

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of Council Meeting held at the Royal Observatory on Monday 22nd January 1962. at 8.00 p.m.

An apology for absence had been received from Mr. Churms.

Present: Mr. Smits (in the Chair) Drs. Stoy, Evans, Cousins Fuhr, Messrs Orpen, Krumm, Raphaely, Bondiotti, Meadows, Russo and the Hon. Secretary.

The Minutes of Council Meeting held on the 30th October 1961 were read and confirmed.

The Financial Statement, presented and read by Mr. Orpen, was as follows:

<u>Financial Statement</u>					
Expenditure	R.	c.	Receipts	R.	c.
Subscription to "Sky and Telescope" for period April to December 1961	567	79	Credit Balance at 1/7/61	46	13
Cost of production of MNASSA, July to December 1961 and of Handbook	225	89	<u>Subscriptions</u>		
			Arrears	29	75
			Current	1248	50
			Advance	22	20
Postage on and wrapping and despatch of MNASSA, Handbook and "Sky and Telescope", July to December 1961	57	00	Entrance Fees		40 50
Stationery	12	70	Sale of back and extra numbers of "Sky and Telescope"		2 10
Postage, other than above	7	50	Sale of MNASSA		13 85
Essay Competition prizes	12	00	Sale of Handbooks		0 20
Addressograph plates	2	77	Sale of booklets by Mr. Donald McIntyre		0 85
Purchase of Duplicator	264	00	Donations		3 64
Bank Charges	5	36	Interest on Building Society shares		5 75
Credit Balance at 22/1/62	261	60	Commission on Cheques		2 24
	<u>R1416</u>	<u>91</u>			
				<u>R1416</u>	<u>91</u>

The above statement for presentation at Council Meeting held on 22nd January, 1962. It should be noted that, in addition to the credit Balance shown, an amount of R200 00 is held on fixed deposit by the Standard Bank, A.B.C. Branch, Cape Town, and that the Forbes Bequest of R200 00 is invested in Building Society shares on which the rate of interest is now 6%.

Garrett Orpen
Hon. Treasurer.

Dr Stoy reported that a Duplicator had been bought for the Society to replace one which was the property of Dr. Stoy. A vote of thanks to Dr. Stoy for the use of his Duplicator in past years, proposed by Dr. Evans and seconded by Mr. Krumm, was passed.

It was agreed that the 200 Rand on Fixed Deposit be withdrawn and transferred to the Current Account in March.

The Financial Report was adopted, moved by Dr. Evans seconded by Mr. Meadows.

Mr. Raphaely moved, seconded by Dr. Stoy, that the Society's equipment and stationery at the Observatory be insured for 600 Rand against fire. This was passed by the meeting. *Letters would be exchanged between H. H. Astronomer & the Society regarding the Hon. Secretary's leaving the Hon. Secretary's position.*
and 100 Rand for the books.

Proposed Dr. Evans, seconded by Dr. Stoy.

- (1) That the distribution list of MNASSA be reviewed so as to convert as many as possible into paying customers.
- (2) That the cost of production of MNASSA be reviewed to establish a bookseller's price to show a profit to the Society, and that this price be charged from 1st January 1963 and that booksellers be notified in advance.

A committee to implement the above resolutions was formed, consisting of Drs. Stoy, Evans, Messrs Krumm, Smits and the Hon. Secretary, to meet on Saturday February 3 1962 at 10.45 a.m.

Dr. Evans proposed, seconded by Mr. Orpen, that the interest on the Forbes Bequest be used for prizes for the Essay Competition, which is to be known as the Forbes Essay Competition. This was passed by the meeting.

It was agreed that prizes for essays be awarded only if the essays are of sufficient worth.

To meet the requirements of overseas members, Council was asked to consider altering the Constitution to allow for a new category of membership, with the probable title of Corresponding Associate.

The following whose names have appeared in the Monthly Notes were declared elected as Members:

Mr. R. J. S. Leibbrandt, 'Fir Home', Central Drive, Camps Bay, Cape.
Mr. B. Abrahams, Kloof Pharmacy, 17a Kloof Nek Road, Tamboers Kloof, Cape Town.

Mr. R. L. Caro, 30 Athol Road, Elton Hill, Johannesburg.
Mr. R. F. Horn, 1 Lenmar Court, St. James Street, Vredehoek, Cape Town.

The following were elected Members subject to their names appearing in the Monthly Notes and no objection being received within one month:

Mr. M. H. R. King, No 3 Menin Avenue, Newlands, Cape.
Mr. W. B. West, 5 Gladstone Street, Cape Town.

A letter received by the Hon. Secretary from Dr. W. S. Finsen, dated 7th November 1961 was read to the meeting.

Dr. Finsen agreed to have Dr. Fuhr as his Alternate on the Council, but deprecated the necessity of having as many as eight alternates to represent up-country members of Council.

In a letter dated 6 January received from Mr. Venter, read by the Hon. Secretary, the disappearance of the Meteor Section was a shock to the writer. Mr. Venter would like an Observing Section started, for observing Comets and Meteors. Mr. Bennett of Pretoria and Mr. Venter had been doing a little on Comets in the past years.

The Hon. Secretary was asked to inform Mr. Venter that Council would be pleased if Mr. Bennett or Mr. Venter would undertake to be Director of a Comet and Meteor Section.

A sub-committee consisting of Drs. Stoy, Evans, Messrs Meadows and Mr. Smits, was formed, to meet on Saturday, 3rd February, to explore the possibility of a gathering of Astronomers to coincide with the South African Association for the Advancement of Science conference in July.

Mr. Bondietti said he would recruit three or four people to help with the Handbook computing for 1963, with the assistance of Dr. Fuhr, under the direction of Dr. Evans.

The next Council Meeting should be in the first week of March.

The meeting ended at 11.00 p.m.

A. Menzies
Hon. Secretary

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