

Astronomical Society of South Africa

Minutes of Council Meeting held at the Royal Observatory on Wednesday the 3rd July 1946 at 8 P.M.

Present: Dr. Hoy (in the Chair), Messrs Hirst, de Kock, Krumm, de Vlet, Schirack, Davies, Borchers, Orpen, Johnston and the Hon. Secretary.

The Minutes of Council Meeting held on the 24th April 1946 were read and confirmed, after a slight amendment had been made.

Arising out of the Minutes Dr. Hoy read a letter received from Dr. Blesley, who was of the opinion that a Johannesburg Centre was feasible with the Witwatersrand University Astronomical Association as its nucleus. Dr. Hoy's reply was read to the meeting, who, on Mr. Hirst's motion, seconded by Mr. Schirack, approved of the letter sent.

The Financial Statement read by Mr. Krumm showed a balance of £65.15/- This Statement was adopted by the Council on the motion of Mr. Krumm seconded by Mr. Hirst, who moved, seconded by Mr. Borchers, that the financial position be reviewed in a year's time.

Mr. Davies, seconded by Mr. Johnston, moved a vote of thanks to the Hon. Treasurer for his work during the year.

The Annual Report of the Natal Centre was read by Mr. Davies. The Natal Centre had lost three Foundation members through death during the year, but showed a net increase of three on its roll of members compared with last year.

The Report showed that the Centre had been active during the year, six ordinary and eleven Observational meetings having been held.

A letter received by the Hon. Secretary ^{from Mr. Coenins} giving details of the Natal Centre was read.

Dr. Hoy read a ~~copy of~~ ^{receipt} letter ~~sent~~ from Mr. Coenins in which the writer makes some suggested changes in the Constitution of the Society.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Coenins for his work for astronomy in Natal was proposed by Mr. Hirst, seconded by Mr. Davies, and passed by the meeting.

Mr. Borchers informed members of the syllabus for the lectures to teachers which were to be given in August. A typed copy of the syllabus was circulated among

members of the Council. Mr. Borchards said that Mr. ~~Payne~~^{Payne} was negotiating the loan of short astronomical films.

The following officers for the session 1946-47 were nominated by the Council for election^{on} at the Annual General Meeting:

President: Mr. W. P. Hint 5-1258, Telephone

Vice-Presidents: Dr. Hoy, Dr. Redman, Mr. E. C. Chubb.

Hon. Secretary: Mr. Menzies

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. Krumm.

Hon. Auditor: Mr. Orben.

Members of Council: Dr. Jackson, Dr. Paraskewopoulos, Dr. Van den Bos, Messrs. Cousins, Mumford, Houghton, Forbes, and Dr. Knox-Maw.

Amendment to Constitution The following amendment to the Constitution was moved by Dr. Hoy, seconded by Mr. Krumm: That, if ratified by the Annual General Meeting of the constituent Centres of the Society, members residing more than 25 miles from a duly constituted Centre be elected to membership of the Society, and not as members of the nearest Centre.

The resignations of the Rev. Macpherson, and of Messrs. Steyn and Willcock were accepted with regret by the Council.

Van Bent - Honorary Member It was decided to ~~nominat~~^{elect} Dr. H. Van Bent as an Honorary Member. ~~for election at the Annual General Meeting.~~

The Draft Annual Report of the Council, prepared by the Hon. Secretary was read to the meeting and adopted for presentation at the Annual General Meeting.

This concluded the business for the evening.

A hearty vote of thanks to Dr. and Mrs. Hoy for their hospitality was passed by those present.

W. P. Hint.