

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of Council Meeting held at the Royal Observatory on Monday October 30, 1967 at 8.00 p.m.

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

The question of Alternates for Members of Council not resident in Cape Town was dealt with first. In the following cases it was noted that there were no changes from the position in the previous year.

Principal	Alternates
Mr. J. C. Bennett	Mr. H. C. Lagerweij
Mr. T. E. Geary	Mr. I. Weinberg
Dr. A. D. Thackeray	Mr. R. F. Hurly
Transvaal Centre Representative	Mr. J. Churms
Pretoria Centre Representative	Dr. P. A. T. Wild
Natal Centre	Mr. J. S. Bondiotti

The Centre Representatives are:

Cape	: Mr. W. C. Bentley, "Telwyn", Torquay Ave., Kenilworth,
Transvaal	: Mr. W. Bell, 133 Sixteenth St., Parkhurst, Johannesburg
Bloemfontein	: Mr. N. Lincoln, Bloemfontein Club, P.O. Box 83, Bloemfontein
Pretoria	: Mr. H. Kanowitz, 102 Berea Street, Muckleneuk, Pretoria

Mr. J. Hers had agreed to leave the appointment of his Alternate for local decision, and Mr. P. Corben of the Royal Observatory Staff was asked to act for him.

Dr. K. G. Fuhr agreed to act for the Bloemfontein Centre in place of Dr. Evans who was now a Member of Council in his own right.

The Minutes of the last Council Meeting held June 19 were then read and confirmed.

Matters Arising

(1) There was a brief discussion of the proposed Pro. Scientists Joint Council, now named the Joint Council of South African Scientific Societies in the second draft (11.8.67) of the proposed Constitution. It was noted that a further meeting was to be held on November 23 and it was agreed that Dr. Thackeray should be asked to attend on behalf of the Society.

(2) Proposal by Johannson and Moore for an International Organization for Amateurs.

The Secretary's reply written as directed by Council, was read.

(3) With reference to the proposed Satellite Tracking Section, Mr. Hurly reported that an article for insertion in MASA, had been received from Mr. Roberts.

Correspondence

A letter received from Mr. Kanowitz on behalf of the Pretoria Centre was then read. This dealt with the question of directorship positions of observing Sections. Council were gratified at the interest shown, and the general situation was discussed at some length.

In regard to Occultations, some observations were at present collected at the Royal Observatory, whence they were despatched to the Nautical Almanac Office in U.K. for reduction on the Computer. Others were forwarded direct by the Observer concerned. There would be no objection to a Director of such a Section being appointed, particularly if more members could be encouraged to assist in this field. It was reported that Mr. Venter, the Director of the Comet and Meteor Section was not in good health, this is all probability accounting for the absence of observing reports. As his address is in Pretoria, it was suggested that Mr. Kanowitz should approach Mr. Venter to ascertain whether the Centre could in any way assist that Section, and report back to Council.

A further letter received from the same source requested information regarding the loan of the Society's telescopes. The following are the instruments in question:

- (1) 4-inch Refractor
- (2) 3½-inch Refractor Similar to the Marlborough telescope at Radcliffe Obs. (New lens bought and still to be fitted.)
- (3) 3-inch Refractor (McIntyre)

It was noted that informal application had already been made for Nos. 1 and 3. Dr. Evans moved that these loans be terminated on 30 June 1968, and that formal application for renewal should be made if desired. This was seconded by Mr. Churms and adopted. It was stated in the Minutes of Council Meeting held 1966 September 14, instruments could be borrowed for a period of 12 months after which renewal for a further period would be considered. It was decided that any application for renewal of a loan should be accompanied by a statement of the work done during the previous 12 months. The 12 monthly period would run from July to June to coincide with the Society's year. Cost of transport (in both directions) Insurance and any damage suffered are to be borne by the borrower.

Rules governing these loans are to be drawn up by Dr. Stoy and the Hon. Secretary and published in MNASSA.

The following new members were elected, subject to the publication of their names in MNASSA, where this had not already been done.

- Dr. E. E. Baart, Rhodes University, Grahamstown, Cape
- Mr. K. P. Bahemann, P. O. Box 50, Messina, Nr. Transvaal
- Dr. B. J. v. R. Dreyer, 7 Oranje Avenue, Pinalands, Cape
- Mr. A. Kacev, 128 16th Street, Parkhurst, Johannesburg, Tvl
- Mr. R. Kersandt, "Bel-Viso", Avenue Bordeaux, Fresnaye, Cape
- Mr. B. G. Kuhn, 420 Christoffel Street, Pretoria West, Tvl
- Mr. G. J. Muller, 35 Wilcocks Road, Bloemfontein, O.F.S.
- Mr. G. G. Pulik, P. O. Box 760, Krugersdorp, Tvl
- Mr. T. C. Robertson, P. O. Box 99, Scottburgh, Natal
- Mr. L. Willdenboer, Hoërskool Die Burger, Posbus 1; Pk. Newville, Jhb
- Department of Physics, Rhodes University, Grahamstown, Cape

The election of the following Associates was noted.

- Mr. R. J. Botha, 1196 Kamassi Street, Moregloed, Pretoria, Tvl
- Mrs. S. Cocde, "Croyden", 18 Richmond Road, Mowbray, Cape
- Mr. A. J. Cooper, 1208 Carter Avenue, Queenswood, Pretoria, Tvl
- Mr. St. Elmo Grobler, 654 Magdalena Avenue, Roseville, Pretoria, Tvl
- Mr. D. G. J. Hattingsh, 291 Mears Street, Muckleneuk, Pretoria, Tvl
- Mr. S. Heydenreich, Kenmauel, 105, Schoemanstraat 567, Arcadia, Pta.
- Mr. A. P. Lotriet, P. O. Wood, Pretoria, Tvl
- Mr. G. Mead, 7 Moreson Flats, 12th Avenue, Bellville, Cape
- Mrs G. C. Mostert, Hertzog Street, 744, Rietfontein, Pretoria, Tvl

The election of the following Student Member was noted.

- Master M. J. Lawrence, 268 Stead Avenue, Queenswood, Pretoria, Tvl

Mr. Orpen presented the following Financial Statement.

Financial Statement as on 30th October, 1967			
Expenses	R.	Receipts	R.
Cost of product MNASSA, July to October 1967	225.32	Credit Balance, 1/7/1967	161.75
Subscription to "Sky and Telescope", July to September 1967	195.30	Subscriptions	
Postage on "Sky and Telescope" and MNASSA, July to October 1967	53.64	Arrears 5.00	
Stationery	8.80	Current 1115.00	
Postage, other than above	8.32	Advance 10.00	1130.00
Essay Competition Prizes	41.00	Entrance Fees	27.50
Addressograph Plates	1.93	Sale of MNASSA	102.80
Transferred to Savings Bank Account	200.00	Sale of Handbooks	0.80
Transferred to McIntyre Award Account	144.79	Sale of back and extra numbers of Sky and Telescope	7.10
Bank Charges	10.93	Half Yearly Interest on Mortgage, McIntyre Bequest	36.66
Credit Balance 30/10/1967	586.45	Interest on Building Society Shares	7.00
		Donation	0.50
		Commission on Cheques	2.37
	<u>R 1475.48</u>		<u>R 1476.48</u>

In addition to the above credit balance of R586.45 there is now an amount of R1000.00 in a Savings Bank Account at the Heerengracht Branch of the Standard Bank.

The Balance on the McIntyre Award account is R144.79, consisting of: Interest on Mortgage Bond to February 1967, R68.75; to August 1967, R36.66; Balance of Capital, received in cash, R36.09 and Savings Bank Interest amounting to R3.29.

Garrett Orpen,
Hon. Treasurer.

Mr. Orpen was congratulated on the healthy state of the finances and thanked for his services. He was asked to consider depositing the funds accumulated from the interest on the McIntyre Bequest in the Cape of Good Hope Savings Bank where a higher rate of interest could be obtained, although withdrawal of funds required notice of about 180 days. Mr. Orpen was given the discretion of transferring these funds if he thought it advantageous to do so.

Mr. Bondiotti was given permission to utilize matters of interest from the Society's publications for the Cape Town Municipal Staff Magazine with due acknowledgment to the source of supply.

It was agreed that the subject for next year's Forbes Essay Competition would be the "Sun".

It was proposed by Dr. Stey and seconded by Mr. Bentley that a Code of Rules governing the loan of books from the Society's Library be published in MNASSA.

The meeting thereupon closed at 9.50 p.m.

Chairman,

Hon. Secretary, T. W. Russo

David S. Orpen