Astronomical Society of Southern Africa

Minutes of a meeting held at the Royal Observatory on Thursday June 5, 1958 at 8. P.M.

The attendance was good.

After Dr. Cloy had introduced the speaker for the evening, Dr. M.W. Feast, Dr. Feast spoke on "Groups of Young Stars", the subject for his Presidential Address.

Dr. Feast said that the youngest stars were the hot O + B-type stars. All available evidence showed that these stars were all formed in closed-up groups, and had since separated from the centre of the original cluster.

At the conclusion of the talk, Mr. Hirst moved a vote of thanks to the speaker, those present assenting in the usual manner.

Mr. Hirst said that although Dr. Feast had spoken for an hour and a half, he had succeeded in holding the attention and interest of his audience by the lucid and ~~ete~~ simple manner of presentation of an involved subject.

The meeting ended at 9.30 P.M.

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of Council Meeting held at the Royal Observatory on Thursday 5th June 1958 at 9.30 p.m.

Present: Dr. Feast (in the chair) Drs. Stoy and Cousins, Messrs Meadows, Duncan, Churms, Orpen, Hirst, Johnston, Krumm, and the Hon. Secretary.

An Apology for absence had been received from Dr. Evans and Mr. Russo.

The Minutes of Council Meeting held on 5th May 1958 were read and confirmed.

Finance: The Financial Statement presented by Mr. Orpen was as follows:-

Statement of Financial Position at 5th June 1958

Expenditure.

	£ s. d.
Subscription to "Sky and Telescope" for period April 1957 to March 1958	252. 2. 5.
Cost of production of MNASSA for period July 1957 to April 1958 including index 1957	122.11. 1.
Cost of production of Handbook for 1958	29. 9. 0.
Collating, wrapping and despatch of MNASSA and "Sky & Telescope" July 1957 to April 1958, and of Handbook.	31. 1. 6.
Postage on above	40. 2. 6.
Stationery and circulars to Council Members	4.19. 6.
Postage other than above	3. 5. 0.
Essay Competition prizes	7. 7. 0.
Preparation of copies of Constitution as amended	12. 4. 0.
Purchase of 100 copies of "Sir John Herschel at the Cape"	28. 2. 6.
Purchase of Addressograph	14. 0. 0.
Reprints for Radcliffe	6. 0. 0.
Bank Charges	2.16. 3.
Fixed Deposit Receipt	125. 0. 0.
Credit balance 5/6/1958	19. 9. 2.
	£698. 9.11.

Receipts.

		£ s. d.
Credit balance 1/7/1957		128.13. 9.
Subscriptions		
Arrears.	10.13. 0.	
Current.	483. 9. 0.	
Advance.	11.11. 0.	
		505.13. 0.
Entrance Fees		29. 8. 0.
Sale of back and extra numbers of "Sky and Telescope"		1. 1. 0.
Sale of M.N.A.S.S.A.		21. 8. 8.
Sale of Handbooks		1.16. 0.
Sale of copies of "Universal Sundial"		-.10. 0.
Payment by Radcliffe Observatory for reprints of article in MNASSA and covers		7. 0. 0.
Sale of copies of "Sir John Herschel at the Cape"		-.13. 0.
Exchange on cheques		1. 8. 6.
Contributions to the Gill Medal Fund		-.18. 0.
		£698. 9.11.

NOTE:- The debit balance in the Gill Medal Fund, amounting to £7.11. 0. is included in the above.

Garrett Orpen

Hon. Treasurer.

The following were elected Members subject to their names appearing in the Monthly Notes and no objection being received within a month:

Mrs. B. Bloom, 9 Wraysbury Gardens, Wraysbury Close, Newlands, Cape.

The Bancroft Astronomical Society, P.O. Box 209, Bancroft, Northern Rhodesia.

Mr. P.E. Spargo, 65 King Edward St., Kensington, Johannesburg.

The Hon Secretary reported that less than a dozen essays had been received in the Essay Competition. Mr. Meadows was appointed to scrutinize the essays before sending then to Professor le Roux.

The ballot on the Gill Medal award was unanimously in favour of the award of the medal to Dr. Jackson, with the Citation: The Gill Medal is to be awarded to Dr. John Jackson C.B.E., F.R.S. in recognition of his work in fundamental astronomy and photographic astrometry in general and, in particular, of his work on stellar parallax in the Southern hemisphere.

Other reasons: It is not necessary to stress Dr. Jackson's ability as a professional astronomer and the world wide recognition he enjoys, but it may be pertinent to recall the many and great services Dr. Jackson rendered the Astronomical Society of South Africa during his seventeen years as H.M. Astronomer at the Cape. He regularly attended all Council and ordinary meetings of the Cape Centre, frequently contributing to them as he also did to the Journal and the Monthly Notes. When the meetings held in town were consistently badly patronised, he allowed the meetings of the Cape Centre to be held at the Royal Observatory and helped to nurse a rapidly declining organisation back to vigorous health.

In a general discussion on the election of a President for 1958-59, the name was mentioned of Professor Haffner, but no decision was made.

The Hon. Secretary was reminded to ask Centres and directors of Observing Sections for their Annual Reports.

The meeting ended at 10.30 p.m.

R.H. Sloy
30.6.58.

A. Menzies.
Hon. Secretary.