

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of Council Meeting held at the Royal Observatory, Observatory, Cape on 1969 June 16 at 8.00 p.m.

Present: Mr. Bentley (in the Chair), Dr. Cousins, Dr. Wild, Messrs, Atkins, Bondiotti, Churms, Corben, Grimwood, Orpen, Weinberg, and Russo.

Apologies: Apologies for absence noted from Mr. Lagerwey and Mr. Hurly.

Minutes of Meeting held 14th April 1969 were read and confirmed.

Matters arising:

(a) Amendment to Article XII of the Constitution. It was noted that definite recommendations were still being awaited from the Transvaal Centre.

(b) McIntyre Award: With reference to Dr. Stoy's recommendation that Dr. and Mrs. Evans should be considered for an award for their work on the Herschel Diaries, it was noted that the book, which had now been received and was before Council, was published under the authorship of 4 persons, namely, David S. Evans, B. Evans, T. J. Deeming, and S. Goldfarb. The rules governing an award were read to the Meeting and in order to comply with these Dr. Wild undertook to have the book reviewed by two referees, selected from or on recommendation by University of Cape Town. The report when received would be circulated to all Council Members with the Agenda for the next Council Meeting.

(c) Hon. Members: Letters received from Dr. Evans, Dr. Stoy and Mr. de Kock acknowledging notification of their election as Hon. Members were read. The election of Dr. A. E. Bleksley was also proposed, formally by Mr. Bondiotti and seconded by Mr. Atkins, and carried unanimously. His name had been put forward in the first instance by Mr. Bell of the Transvaal Centre for his 'association with Astronomy for the past 40 years and is held in high regard by all members in the Transvaal' for his ready assistance at all times'.

MNASSA:

Dr. Wild and Mr. Bentley were empowered to investigate the actual number of arrear out of print publications for which applications had been received, to consider the cost of reproducing these and to have discretion to commence completing volumes with missing copies. Note would be taken of the costs as offset against sales, but it was anticipated that there would be no loss to the Society.

New Members:

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

- Mr. B. Armstrong, c/o The Republic Observatory, Gill Street, Johannesburg.
- **Mr. M. C. Chadwick, 6 Posina Court, 8 Regent Street, Yeoville, Johannesburg.
- Mr. P. R. G. Crane, 7 Herbst Ave., Fort Victoria, Rhodesia
- *Mr. A. Hobby, Namwianga Mission, P. O. Box 102, Kalomo, Zambia.
- Mr. W. J. Koen, 16, 12th Street, Parkmore, Johannesburg, Tvl.
- Dr. P. B. Louts, 107 South Avenue, Athol, Johannesburg, Tvl.
- Mr. R. D. Rick, 13 Prentice Road, Greenside, Johannesburg, Tvl.
- Dr. G. A. Tammann, Rennweg 72, Basel, Switzerland
- Mr. D. P. Uttley, 50 Firmount Road, Somerset West, Cape
- **Mr. D. P. de Leeuw, Graves Street 9, Hospital Park, Bloemfontein, O.F.S.

** Membership to commence 1/7/1969

* re Mr. Hobby: as he had been a member previously before leaving for overseas, the normal entrance fee was waived.

Finance:

The Treasurer, Mr. Orpen, presented the following financial statement,

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AS ON 16th JUNE, 1969

Expenditure	R. c.	Receipts	R. c.
Subscription to "Sky and Telescope", July 1968 to March 1969	780 35	Credit Balance at 1/7/1968	63 49
Cost of production of MNASSA June 1968 to April 1969, including reprints - R50.23, and of Handbook 1969	836 21	<u>Subscriptions</u>	
Postage on publications, July 1968 to April 1969	105 08	Arrears 11 30	
Stationery and Equipment	40 73	Current 1568 50	
Postage, other than above	19 40	Advance 47 50	1627 30
Essay Competition Prizes	31 00	Entrance Fees	105 00
Purchase of book for Library	4 28	Sale of MNASSA, including R67.50 for reprints	445 94
Fire Insurance Premium	4 04	Sale of Handbooks	24 00
Transferred to Savings Bank Account	600 00	Sale of back and extra numbers of "Sky and Telescope"	24 68
Bank Charges	29 73	Sale of other publications	2 40
Credit Balance at 16/6/1969	362 13	Donations	2 00
	<u>R2812 95</u>	Interest on Building Society Shares (Forbes Bequest)	14 00
		Withdrawn from Savings Bank	500 00
		Commission on Cheques	4 14
			<u>R2812 95</u>

As shown above R600.00 was transferred to the Savings Bank A/C early in the Financial Year, of which it has so far been necessary to withdraw R500.00, leaving a balance, including interest, of R1075.42.

The balance in the McIntyre Award Account, as shown in the statement prepared for the Council Meeting held on 14th April, which was delayed in the post, was increased in March by R36.41, representing interest on the Mortgage Bond for half-year ending February 1969, and now amounts to R257.78.

Garrett Orpen

Hon. Treasurer.

Essay Competition

The Secretary reported the receipt of 19 essays, a decrease of 20 on last year's record number. Dr. Wild agreed to arrange for Adjudicators.

Handbook

The Secretary reported that supplies were practically exhausted. As the halfway point in the 1969 calendar year had been reached, it was agreed not to incur the expense of a further printing.

New Council Session 1969/1970

The following would be declared elected at the Society's Annual General Meeting in July, subject to the concurrence of the members concerned.

President : Mr. J. Churms

Vice-Presidents : Mr. J. C. Bennett
Mr. W. C. Bentley
Mr. K. J. Sterling

Members of Council : Mr. W. G. Grimwood
Mr. G. A. Harding
Mr. J. Hers
Prof. A. H. Jarrett
Dr. A. D. Thackeray

Hon. Secretary : Mr. T. W. Russo

Hon. Treasurer : Mr. G. Orpen

No postal ballot was necessary.

Miscellaneous

Agreed that should Mr. Hirst rejoin, the entrance fee would be waived.
Agreed that during Dr. Wild's absence overseas, Mr. Hirst could be co-opted to the Editorial Board.

Annual General Meeting

The A.G.M. of the Society was fixed for 23rd July next.

The meeting closed at 10.28 p.m.

Chairman

J. Churms

Hon. Secretary.

T. W. Russo