

# ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of Council Meeting held at the S.A. Astronomical Observatory, Observatory, Cape on Monday 1972 April 10.

Present: Mr. Harding (in the Chair), Messrs. Atkins, Bondiotti, Bentley, Hurly, Molyneux, Russo and Simenhoff, and Drs. Fairall and Wild.

Apologies for absence received from Prof. Jarrett, Messrs Allen and Orpen.

Mr. Lagerwey: The meeting was asked to stand in silence for a few moments as a token of respect for the late Mr. H. C. Lagerwey, who passed away suddenly on 10th February. Mr. Lagerwey had been an enthusiastic and prominent member of the Society and a regular attendant at Council Meetings. The Hon. Secretary was directed to write a letter of condolence to Mrs. Lagerwey.

New Members: The following were elected subject to the usual proviso of publication of their names in the "Notes" and no objection being received.

Dr. S. P. Amoils, 1202 Medical Arts, Jeppe Street, Johannesburg, Tvl.

Mr. K. Anderson, 'Argenteum' Welgelee Road, Constantia, Cape

Mr. E. V. Carey, Plumstead High School, Basil Road, Plumstead, Cape

Dr. R. W. Ellis-Smith, 15 Highway, Fish Hoek, Cape

Dr. R. F. Fouche, 23 Lover's Walk, Kerilworth, Cape

Mr. I. G. Fraser, E310, Forest Hill, Main Road, Mowbray, Cape

Grey High School, Science Club, College Drive, Port Elizabeth

Mr. D. Nicell, St. Marks High School, P. O. Box 31, Mbabane, Swaziland

Mr. E. Rupp, 51 Gertrude Street, Goodwood, Cape

Mr. A. Spahn, Masana, Bosbokrand, Eastern Transvaal

Mr. L. van Rensburg, P. O. Box 284 Klerksdorp, Tvl.

Mr. G. Voss, 51 Weltevreden Avenue, Rondebosch, Cape

Mr. V. Righthouse, 172 Louis Botha Avenue, Houghton, Johannesburg, Tvl.

Mr. R. F. Williams, 3 Berghoek, Knights Avenue, Windsor, Randburg, Tvl.

Mr. J. R. Wilson, 57 Bellevue Road, Berea, Durban, Natal

Financial Statement: In the absence of the Treasurer, Mr. Hurly read the following financial statement which was adopted on the motion of Mr. Molyneux, seconded by Dr. Fairall. (See over)

New Council: Members were reminded that Nominations for the new Council 1972/73 should be in the hands of the Hon. Secretary by 15th June. An appropriate notice would appear in MNASSA.

McIntyre Award: It was agreed that the award to Dr. and Mrs. Evans would be made at the Cape Centre Meeting on June 14th. The Hon. Secretary intimated that the President of the Society, Prof. Jarrett had signified his willingness to come to Cape Town to make the presentation, should Council so desire it. This was agreed. The question of the venue for the Cape Centre meeting was the responsibility of the Centre Committee. Mr. Hurly as its Chairman, said that in view of the large numbers expected to attend, the Athenaeum or the U.C.T. could be considered as an alternative meeting place instead of the Observatory. Society members would be notified in due course. Mr. Hurly stated that he had approached the Government Foreign Affairs Department in Cape Town to explore the possibility of an officially sponsored presentation by a S.A. Government Representative in the U.S.A. to Deeming and Goldfarb, the remaining two recipients of the Award. His suggestions had been received favourably. and on the strength of this, the Hon. Secretary had written to Dr. Evans with a view to ascertaining whether such a plan would be feasible. For the moment therefore no further steps would be taken pending receipt of a reply.

Proposed Astronomy School in the Transvaal: From correspondence read by Dr. Wild, who had been in contact with Mr. Poole and Mr. Overbeek, it appeared that there were difficulties in the way of arranging such a venture, and Council decided on no further action.

**Financial Statement as on 1972 April 10**

Expenditure	R	c	Receipts	R	c
Subscription to "Sky and Telescope" July 1971 to February 1972	944	55	Credit Balance at 1/7/1971	250	17
Cost of production of MNASSA, May 1971 to March 1972 and of Handbook	971	20	<u>Subscriptions</u>		
Cost of Reprints of articles in MNASSA	20	80	Arrears	6	50
Expenses in connection with the reproduction of back numbers of MNASSA	137	37	Current	1992	00
Postage on publications, June 1971 to March 1972	241	35	Advance	63	00
Postage in respect of back numbers of MNASSA	11	74	Entrance Fees	165	00
Stationery and Equipment	19	80	Sale of MNASSA	238	61
Postage, other than above	39	16	Sale of reprints of articles in MNASSA	20	30
Essay Competition Prizes	33	00	Sale of reproduced back numbers of MNASSA	199	00
National Youth Science Week Book Prize	10	00	Sale of Handbooks	132	05
Expenses in connection with Jubilee Cocktail Party	22	74	Sale of back and extra numbers of "Sky and Telescope"	43	10
Transferred to Savings Bank A/c since 1/7/1971	900	00	Sale of copies of Royal Observatory Booklet	10	15
Bank Charges	32	55	Donations	12	00
Credit Balance at 7/4/1972	380	53	Advertisements in MNASSA	32	00
			Credit in respect of Jubilee Cocktail Party	1	14
			Interest on Fixed Deposit	75	00
			Interest on Building Society Shares	7	75
			Withdrawn from Savings Bank A/c January 1972	500	00
			Commission on Cheques and Airmail Postage Paid	17	32
	R	3764 79		R	3764 79

The amount held in the Savings Bank Account remains at R500.00: in addition to this there is R1000.00 on Fixed Deposit with the United Building Society.

The balance in the McIntyre Award Account is now R582.41, interest amounting to R28.20 having been received during March 1972.

Garrett Orpen

Hon. Treasurer.

Annual General Meeting: It was agreed that subject to suitable arrangements being made with the Bloemfontein Centre and with further consultation with Prof. Jarrett, the Annual General Meeting would be held in Bloemfontein on the 4th Wednesday in July i.e. 26th July. The Hon. Secretary to write to the parties concerned.

Foundation for Education, Science and Technology: A request for a donation of R8 in respect of one of the prizes for the National Youth Science Week competitive examination to be held 17th April 1972 had been received. Agreed to remit R8 to the Organizer.

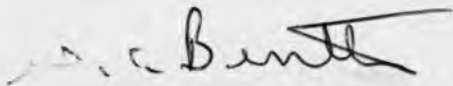
Sky and Telescope: Mr. Bentley reported that the cost of this magazine had been increased from 40c(USA) to 50c(USA) per copy. These are the special reduced prices for bulk supplies to the Society, the published price being 75c (USA). This would entail an increase in costs to the Society at the rate of approximately R1 per year per member, i.e. about R400. The Sky and Telescope Corporation had adopted a different method of distribution. Hitherto supplies had come direct to S.A. by ship: Now supplies for S.A. and Europe were being air-freighted to Holland, and then the S.A. consignments were forwarded on by sea. Dr. Fairall reported that no time was being saved by the changed arrangements and also that the method of packing had deteriorated. It would appear that the extra charge on Society's funds would have to be met by increased subscriptions. However, this question would only be considered at the next Council Meeting, and in the meantime, Mr. Bentley would write to the Publishers to see whether it would be possible to revert to the old system of despatch and thus avoid the increase in costs.

Astronomy and the Press: Mr. Hurly reported that the "Star" in Johannesburg was printing Astronomical information prepared by its Science Reporter in conjunction with Mr. Geary, a member of the Society. Articles of a similar nature were also appearing in the Press in Durban, Port Elizabeth and Cape Town.

U.C.T. Summer School: Council expressed its deep appreciation of the work put in by Dr. Wild in organising such an extremely successful Astronomy session.

Essay Competition: The Hon. Secretary was directed to arrange for adjudicators for the competition, entries for which, are to be submitted before 31st May.

The meeting thereupon closed at 9.35 p. m.



Hon. Chairman

T. W. Russo

Hon. Secretary