

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of Council Meeting held at the Royal Observatory on Monday 20th April 1959 at 8.00 p.m.

Present: Dr. Stoy (in the Chair) Dr. Evans, Messrs. Smits, Meadows, Johnston, Churms, Duncan, Linton, Orpen and the Hon. Secretary.

An apology for absence had been received from Mr. Krumm.

The Minutes of Council Meeting held on the 20th February 1959 were read and after amendment, confirmed.

Arising out of the Minutes the Hon. Secretary read a letter by Mr. Lagerweij received from Mr. Russo, in which it was stated that the Hon. Treasurer would be informed by postcard when Transvaal members paid their subscriptions, so as to avoid delay.

A letter received from Mr. N. Lincoln on the formation of the Bloemfontein Centre was read by the Hon. Secretary. The following provisional elections had been made:

Chairman	:	Dr. C.B. van Wyk
Hon. Secretary	:	Mr. N. Lincoln
Committee	:	Dr. H. Haffner and Mr. M.J. Bester

Council welcomed the formation of the Bloemfontein Centre and instructed the Hon. Secretary to write to that Centre to inform them of this decision.

The following members of the Bloemfontein Centre were elected members of the Society subject to their names appearing in the Monthly Notes and no objection being received within a month:

*Miss S. Busfield 4 Duberry Court 20 Potho St, Bellville 9 HB*  
Miss E. Le R. Wessels, Kestell Residence, U.O.F.S., Bloemfontein.  
Miss L.A. Cloete, Kestell Residence, U.O.F.S., Bloemfontein.  
Mr. L. Durandt, 35 Vilonel Street, Dan Pienaar, Bloemfontein.  
Mr. F.W. Giffard, 5 John Knox Street, Bloemfontein.  
Mr. W.G. Le Cordeur, 13 Sedan Street, Bayswater Extension, Bloemfontein.  
Mr. C.E. Rennie, P.O. Box 245, Bloemfontein.  
Mr. P.D. Usher, P.O. Box 1793, Bloemfontein.  
Mr. D.J. van den Heever, 90 Henry Street, Bloemfontein.  
Professor C.B. van Wyk, U.O.F.S., Bloemfontein.  
Mr. R.H. Venter, U.O.F.S., Bloemfontien.  
Mr. G.N. Walker, 304 Sanlam Buildings, Maitland Street, Bloemfontein.  
Mr. J.P. Wessels, Drosdy, U.O.F.S., Bloemfontein.

The election of the following Associates was confirmed:

Mrs. C.E. Green, 17 General Beyers Street, Bloemfontein.  
Mrs. J. Harris, c/o Haarbours Music Saloon, Maitland Street, Bloemfontein.  
Mr. P. Keuris, 29 Exton Road, Bloemfontein.  
Miss E.E. Nel, 51 King Edward Road, Bloemfontein.  
Mrs. E.J. Nieman, Dept. of Botany, U.O.F.S., Bloemfontein.  
Mr. J.J. van Ellinckhuyzen, 58 Aliwal Street, Bloemfontein.

The following were declared elected Members subject to the same conditions:

Dr. R.F.E. van der Borcht, c/o University of Natal, Durban.  
Mr. G. Roberts, Ansell May Hall, Howard College, Durban.  
Mr. S. Meier, P.O. Box 1561, Johannesburg.  
Mr. D. McLuckie, 8 7th Avenue, Newton Park, Port Elizabeth.  
Mr. D.W. Gilman, Mazoe Citrus Estate, P.O. Mazoe, Southern Rhodesia.  
Mr. N. Hooper, Salt Lake Station, Northern Cape Province.

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

Financial Statement for 20th April 1959

<u>Expenditure</u>	£ s. d.	<u>Receipts</u>	£ s. d.
Subscription to "Sky & Telescope" for period April 1958 to March 1959	290.16. 1.	Credit Balance at 1/7/1958	44. 2. 2.
Cost of production of MNASSA July 1958 to March 1959 and of Handbook 1959	216. 0. 9.	<u>Subscriptions</u>	
Collating, wrapping and despatch of MNASSA, Handbook and "Sky & Telescope"	35.11. 6.	Arrears	9.13. 0.
Postage on MNASSA, Handbook and "Sky & Telescope"	29.17. 6.	Current	530. 5. 0.
Addressograph plates and tray	3.16. 9.	Advance	16.16. 0.
Essay Competition Prizes	10.10. 0.	Entrance Fees	47. 5. 0.
Stationery	16. 2. 0.	Sale of back and extra numbers of "Sky & Telescope"	2.13. 6.
Postage, other than above	2.14. 8.	Sale of MNASSA	14.18. 0.
Transvaal Centre Sub.	- 7. 6.	Sale of Handbooks	2. 3. 6.
Bank charges	3. 7. 8.	Sale of copies of "Sir John Herschel at the Cape"	1.15. 0.
Credit Balance 20/4/1959	102. 6. 9.	Sale of "Universal Sundial"	- 2. 0.
		Contributions to the Gill Medal Fund	7.11. 0.
		Donations	1.14. 0.
		Cape Centre Sub.	- 2. 6.
		Transvaal Centre Subs.	- 13. 0.
		Reprints of articles in MNASSA, for centres	40. 8. 6.
		Commission on cheques	1. 9. 0.
	<u>£ 721.11. 2.</u>		<u>£ 721.11. 2.</u>

It should be noted that, in addition to the credit balance shown above, an amount of £125 is held on Fixed Deposit at 4½% by the Standard Bank, A.B.C. Branch, Cape Town.

Garrett Orpen

Hon. Treasurer.

It was agreed to order 324 copies of Sky and Telescope starting with the April issue.

A letter from Mr. F.M. Bateson, P.O. Box 39, Rarotonga, Cook Islands, South Pacific, was read by the Hon. Secretary. Mr. Bateson was sending 300 copies of a booklet on Variable Star observing, for distribution to members of the Society.

It was agreed to send Mr. Bateson future issues of the Monthly Notes as a gesture of appreciation.

An invitation to be present at the inaugural meeting of the Science Writers' Association of South Africa at the Witwatersrand University was read by the Hon. Secretary.

A request from the C.S.I.R. for details of scientific conferences which may be held by the Society for publication in the journal "C.S.I.R. Information", was read by the Hon. Secretary. This was agreed to by Council.

An invitation to send two delegates to Bloemfontein to discuss facilities for teaching and research in the sciences at South African universities and how these facilities should be improved, received from Professor C.B. van Wyk, was read.

Council decided to ask the Bloemfontein Centre to appoint two of their members to attend the conference.

Dr. Evans reported that in a conversation with Mr. Lagerwaij he was told that the Transvaal Centre had not yet decided on a Director for the Meteor Section of the Society, but that Mr. R.S. Tuffin had expressed his willingness to act as Director of a Nova search Section.

Council asked Dr. Evans to draft a letter accepting Mr. Tuffin's offer, and giving details of a suggested observing procedure.

Mr. P. Smits agreed to accept nomination as President of the Society for 1959-1960.

It was decided to publish the spectral types and declinations of occultation stars in the 1960 Handbook.

A committee to discuss the housing and administration of the Society's library and to report back at the next Council meeting was elected, and consists of the following:

Dr. Stoy (Chairman) Messrs. Smits, Duncan and Meadows.

It was agreed to allow members of the South African Association for the Advancement of Science to purchase copies of the Monthly Notes at a reduced rate. ~~In return, Society members could obtain copies of the Association's Journal on the same terms.~~

No nominations for the award of the Gill Medal have been received for the session 1958-1959.

The meeting ended at 10.15 p.m.

R. H. Stoy  
19.6.59.

A. Menzies  
Hon. Secretary