself to them after inquiries as to cost.

The meeting then terminated.

J. Jackson

1934 June 25.