

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of Council Meeting held at the Royal Observatory on Monday 8 May 1967 at 8.00 p.m.

Present: Mr. Atkins (in the Chair), Drs Evans, Stoy and Wild, Messrs Bentley, Hurly, Lagerweij, Menzies, Orpen, Russo and Weinberg.

Apologies for absence received from Mr. Churms and Dr. Fuhr.

Minutes of Council Meeting held 30 January 1967 read and confirmed.

Matters Arising:

(a) S.A. National Committee for Astronomy: Mr. Atkins reported on the meeting he had attended. Minutes of this meeting however were not yet to hand, so consideration of the matters discussed, was left over for a later Council Meeting.

(b) Proposal to form a Satellite Tracking Section: Mr. Hurly's letter of 1st March to Mr. Roberts was read. In this communication further details were asked for, and various points requiring clarification were mentioned. So far no reply had been received. Mr. Hurly was congratulated and thanked for the very clear and concise manner in which he had summarised all aspects arising from the proposal.

(c) The (Professional) Scientists Joint Council: The Secretary reported the receipt of the Minutes of the Exploratory Meeting held on the 24th February, and a copy of the Draft Constitution and Bye-Laws. These were not considered in any detail, in view of the further meeting scheduled for 26th May, but with a possibility of postponement to July. It was decided that Dr.

Thackeray should be asked to be good enough to attend this further meeting. In the meantime Dr. Stoy and the Hon. Secretary would endeavour to ascertain from the Society membership list an approximate estimate of the number who could be regarded as professional scientists, in view of the fact that under the draft Constitution there would have to be a minimum number (still to be decided upon) for the Society to qualify for full membership. At this stage the possibility of Radio Astronomers being interested in the Society as Members and/or Contributors to MNASSA was raised, and Dr. Wild was asked to contact such Astronomers with a view to establishing a link with them.

McIntyre Bequest:

The Secretary informed the Meeting that he had been informed verbally by Syfrets Trust that a cheque for the first payment of Interest, amounting to R68.75 was in the post. This was in respect of the period from 11 March 1966 to 28 February 1967. Future payments would be made at six monthly intervals. It was anticipated that the Cash Residue of the Estate would be about R36, payable in about 3 weeks time. Dr. Evans' suggestion that the interest be allowed to accumulate to provide a fund from which Council would, at its discretion, make payments as a reward for worthwhile research undertaken and/or papers published on Astronomy or allied subject matters, was agreed upon, and a sub-committee comprising Dr. Evans and Mr. Lagerweij was appointed to formulate details of conditions governing such payments.

Funds when received from the McIntyre Bequest, would be banked with the rest of the Society's monies, but would appear as a separate item on the Balance Sheet together with the calculated amount of interest earned.

the history

New Members:

Election of the following Members whose names had appeared in the Notes was approved:

- Mr. R. A. Andrews, 19 Leipoldt Street, Bloemfontein, O.F.S.
 Mr. P. W. Coode, "Croydon", Richmond Road, Mowbray, Cape
 Mr. C. G. N. Keene, Nyazwitz Farm, P. O. Box 259, Marandellas Rhodesia
 Mr. P. J. Klopper, 12 Selbar Court, Fieldhouse, Florida, Tvl.
 Mr. C. J. Rowland, 1156 Schoeman Street, Hatfield, Pretoria, Tvl.
 Mr. O. van Oordt, 505 Vermeulen Street, Pretoria, Tvl.

Election of the following Members was approved subject to the usual proviso of publication in the Notes and no objection being received:

- Mr. R. L. McClurg, 1 Pinewood Park, Bergvliet, Cape
 Mrs. J. Spector, 93 Hatfield Street, Gardens, Cape Town
 Mr. E. van der Spuy, "Kabanga", Weltevreden Avenue, Rondebosch, Cape

Election of the following Associates was approved:

- Mr. S. P. Hough, 74 Park Avenue, Pretoria North, Tvl.
 Mr. R. H. Smith, Box 16003, Pretoria North, Tvl.
 Mr. H. J. Venter, 11 Halifax Street, Rhodesfield, Kempton Park, Tvl.

The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Orpen presented the Financial Statement as follows:

Financial Statement as on 8th May, 1967

Expenditure	R. c.	Receipts	R. c.
Subscription to "Sky & Telescope" for period July 1966 to March 1967	603 59	Credit Balance 1/7/66	948 68
Cost of production of MNASSA for period July 1966 to March 1967 and of Handbook	638 69	<u>Subscriptions</u>	
Postage on MNASSA and "Sky & Telescope" for above period, and on Handbook	130 10	Arrears 3 00	
Stationery	144 83	Current 1277 50	
Postage, other than above	23 17	Advance 33 00	1313 50
Essay Competition Prizes	16 00	Entrance Fees	57 50
Addressograph Plates	6 51	Sale of MNASSA	185 21
Binding "Sky & Telescope" and B.A.A. Journals	16 25	Sale of Handbooks	8 05
Purchase of object glass	26 04	Sale of back and extra numbers of "Sky & Telescope"	5 10
Transferred to Savings Account at A.B.C. Bank	1000 00	Donations	2 00
Bank Charges	15 19	Interest on Building Society Shares	12 67
Credit Balance at 8/5/67	115 71	Commission on Cheques	3 37
		Transferred ex Savings Account on 20/4/1967	200 00
	R 2736 08		R 2736 08

In addition to the above balance in the current account, there is an amount of R800-00 (plus interest on R1000-00 from November 1966 to March 1967) in a savings bank account.

Garrett Orpen

Hon. Treasurer.

The Secretary reported that while Membership totalled 310, there were still 26 Members in default. It was decided to reduce the number of copies of Sky and Telescope ordered from 310 to 300. It was pointed out that under Article XI of the Constitution, any such Member was entitled to arrear publications if and when the amount due was paid. It was decided that steps should be taken in accordance with Article XVIII of the Constitution for this portion of para. 1 of Article XI to be altered by the insertion of the additional words underlined, so as to read as follows:

" Any member who fails to pay his annual subscription within three calendar months of the due date shall cease to receive publications until the subscription is paid, when all publications so withheld shall IF AVAILABLE be sent to him. "

The Hon. Secretary was instructed to write to the Pretoria Centre that Mr. Bennett could not hold office as Centre Representative, as he was already a Member of Council in his own right, as a Vice-President. Another Representative should be appointed and his name communicated to Council as early as practicable.

The Meeting closed at 10.35 p.m.

T. W. Russo,

Hon. Secretary.



19/6/1967

MCINTYRE AWARD

1. The Council of the Astronomical Society of Southern Africa resolves to establish a prize to be known as the McIntyre Award derived from the interest on the bequest made to the Society by the late Donald G. McIntyre of Cape Town, some-time president of the Society.
2. Mr. McIntyre's deep interest in the history of astronomy makes it appropriate that the award should be given for significant contributions in this field.
3. Awards shall be made from time to time as Council shall decide, and be normally of a monetary value of not less than R200. Awards shall be made, without distinction of nationality or language, to any living person in respect of work of good academic standard in the field of the history of astronomy. Council shall take into account features of originality and of literary presentations. Council shall normally appoint suitably qualified referees to report on work under consideration for an award.
4. The procedure for making an award shall be the following: Nominations in respect of a work, which must have been published in book form or in a journal of recognised standing within the previous five years, may be made to the Honorary Secretary by any member of Council or any alternate member, and reasons for the award must be given. When a nomination has been made it shall be incorporated in the Council minutes and treated as confidential. After a suitable period of discussion of not less than one month and not more than three, Council shall vote on the proposed award, giving notice in the Agenda for the relevant Council Meeting, that such a vote is to be taken. A majority of two-thirds is necessary to confirm the award. Members of Council shall vote in their personal capacity and shall not seek guidance from centres which they may represent. Alternate members shall vote as instructed by their principals, but if no instructions have been received, an alternate may vote in his personal capacity. No member of Council or alternate shall have more than one vote, and a Council member and his alternate may not both vote.
5. When an award has been made Council shall announce it in a suitable manner and shall make suitable arrangements for its presentation. Details of awards and of the state of the award account shall be notified in the Annual Financial Statement by the Honorary Treasurer, incorporated in the Annual Report of Council.
6. These conditions form an appendix to the Constitution of the Astronomical Society of Southern Africa.