

Astronomical Society of South Africa

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at the Royal Observatory on Wednesday 27th July 1955 at 8 p.m.

Dr. Stary presided. About 16 persons were present.

Apologies for absence were received from Dr. Kirchhoff, & Messrs Orpen and Menzies.

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 21st July 1954 were read and confirmed.

The Financial Statement, prepared by Mr. Orpen & read by Mr. Krumm, was adopted on the motion of Mr. Simenhoff, seconded by Mr. Barchevds. Mr. Krumm reminded members of their indebtedness to Dr. Stary.

The Report of the Council for the 1954-5 session was read by the acting Hon. Secretary.

Mr. Krumm presented the Reports of the Observing Sections, amplifying the brief reports in order to give a clearer impression of what was being done.

The chairman announced the results of the Essay Competition and presented a Second Prize to J. Rooo, the only winner able to be present.

Mr. Duncan read the Annual Report of the Transvaal Centre.

The Presidential Address was read on behalf of Dr. P. Kirchhoff by Mr. Duncan. In dealing with "The Amateur in Astronomy, Past and Present", the President emphasized the part played by non-professional workers in the development of the science of astronomy, & concluded by suggesting some activities by which present-day amateurs could make useful contributions. Prof. Menzies proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. Kirchhoff for his address & to Mr. Duncan for reading it. This was carried with acclamation.

The chairman announced the result of the

election of officers & members of Council for the 1955-6 session as follows:

President: Dr. W. H. van den Bos

Vice-Presidents: Dr. P. Kirchhoff, Dr. R. H. Story & Mr. S. C. Venter

Hon. Secretary: Mr. A. Menzies

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. G. Orpen

Members of Council: Prof. G. G. Cillie, Dr. D. S. Evans, Prof. G. H. Menzies & Dr. A. D. Thackray.

The meeting ended at 9.45 pm.

a w/ Consent (for Hon. Secretary)

W. H. van den Bos.