

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of Council Meeting held at the Royal Observatory, Observatory, Cape on Monday 13th May 1968 at 8.00 p.m.

Present: Dr. Evans (in the Chair), Drs. Fuhr, Stoy and Wild, Messrs. Bentley, Bondiotti, Churms, Hurly, Orpen and Russo.

Apologies noted from Dr. Cousins, Mr. Weinberg, Mr. Lagerweij and Mr. Atkins the last two being absent overseas.

Minutes of Council Meeting held February 5, 1968 were read and confirmed.

Arising out of the Minutes the Secretary reported that the Peterhouse High School had agreed to substitute the McIntyre telescope for the Roberts telescope in their application for a loan of one of the Society's instruments. Mr. Bondiotti agreed to undertake to ascertain the cost of return railage, crating, insurance on replacement value, and the nature of customs formalities required for the return journey to Rhodesia. Details would then be notified to the Peterhouse High School.

The following new members were elected subject to the publication of their names in MNASSA and no objection being received.

Mr. T. B. Gough, Mapholaneng Secondary School, P. O. Tlokoeng, Lesotho
Dr. P. W. Hill, The University Observatory, St. Andrews, Scotland
Prof. F. Holden, P. O. Box 875, Bloemfontein, O. F. S.
Mr. P. F. de Vos Hugo, Majubakoshuis, Stellenbosch, Cape.
Mr. L. Pazzi, P. O. Box 274, Nigel, Tvl.
Mr. H. C. B. Simmonds, 18 Cardiff Road, Parkwood, Johannesburg, Tvl.
The Diocesan College Astronomical Society, Diocesan College, Rondebosch, Cape.

Election of the following Student Member was noted:

Mr. P. Menache, P. O. Box 31567, Braamfontein, Johannesburg, Tvl.

The Financial Statement to date, presented by the Hon. Treasurer, follows overleaf.

Mr. Orpen reported that there were some disadvantages in opening a Savings Account for the McIntyre Bequest Fund at the Cape of Good Hope Savings Bank Society, and he was authorized to open an account at a convenient Building Society, Branch Office, the choice being left to his discretion.

Mr. Bentley reported that the Publishers of 'Sky and Telescope' had notified him that subscriptions for bulk subscribers would be increased from 30c (USA) to 40c (USA) per copy with effect from 1 July next. This increase of $33\frac{1}{3}\%$ would necessitate an increase in Members subscriptions, and it was agreed that the increased rate of R6 per annum would apply from 1 July next.

Mr. Orpen raised the case of Mr. v. d. Heever, who was in default in his subscription for last year and the current year. It was agreed that should he wish to rejoin, he would be treated as a new member, and be required to pay a fresh entrance fee.

Statement of Financial Position as on 13th May, 1968

Expenditure	R. c.	Receipts	R. c.
Subscription to 'Sky and Telescope', July 1967 to March, 1968	583 69	Credit Balance, 1/7/67	161 75
Cost of production of MNASSA, July 1967 to March 1968, and of Handbook	484 63	Subscriptions	
Postage on 'Sky and Telescope', MNASSA and Handbook, July 1967 to March 1968	110 64	Arrears	5 00
Stationery	8 80	Current	1262 00
Postage, other than above	10 57	Advance	25 00
Essay Competition Prizes	41 00	Entrance Fees	65 00
Addressograph Plates	4 78	Sale of MNASSA	219 64
Materials required to fix Object Glass to Roberts' refractor	3 74	Sale of Handbooks	6 95
Transferred to McIntyre Award A/c	178 56	Sale of 'A Universal Sundial'	0 50
Transferred to Saving Bank A/c	200 00	Sale of back and extra numbers of 'Sky and Telescope'	13 96
Bank charges and exchange losses	20 15	Interest on Mortgage, McIntyre Bequest	73 32
Credit Balance, 13/5/68	215 33	Interest on Building Society Shares	14 00
		Donations	12 25
		Commission on Cheques	2 52
	<u>R 1861 89</u>		<u>R 1861 89</u>

In addition to the above credit balance of R215-33, there is an amount of R1000 in a Savings Bank Account at the Heerengracht Branch of the Standard Bank. This, however, includes the amount in the McIntyre Award Account, which now amounts to R183-43. With reference to the statement previously made that this amount would be transferred to a separate account with the Cape of Good Hope Savings Bank, it was found that this could not be done to an account bearing a higher rate of interest, as proposed by the Council, as the minimum amount required to make the initial deposit in such an account was greater than the amount available and that subsequent deposits would need to be in multiples of R100. It is nevertheless suggested that from the commencement of the next Financial Year, this amount be kept in a separate Savings Bank A/c.

Garrett Orpen,
Hon. Treasurer.

On behalf of the sub-committee appointed at the last Council Meeting, Dr. Evans reported that MNASSA was now appearing in a new format, and being printed at the U.C.T. Mr. Bondiotti moved that Council's appreciation of the excellent results achieved by the sub-committee should be recorded. It was agreed that suitable advertisements could be accepted for publication at a charge to be decided upon by the sub-committee. Further the question of the free issue of reprints was debated, and it was left to the Committee's discretion to fix a realistic charge for additional copies or reprints where thought desirable. The question of a possible increase in the subscription for MNASSA was raised, and the sub-committee was directed to consider ways and means of regularizing production so as to cover all expenses, and also bring encroachment on Royal Observatory time down to a minimum.

The Hon. Secretary was directed to ask Mr. Bennett to assume the Directorship of the Comet and Meteor Section in place of the late Mr. Venter.

Receipt of entries for the Essay Competition was reported. Prof. Cillie, Dr. Wild and Mr. Meadows were appointed adjudicators.

The next Council Meeting was fixed for 17 June 1968.

The Meeting closed at 10.15 p.m.

David S. Evans
Chairman.

T. W. Russo,
Hon. Secretary.