

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Report of Subcommittee on MNASSA - June 1968

(D. Evans, D. Wells, Mrs Bentley)

1. Cost of production of MNASSA It was noted that the U.C.T. Printing Dept. was unable as yet to determine reliably the cost of production of MNASSA. The maximum rate so far charged, viz. R60 for printing, collation and stapling of an issue consisting of 12 pages plus cover, may be taken as giving a (pessimistic) production rate of R5 per page.

2. Funds available, and budget expenditure

Income		Expenditure	
Typical past outlay of general Society funds:	R 600	10 issues of MNASSA, 12 pages each	R 600
Sale of MNASSA	R 300	Handbook, 30 pages max.	R 150
Estimated income from sale of Handbook, reprints, back numbers and advertising space	R 30	Labour (typing and despatch)	R 150
	—		—
Total	R 930		R 900
	—		—

3. Handbook In order to cover costs, and reduce the proportion of expenditure on the Handbook to a realistic amount, the Handbook must be limited to a maximum length of 30 pages, and must be sold at 50 cents or more.

4. Reprints and Publication Charges

(i) Members of the Society Publication will normally be free of charge, but the Editors reserve the right to charge (at cost or less) for diagrams and/or plates. 10 reprints will be supplied, free of charge, to the author(s) of the contribution.

(ii) Non-members of the Society A publication charge of R4 per page will be levied; in the case of diagrams or plates, the right to make an additional charge is reserved, as stated above. Contributors paying this publication charge will be entitled to receive up to 50 copies of the reprint of the contribution, without extra charge, provided they are ordered prior to the relevant issue of MNASSA going to press.

(iii) Copies of reprints in addition to those provided for above, will be supplied at 20 cents per copy. The Editors cannot guarantee to supply additional reprints unless they are ordered prior to the relevant issue of MNASSA going to press. The above-mentioned price may be reduced, at the discretion of the Editors, for orders in excess of 25 copies.

(iv) Institutional Membership (a) Institutions which are members of the Society may claim the privileges of membership (see (i) above) for publications emanating from the institution as a whole, e.g. Annual Reports, lists of fundamental observations, etc.

(b) Individual staff members of such institutions, submitting contributions under their own names, shall not normally be accorded the privileges of (i) above, unless they are members of the Society in their own right.

(c) In recognition of its past and present services to the Society, the Royal Cape Observatory shall be regarded as an honorary member of the Society, as will all its individual staff members, for the purpose of determining their publication privileges.

5. Advertising Advertisements accepted for publication in MNASSA will normally be printed on the insides of the cover, or on special additional pages not forming part of the body of the issue. The following rates are suggested in the first instance:

	1 Insertion	Up to 5	Up to 10
Whole page	R5.00	R4.00 ea.	R3.50 ea.
Half page	R3.00	R2.50 ea.	R2.25 ea.
Quarter page	R2.00	R1.75 ea.	R1.50 ea.

The reduced rates for repeated insertions are subject to confirmation from the printers that "blocks" can be kept for periods up to one year.

Details, such as the specification of type-faces available, the required form of the advertising copy, etc. are now being investigated, following which a suitable advertisement will appear in MNASSA and be circulated to likely customers.

6. Despatch of MNASSA and SKY AND TELESCOPE Arrangements have been made to have this work done in the Physics Dept., U.C.T., during working hours. A nominal fee will be paid to those doing the work. In addition, a lab. attendant at the University has indicated his willingness to work occasional Saturday mornings at R1.00 per hour. Both schemes are already in use and it is hoped that the entire despatching of periodicals at the end of June will be handled outside of the Observatory.

Council's request that MNASSA should encroach as little as possible on Observatory time will then have been fully met.

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Royal Observatory Cape on Wednesday 24th July 1968 at 8.00 p.m.

Present: Mr. Hers in the Chair and about 30 members.

Apologies: from Mr. West, Mr. Hurly and Miss Parker. A telegram conveying "best wishes for a successful annual meeting", received from Mr. Menzies of Hermanus, was then read.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 26th July 1967 were read and adopted on the motion of Dr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Atkins.

There were no matters arising.

The Financial Statement as follows was read by the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Orpen.

Financial Statement for year ended 30th June, 1968

Expenditure	R. c.	Receipts	R. c.
Subscription to "Sky and Telescope" for the year	778. 96	Credit Balance 1/7/1967	161. 75
Cost of production of MNASSA, July 1967 to May 1968	638. 00	<u>Subscriptions</u>	
Postage on "Sky & Telescope", MNASSA and Handbook	136. 64	Arrears	5. 00
Stationery, other than that used for production of MNASSA and Handbook	17. 76	Current	1286. 50
Postage, other than above	13. 26	Advance	72. 50
Addressograph Plates	5. 49	Entrance Fees	72. 50
Essay Competition Prizes	41. 00	Sale of MNASSA	269. 79
Material to affix object glass to Roberts refractor	3. 74	Sale of Handbooks	6. 95
Fire Insurance Premium	4. 05	Sale of back and extra numbers of "Sky & Telescope"	13. 96
Transferred to McIntyre Award Account	178. 56	Sale of copy of "A Universal Sundial"	0. 50
Bank Charges	25. 64	McIntyre Bequest-Interest on Capital	73. 32
Transferred to Savings Bank A/c., 13/7/1967	200. 00	Donations	27. 25
Credit Balance 30/6/1968	63. 49	Interest on Building Society Shares	14. 00
		Commission on Cheques	2. 57
		Retransferred ex Savings Bank A/c., 29/6/1968	100. 00
	R 2106. 59		R 2106. 59

In addition to the above balance in the Current Account, there is an amount of R 951. 86 (R 900. 00, plus interest amounting to R 51. 86) in a Savings Bank Account at the Heerengracht Branch of the Standard Bank.

The balance in the McIntyre Award Account now amounts to R 184. 62, being balance of Capital R 36. 09 and Interest on Capital R 142. 47, with Savings Bank Interest R 6. 06 and this has now been placed in a Savings Account with the United Building Society, Cape Town. The Society will in due course receive a further amount of approximately R 1150. 00.

The Society also stands possessed of four shares in the S. A. Permanent Building Society to a total value of R 200. 00, per Certificate, C.15778, dated 18/5/1960, and equipment and apparatus as per H. M. Astronomer's certificate (attached to original hereof), insured against fire under Policy 134760, dated 27/2/1962, in the amount of R 600. 00, with the Southern Insurance Society. It is proposed to increase this cover to R1000 forthwith.

M. M. Raphaely and H. B. Molyneux

G. Orpen

Hon. Auditors

Hon. Treasurer

The adoption of this statement was proposed by Mr. Simenhoff and seconded by Mr. Bentley.

The Annual Report of Council was then read, by Mr. Hers. A copy is attached to these Minutes.

The Director of the Variable Star Section reported the following observations during the year.

Observer	No. of Obs.
H. Kanowitz	107
R. P. de Kock	4772

Dr. Wild reported on the results of the Forbes Essay Competition as follows:

Adjudicators' Report: A record number of entries was received this year. In the senior section (15 years and over) we found it very difficult to choose prizewinners from the large number of very good entries. We have had to recommend that the first and second prizes be combined and shared between two entrants, while a large group of entries which just missed third prize has been classed as "Special Mention".

A feature of the junior competition (under 15 years) was the number of very young entrants. We have not found it possible to weight our marks suitably in order to include these young enthusiasts among the possible prizewinners, and again have had to be content with encouraging them by "Special Mention".

We offer our congratulations not only to the prizewinners, but to all the entrants, for the high standard of their work.

List of Prizewinners

Senior Section (15 years and over)

First and Second Prize (Combined: R7. 50 each)

A. de Kock, La Rochelle Girls' High School, Paarl, Cape
Y. Geldenhuys, High School, Swellendam, Cape

Third Prize (R2. 00)

G. Swart, Hoërskool, Hertzogville, O. F. S.

Special Mention

Y. M. Attwood, Greenhill Convent, Bloemfontein, O. F. S.
C. Ault, Greenhill Convent, Bloemfontein, O. F. S.
B. Bellstedt, La Rochelle Girls' High School, Paarl, Cape
M. Bouwmeester, La Rochelle Girls' High School, Paarl, Cape
M. Pacifico, La Rochelle Girls' High School, Paarl, Cape
K. P. Smith, Arundel School, Avondale, Salisbury, Rhodesia
I. Steyl, Eunice High School, Bloemfontein, O. F. S.
C. van Kraayenburg, Greenhill Convent, Bloemfontein, O. F. S.

Junior Section (Under 15 years)

First Prize (R6. 00)

D. P. Shillington, Greenside High School, Greenside, Johannesburg

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 1968

Expenditure.

Receipts.

R. c.

R. c.

Contribution to "Sky & Telescope" for the Year	778-96
Cost of production of M.N.A.S.S.A., July 1967 to July 1968	638-00
Cost of "Sky & Telescope", M.N.A.S.S.A. and ...	136-64
Stationery, other than that used for production of M.N.A.S.S.A. and Handbook	17-76
Postage, other than above	13-26
Addressograph Plates	5-49
Essay Competition Prizes	41-00
Materials to affix object glass to Roberts refractor	3-74
Insurance Premium	4-05
Interest on McIntyre ...	173-55
...	25-64
Transfer to Savings ...	200-00
Balance, 30/6/1968.	63-49
	<u>R. 2106-59</u>

Credit Balance, 1/7/1967.	161-75 -
<u>Subscriptions.</u>	
Arrears.	5-00
Current.	1286-50
Advance	<u>72-50</u>
	1364-00 -
Entrance Fees.	72-50 -
Sale of M.N.A.S.S.A.	269-79 -
Sale of Handbooks	6-95 -
Sale of back and extra nos. of "Sky & Telescope"	13995 -
Sale of copy of "A Universal Sundial"	0-30 -
McIntyre Request - Interest - Capital	7 -
Donations	27-35 -
Interest on Building Society Shares	14-00 -
Commission on Cheques	2-57 -
Retransferred ex Savings Bank A/c., 29/5/1968	100-00 -
	<u>R. 2106-59</u>

In addition to the above balance in the Current Account, there is an amount of R. 951-86 (R. 900-00, plus interest amounting to R. 51-86) in a Savings Bank Account at the Heerengracht Branch of the Standard Bank.

The balance in the McIntyre fund account now amounts to R. 124-86, the balance of Capital R. 30-00 and Interest on Capital R. 147-47, and this has now been placed in a Savings Account with the United Building Society, Ocean Town. *The Society will in due course make a payment*

Society also stands possessed of four shares in the S.A. Government Society to a total value of R. 100-00, per Certificate 311077, note 10, and equipment and apparatus as per H.M. Astronomer's certificate (original hereof), insured against fire under Policy 134730, 1/1/68, in the amount of R600-00, with the Southern Insurance Co. It is proposed to increase this cover to R1000-00.

Gaphard
Auditors
11.7.68
Hubert
11.7.68

Ernest O'Brien
Secretary

Second Prize (R4. 00)

L. Gertenbach, Hoërskool, Koffiefontein, O. F. S.

Third Prizes (R2. 00) each)

M. Clohensy, St. Joseph's College, Belmont Road, Rondebosch, Cape
K. Mulder, St. Joseph's College, Belmont Road, Rondebosch, Cape

Special Mention

Steven Rakoff, age 9, Primary School, Milnerton, Cape
Lindsay Orme, age 11, Primary School, Milnerton, Cape
Linda Cuthbert, age 11, Primary School, Milnerton, Cape

The new Council 1968/1969. The following were declared duly elected.

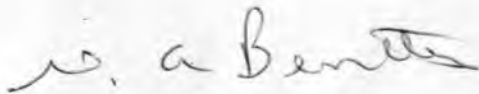
President	:	Mr. J. C. Bennett
Vice-Presidents	:	Messrs J. Hers, W.C. Bentley and J. Churms
Members of Council	:	Drs. R. H. Stoy, A. D. Thackeray, and P. A. T. Wild and Mr. G. F. G. Knipe
Hon. Secretary	:	T. W. Russo
Hon. Treasurer	:	Mr. G. Orpen

Mr. Hers thanked members of Council for their support during the past year, and as the in-coming President, Mr. Bennett, was not present, being resident in the Transvaal, he called upon Mr. Churms, a Vice-President, to take the Chair.

Mr. Churms asked Mr. Hers to deliver his Presidential Address which was entitled "A Window to the South". This was a most comprehensive and enjoyable address, covering the changes in thought and observing technique over the past decade with the development of radio astronomy and super accurate time keeping; discussing the advantages of South African Observatories which occupy a strategic position in the Southern Hemisphere.

Mr. Hers replied to questions from members, and Dr. Evans on behalf of those present expressed appreciation of the Address given, and the attendance in person of Mr. Hers which was the result of a special trip by air from the Transvaal.

The meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.



T. W. RUSSO

Hon. Secretary.

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Report of Council for the Session 1968/1969

Four Council Meetings were held during the year; 26 new members, 9 associates and 2 student members were elected. Membership now totals 293, a slight decrease on last year's figure. Of members suspended for non-payment of subscriptions, some 13 are still in arrears. These are not included in the 293 quoted above.

The regular distribution of MNASSA and 'Sky and Telescope' has been continued and a Handbook issued for 1968. Commencing with Volume 27; 1968 January, MNASSA appears in a new format, a vast improvement on the old roneoed publication and it is expected that this will lead to an increased circulation. Special thanks are due to Drs. Evans and Wild and Mr. Bentley for the time and effort devoted to the Society in this connection. In regard to the Handbook, there is a continued demand for this publication and Council wishes to place on record its appreciation of the work put in by the Computing Section in compiling it.

The subject chosen for the Essay Competition was 'The Sun', and a gratifying total of 39 entries was received. To all who helped to publicise the competition thanks are due.

Council was represented at the third meeting arranged to consider the establishment of a Professional Scientists' Joint Council, at which the initial membership was decided upon. This list did not include the ASSA.

No award of the Gill Medal, not of the McIntyre prize has been made.

The Treasurer's Report shows a satisfactory balance and Council is appreciative of the valuable and time-consuming work put in by the Treasurer Mr. Orpen. It is regretted however that in order to maintain this healthy state of affairs, it is necessary to increase the annual subscription to R6 from July 1, as the cost of the publication 'Sky and Telescope' to the Society had been increased by 33 1/3% from that date.

Mention must also be made of the facilities afforded to the Society by H. M. Astronomer, Dr. R. H. Stoy; and of the efficient management of the Society's Library by the Librarian, Mr. Bondietti, also of the service rendered by the Business Manager, Mr. W. C. Bentley, and the Hon. Secretary, Mr. T. W. Russo.

Council regrets the passing of two prominent members of the Society, viz.

Mr. Venter of Pretoria

and

Mr. Wahl of the Cape.

Suitable obituaries have appeared in MNASSA.