

Astronomical Society of South Africa

Minutes of Council Meeting held at the Royal Observatory on Wednesday October 19, 1949, at 8. P.M.

Present: Messrs Krumm (in the Chair), Schirach, Davies, Johnson, Woy, Turner, Hirst, ^{Borchards,} and the Hon. Secretary.

The Minutes of Council Meeting held on the 27th June 1949 were read and confirmed.

Mr Krumm read the Financial Statement which showed a balance at the Bank of ~~£105.~~ ^{£92.17/-}

The appointment of the following Alternates was confirmed: Dr. Jackson for Mr. Finson; Mr. Turner for Dr. Blesley; Mr. Davies for Mr. Bentley; Mr. Schirach for Dr. Thackeray; Mr. Cousins for Mr. Finnis; and Mr. Borchards for Mr. Johnson.

The following were elected Members of the Society: Mr Robert N. Mills, PO Box 11, Somerset East, for Mr Bentley, see. Mr. Wilmer; Mr E.F. Rhotegan, "Brouderbury", Albina Rd, Newlands, for Mr. Davies, see. Mr. Hirst.; Mr F. R. Leitich, 37a Mudgee Avenue, Roetank, Johannesburg, for Mr. Beggs, see. Mr. Kirchhoff; Dr A. E. Flax, 27 Duran Rd, Morningside, Cape, for Mr. Manjies, see Dr. Woy; Mr W. Saunders, 31 Hiddingleh Rd, Bergvliet, C.P., for Mr. Manjies, see. Dr. Woy; Mr D. Pugh, 35 Sherwood Rd, Forestown, Johannesburg.

The increased cost of "Sky & Telescope" owing to devaluation was discussed. Messrs E. L. Johnson, Finson and Thackeray, in letters received by the Hon. Secretary and read to the meeting, were in favour of continuing the subscription to "Sky & Telescope", while Mr Bentley was in favour of dropping the periodical and improving the Monthly Notes.

It was decided to continue with "Sky & Telescope" to the end of the present financial year (June 1950), and to ask members' opinion in the interval, on the question of retaining the periodical in the future, with an increase in the annual subscription, or of dropping it entirely.

The Hon. Treasurer was to write to the proprietors of Sky & Telescope explaining our difficulties, and asking for revision of terms.

The resignation of M. Gibson was accepted.

It was decided to issue a "Handbook" for 1950 on the general lines of that for 1949.

Mr. Johnson said that he would obtain quotations from printers for the Handbook and also for the Monthly Notes.

It was decided to ask the Cape Centre to sponsor an interschool Quiz on the radio, on astronomical subjects.

The Hon. Secretary was asked to write to the four Provincial Education departments asking their views on an essay competition for schools on an astronomical subject, the essay to be written early next year.

This ended the business for the evening.

J. Jackson
Chairman

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