

# ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of Council Meeting held at the Royal Observatory on Monday  
November 30th 1970 at 8.00 p.m.

**Present:** Mr. Bentley (in the Chair), Messrs Allen, Atkins, Harding, Lagerwey, Molyneux, Orpen, Russo, Weinberg and Drs. Cousins and Wild.

**Apologies:** for absence received from Messrs. Churms, Hurly and Simenhoff.

**Minutes:** of the Meeting held ~~November~~<sup>September</sup> 14, 1970 read and after one amendment adopted.

**Matters arising:** The only communication received from Centres in reply to the Hon. Secretary's circular letter regarding the question of maintaining the interest of student members was from the Natal Centre. This matter was again discussed and the suggestion was made that a Handbook should be issued gratis to each student member, and a current copy of Sky and Telescope issued to the Centre for circulation among the student members of that particular centre. Centre Committees were to be asked to comment on this proposal and also forward details of the numbers of members concerned.

**New Members:** The following members were elected subject to the usual proviso of publication of names in MNASSA and no objection being received.

## Members:

- Mr. B. H. Burmeister, 60 Jamieson Road, Rondebosch, Cape.  
Mr. J. W. Clark, 86 Caledon Avenue, Hatfield, Salisbury, Rhodesia  
Mr. D. C. Coppinger, c/o Barlow Oshkosh (Pty) Ltd. P. O. Box 10, Huguenot, Cape.  
Mr. H. Gregory, 37 Worcester Road, Parkwood, Johannesburg.  
Mr. J. G. Laity, Box 8211, Causeway, Salisbury, Rhodesia  
Mr. F. Laughton, 291 Main Road, Sea Point  
Mr. R. W. Pattinson, c/o J. Marsicano, P. O. Box 15, Milnerton, Cape  
Mr. M. G. Fuckle, "Pooks Hill" Eshowe, Zululand  
Mr. J. M. Retief, 7 Glebe Road, Rondebosch, Cape.  
Mr. C. R. G. Turk, 20 Nerine Avenue, Pinelands, Cape.

## Associate Members:

- Mrs. M. Allen, 78, 6th Avenue, Bellville, Cape.  
Mr. W. J. Gray, 48 Paris Court, Juta Street, Braamfontein, Johannesburg

## Student Members:

- Mr. L. du Bruto, 177 Pretorius Avenue, Lyttleton, Verwoerdburg,  
Mr. D. J. du Plessis, 436 Atterbury Road, Menlo Park, Pretoria  
Mr. D. Toerien, Gloverlaan 194, Verwoerdburg

**Back Issues of MNASSA:** Dr. Wild reported that he was now in a position to supply complete volumes from Vol. 16 onwards. The Chairman expressed the appreciation of the meeting for all the time and effort put into the scheme for completing stocks of back issues by the Editorial Board. Thanks were also due to Miss Thomas of the Observatory Staff, for all the willing assistance given on several evenings at the Office and in spare time at home, and in recognition of this and the approach of the Christmas Season it was unanimously agreed that a cheque for R20 should be given to her.

**Forbes Essay Competition:** The subjects chosen for the 1971 Competition were:

**Junior Section:** My holiday journey to the Moon in 1984

**Senior Section:** Astronomy before the time of Gallileo

Mr. Lagerwey stressed the fact that as an adjudicator for the 1970 Competition he considered that the subjects set for the Senior Section too difficult. Mr. Harding felt that a departure from the usual selection of a member of the Solar System was desirable.

**Finance:** Mr. Orpen, the Hon. Treasurer, presented the following financial statement.

Financial Statement as on 1970 November 30

Expenditure	R   c	Receipts	
Subscription to "Sky and Telescope" for period July to September 1970	277 76	Credit Balance at 1/7/1970	340 64
Cost of production of MNASSA, April to October 1970 (including reprints R4.96)	439 44	<u>Subscriptions</u>	
Expenditure to date on reproduction of back nos. of MNASSA	119 90	Arrears      20 50	
Postage on publications, including R6 32 on reproductions	93 11	Current    1589 50	
Stationery	101 32	Advance     32 50	1642 50
Postage other than above	14 97	Entrance Fees	60 00
Essay Competition Prizes	32 00	Sale of MNASSA	71 65
Cost of 150th Anniversary Booklets, Royal Observatory Cape of Good Hope, distributed to Members	100 00	Sale of reprints of articles in MNASSA	34 50
Transferred to Savings Bank A/c 18/8/1970	500 00	Sale of Handbooks	4 50
Bank Charges	24 37	Sale of back and extra nos. of "Sky and Telescope"	17 50
Credit Balance at 30/11/70	497 42	Sale of copies of Ottens "How to make a 6-inch Mirror"	2 50
		Donations	13 40
		Advertisement in MNASSA	2 00
		Interest on Building Society Shares	7 00
		Commission on Cheques	4 10
	<u>R 2200 29</u>		<u>R 2200 29</u>

The amount at present held in the Savings Bank Account is R1500.00. The balance in the McIntyre Award Account remains at R409.66.

Garrett Orpen

Hon. Treasurer.

**Constitution:** Copies held by the Hon. Secretary was almost exhausted. Before a further printing should be considered it was suggested that a copy containing all amendments, be circulated among members of Council and Alternates for perusal and to afford them the opportunity of suggesting any other amendments which might now appear advantageous.

**Miscellaneous:** Mr. Harding gave some details of the programme laid down for the the Royal Observatory 150th birthday celebrations on December 4th and 5th, and said that assistance from Society members on the Public Viewing day on the 5th would be welcome.

The Hon. Secretary was directed to write a letter of thanks to Prof. Skewes for his donation of old issues of MNRAS to the Society.

Mr. J. Hers of the Republic Observatory, Johannesburg and Prof A. Jarrett of Bloemfontein would be among those present at the assembly on the 4th December, and as both were members of Council there would be an opportunity for informal discussions on Society matters.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.

Hon. Secretary, T. W. Russo.

*T. W. Russo*