

Astronomical Society of South Africa.

Minutes of Council Meeting held at the Royal Observatory on Tuesday September 29th, 1953, at 8.15 P.M.

Present: Dr. Evans (in the Chair), Dr. Stoy, Messrs. Borchards, Johnston, Orpen, Christ, Cousins and the Acting Hon. Secretary.

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on August 12th 1953 were read and confirmed.

The following were elected Members of the Society:
Mr. Philip W. Tyler, 1 Stirling Court, Becker St. Observatory, J.H.B.
Mr. T. Tubb, 1 Stirling Court, Observatory, J.H.B.
Mr. J. N. Kilian, 62- Sixth Avenue, Newton Park, P.E.
Miss Chloe Beaumont, P. O. Box 198, Germiston;
and the following subject to his name appearing in the Monthly Notes:-

Mr. C. C. Lundy, Chatterton, Tennant Road, Wynberg, C.P.

A Resolution that the Monthly Notes be sent gratis to Scientific Institutions, proposed by Dr. Stoy and seconded by Mr. Borchards, was carried unanimously.

The Financial Position of the Society as at this Council Meeting was read by Mr. Orpen. It showed that the Society's Expenditure since the beginning of the Financial Year had been £67.1.7, and its Receipts £116.3.7, which, together with its Credit Balance of £24.17.7 at 1st July, 1953, gave a Balance of £73.19.7.

It was decided that the issue of the Monthly Notes and "Sky and Telescope" be stopped to all Members not having paid their subscriptions.

The Editors agreed to go ahead with the preparation of the 1954 Handbook on the condition that it did not cost more than in previous years.

The Dollar situation of the Society was discussed and Mr. Orpen showed that it was far from

satisfactory. The Society's Membership had increased considerably during the last few years, but the amount of dollar-currency allowed to the Society had not, so that it now had difficulty in meeting its dues in the U.S.A. for "Sky and Telescope". Mr. Orpen agreed to contact the Import Control Authorities again on his return from holiday, with a view to getting the Society's dollar-permit increased.

Mr. D.D. Robertson was re-elected a Member of the Society, as it had been found that although at present a Council Member, he was not a Member officially.

The Natal and Port Elizabeth Centres were also discussed at some length, and the efforts of the President in attempting to guide the latter in its work were commended. It was agreed that in order to re-vitalize the Natal Centre, which, as explained by Mr. Cousins had ^{become much} ~~degenerated~~ ^{less active} ~~very considerably~~ in recent years, the Society should endeavour to enlist ^{the aid of members of} ~~some of those~~ ^{and of members from the other centres} ~~local~~ ^{University} ~~with~~ ^{providing} the Staffs of the Natal Centre, ~~as it appeared that there were none belonging to the Centre at present who were willing to do this.~~

The Council learned, ^{with pleasure} from Dr. Stoy that Mr. Krumm was making a successful recovery from his recent illness.

The Meeting ended at 9.20 P.M.

S. Archer. (For Hon. Sec)

R. H. Stoy
27.11.53