

## ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of Council Meeting held 1972 June 19 at 8.00 p.m. at the S.A. Astronomical Observatory, in Observatory, Cape.

Present: Mr. Bentley (in the Chair), Drs. Fairall and Wild, Messrs. Allen, Churms, Hurly, Molyneux, Orpen, Simenhoff and Russo.

Apologies for Absence: Prof. Jarrett, Mr. Harding (overseas), Dr. Cousins (sick)

Minutes of meeting held April 10 taken as read and signed.

### Matters arising:

Forbes Essay Competition: The Hon. Secretary reported the receipt of 17 entries, a considerable drop on the previous year's figure. These were now in the hands of Prof. G.G. Cillie of Stellenbosch University. Mr. G. Harvey of the S.A.A.O. had agreed to act as co-adjudicator.

McIntyre Award: Mr. Hurly reported on the successful presentation to Dr. and Mrs. Evans on June 14, at which Prof. Jarrett officiated. Some 120 people were present and news coverage was afforded by the local newspapers and the S.A.B.C. The S.A. Foreign Affairs Dept. had intimated that there would be press releases in the towns in U.S.A. where the two other recipients were residing.

Council had previously agreed to defray the cost of Prof Jarrett's air fare between Bloemfontein and Cape Town. However as he travelled by car this fell away, but Council then agreed to remit R50 to Prof. Jarrett as a degree of compensation towards travelling expenses. This would be a charge against McIntyre Trust funds.

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

### Full Members:

Mr. I. Borsook, 124-4th Road, Hyde Park, Sandton, Tvl.  
Mr. A.S. du Bruto, P. O. Box 2361, Cape Town.  
Mr. H. C. Hustadt, 69 Waterfall Avenue, Craighall Johannesburg, Tvl.  
Mr. J. S. Kok, "Marscha", Fishermansbend Road, Llandudno, Cape  
Mr. J. Leggatt, c/o 16 St. James Court, St James Road, Sea Point, Cape  
Mr. R. P. Olowin, SA.A.O. Observatory, Cape.  
Dr. H. Portnoi, 8 Chapel Street, Kimberley, Cape  
Mr. W. Tweer, 28 Trelawny Road, NRR, Alberton, Tvl.  
Paul Roos-Gimnasium Sterrekunde Vereniging, Stellenbosch, Kaap  
Mr. H. Ryzenberg, 21 Wurzburg Avenue, Lansdowne, Cape.

### Student Members:

Mr. B. Page, "Leonville", Romney Road, Green Point, Cape  
Mr. A. Putman, 91 Joubert Road, Three Anchor Bay, Cape Town.

Membership of Mr. H. Katz had been suspended in October owing to non payment of subscriptions. It was subsequently reported that he had died. His widow had then paid the arrears with the request that arrear publications be sent to her son. Agreed and also agreed that the son could join as a member from 1 July without payment of Entrance Fee. Agreed that no Entrance Fee would be required from Prof. S. Skewes, a former member and one time Secretary of the Society.

**Finance:** The following financial statement was presented by Mr. Orpen.

**Financial Statement as on 1972 June 19**

<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>R. c.</b>	<b>Receipts</b>	<b>R. c.</b>
Subscription to "Sky and Telescope" 1971 July to April 1972	1235 07	Credit Balance at 1/7/1971	250 17
Cost of production of MNASSA May 1971 to Feb. 1972 and Handbook	1152 34	<u>Subscriptions</u>	
Cost of reprints of articles in MNASSA	20 80	Arrears 6 50	
Expenses in connection with reproduction of back numbers of MNASSA	137 37	Current 2031 00	
Postage on publications, June 1971 to May 1972	307 84	Advance 109 00	2146 50
Postage in respect of back numbers of MNASSA	11 74	Entrance Fees	177 50
Stationery and Equipment	23 81	Sale of MNASSA	397 18
Postage, other than above	47 54	Sale of reprints of articles in MNASSA	65 00
Essay Competition Prizes	33 00	Sale of reproduced back numbers of MNASSA	199 00
National Youth Science Week Prizes	18 00	Sale of Handbooks	146 05
Expenses in connection with Jubilee Cocktail Party	21 60	Sale of back and extra numbers of S+T	45 10
Fire Insurance Premium	4 04	Sale of copies of Royal Observatory Booklet	10 15
Transferred to Savings Bank A/c since 1/7/1971	900 00	Donations	17 00
Bank Charges	50 77	Advertisement in MNASSA	32 00
Credit Balance 19/6/1972	331 95	Interest on Fixed Deposit	75 00
	<u>R4295 87</u>	Interest on Building Society Shares	15 50
		Withdrawn from Savings Bank A/c January and April 1972	700 00
		Commission on Cheques and Airmail Postage paid	19 72
			<u>R 4295 87</u>

The amount held in the Savings Bank A/c is now R300.00, plus interest amounting to R22.87; 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 R182.41, an award of R400.00 having been made.

**Garrett Orpen**

**Hon. Treasurer**

Agreed that arrangement should be made for any two of the following, viz. Mr. Orpen, Mr. Russo, Dr. Wild and Mr. Bentley, to have the power to operate on the U.B.S. Savings Account.

Further that an alternative second signatory to the Current Account at the Standard Bank should be appointed. Mr. Bentley was so named.

New Council: for Session 1972/73. Sufficient nominations only were received to fill the positions on Council; no ballot was therefore necessary. The constitution of the new Council will be announced at the Annual General Meeting as follows:

President	Mr. K. J. Sterling
Vice-Presidents:	Mr. G. A. Harding, Prof. A. H. Jarrett, Dr. P.A.T. Wild
Members	Mr. R. Hurly, Dr. A. D. Thackeray, Mr. R. C. Papadopoulos, Mr. M. D. Overbeek
Hon. Secretary:	Mr. T. W. Russo
Hon. Treasurer:	Mr. G. Orpen

Sky and Telescope: It was reported that the Sky and Telescope Corporation would not consider any reduction in the new increased cost of Sky and Telescope. This meant that the increased cost per member would amount to approximately R1 per annum. It was agreed that although the total increased cost to the Society would amount to about R400 for the coming year the subscription rate would not be raised now, the deficit being borne from the Society's reserves. It would be left for the incoming Council to decide what action should be taken to put subscription rates on a more realistic basis from 1973 July 1.

Lacaille's Memorial Plaque: This plaque to commemorate Abbe' de Lacaille's visit to the Cape in 1751 for astronomical observations is situated on the wall of a building in Strand Street, Cape Town. This property is earmarked for demolition, but Mr. Hurly reported that the owners (S.A. Mutual Assurance Society) were fully aware of the historical significance of the site, and that the new building to be erected would contain some suitable reference, in a manner still to be decided to the first astronomical observations made in South Africa.

The Meeting closed at 10.10 p.m.

  
Hon. Chairman

T. W. Russo

Hon. Secretary

25 Sept. 1972