

Astronomical Society of South Africa

Minutes of Council Meeting held at the Royal Observatory on Wednesday the 24th April 1946 at 8 P.M.

Present: Dr. Hay (in the Chair), Messrs^{Hind,} de Kock, de Wet, Schinckel, Davies, Borchers, Houghton, Krumm, Johnston, Payne, Jager, and the Hon. Secretary.

The Minutes of Council Meeting held on the 5th Dec. 1945 were read and confirmed.

Arising out of the Minutes, the Hon. Secretary informed members that letters had been received confirming the appointment of the Alternates for those Council members residing at a distance from Headquarters.

A letter of thanks for the contribution towards the Henry Norris Russell Lectureship Fund was read by Dr. Hay.

The Hon. Secretary read a letter received from Mrs. Wood, in which she thanks the Council for the expressions of sympathy in her recent bereavement.

The Financial Statement read by Mr. Krumm showed a balance in hand of £63. 3. 0. Mr. Krumm said that in order to balance the finances of the Society, at least 150 members were required.

The cost of the Monthly Notes had increased, and also the subscription to for the "Sky & Telescope".

It was suggested that the subscription to the Society be increased to £1. 5/- per annum, but no decision was arrived at.

Dr. Hay read extracts from letters received from Dr. Van den Bos, Dr. Paraskewopoulos, and Dr. Redman, who gave their views on the desirability or otherwise of establishing Centres of the Society at Johannesburg and Pretoria.

Dr. Van den Bos was not in favour of differentiating between 'Professional' and 'Amateur' astronomers in the Society, and would welcome the formation of a Johannesburg Centre, but was not prepared to be the organiser of such a project.

Dr. Redman was ~~not~~ in favour of starting a Centre
in Pretoria. Views on the same subjects were read to the meeting in
letters received by Mr. Schinack from W. Fokes, and by
Mr. Davies from Mr. Cousins.

The report of the Schools Sub-committee, comprising Messrs. Johnston, Payne & Payer who were welcomed to the meeting by Dr. May, was read to the meeting.

After some discussion it was decided to hold a Vacation course for school teachers in Astronomy in the October holidays. Should this prove successful, another series of lectures would be arranged for June, 1947.

This concluded the business for the evening.

R. H. Stoy
3.7.46.