

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council of the Astronomical Society of South Africa held at the Wesleyan Church School, Rosebank, on Monday, the 13<sup>th</sup> August, 1923, at 8 p.m.

Present. D<sup>r</sup> Halm, Messrs: Cox, Dutton, Forbes, Houghton, Jeary, Long, M<sup>c</sup>Intyre, Reid and Smith.  
D<sup>r</sup> Halm, as Vice-President, took the chair.

Alternates. The Secretary reported that the President and the other Johannesburg Members of the Council had appointed in writing the following members to be their Alternates:-

The President	Mr. W. H. Cox,
Mr. J. D. Stevens (Vice-President)	Mr. H. E. Houghton
Mr. W. Eaton,	Mr. B. Jeary,
Mr. W. B. Jackson,	Mr. A. F. J. Forbes.

Minutes. The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

(Proposers & Seconders of Motions & Resolutions)

It was agreed that the recording in the Minutes of the names of Proposers and Seconders of Motions and Resolutions should be dispensed with, unless in any particular case the Secretary was instructed to record them.

(Contribution of late Cape Association towards cost of printing the Constitution)

The Secretary reported the receipt of a letter from the late Treasurer (Mr. Forbes) intimating that, for technical reasons, he had not found it possible to comply with the Minute ordering the amendment of last year's audited Financial Statement. Mr. Forbes explained the circumstances to the Council in detail.

D<sup>r</sup> Halm suggested a mode of adjusting the

accounts conformably to the Minute which he was advised would be found practicable.

After further discussion it was considered that, although otherwise acceptable, the adjustment proposed by D: Halm would involve too much labour, and the Council decided to rescind the Minute passed at the last Meeting and to append to the financial Statement, for publication in the Journal, a note setting forth the facts as to the contribution made by the late Cape Astronomical Association towards the cost of printing the Constitution.

(Nomination Papers) It was agreed that, as the nominations for the recent elections were fully recorded in the Minutes, the nomination papers should be destroyed.

(Presidential Address) The Secretary read the letters from the President and the Secretary to the Johannesburg Centre relative to the delivery of the Presidential Address, which were recorded in the Minutes of last Meeting, and the Council confirmed the replies sent to these letters by the Secretary on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> July respectively.

Correspondence The Secretary laid on the table the correspondence that had taken place since the last Meeting.

(Late Mr. Hough (Johannesburg) note of Condolence) The Secretary read a letter from the Secretary to the Johannesburg Centre suggesting that the Council should transmit a vote of condolence with the relatives of the late President of the Society which had been recently passed at the Johannesburg Centre, and also a reply which he had sent after consultation with D: Halm. The Council confirmed Mr. Dutton's letter.

(Enquiry from Mr. O. Glatthar) The Secretary read a letter from Mr. O. Glatthar, Manhaarend, Transvaal, intimating his desire

to join the Society as an Associate and requesting information as to which of the two Centres he should approach for the purpose. The Secretary was instructed to reply welcoming Mr. Glathkar as a prospective Associate, but saying that the Council must leave to his discretion the question whether he should join the Cape or Johannesburg Centre, and adding that information as to the respective activities of the two Centres would be furnished to him by the local Secretaries on application; and to communicate copies of the correspondence to the two Centres.

At the request of the Secretary the Council recorded their approval of the practice by which, on the general business of the Society, the Secretary corresponded directly with Members and Associates, without furnishing copies of the correspondence to the Centre to which such Members or Associates belonged. In all cases, however, in which the correspondence could be effectively dealt with by the authorities of either Centre the Secretary should address himself to the local Secretary concerned.

Direct  
Correspondence  
between Society  
& Members &  
Associates)

Directors of Mr. W. Reid was re-appointed Director  
Observing Sections of the Comet Section.

Mr. D. G. McIntyre was re-appointed Director of the Meteor Section.

Subject to their acceptance, Mr. W. M. Worasell, F.R.A.S. and Dr. James Meir, M.A., D.Sc., F.I.C. were re-appointed Directors of the Variable Star and Mars Sections respectively.

Editor

Mr. H. E. Wood, M.Sc., F.R.A.S., was re-appointed Editor

Librarian The Secretary was, ex officio, re-appointed Librarian.

Sub-Committee on Sundial D<sup>r</sup> Halm regretted that as yet he had been unable, owing to the pressure of other work, to complete the revision of his Paper on the Sundial, but stated that the maps had been received from the Printer.

The following were re-appointed as members of the sub-Committee to deal with this matter (vide Minutes 25<sup>th</sup> May & 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 1923):-

A. W. Long, Esq., F.R.A.S.

W. Reid, Esq.,

E. Cohen, Esq.

H. Houghton, Esq.

Journal Conformably to Art. IX (ii) of the Constitution, (Summaries of Annual Reports & Financial Statements) the Committee appointed at the last Meeting to bring out the next Journal submitted their recommendations for the summarizing of the Annual Reports and Financial Statements for publication in the Journal. The Council approved these summaries with one alteration.

(Loose leaflet for insertion in Journals) The Council also approved <sup>the text of</sup> a memorandum to replace that published at the end of last Journal and to be printed as a loose leaf, with a reproduction of the authorized nomination form at the back of it, for insertion in copies of future Journals.

(D<sup>r</sup> Roberts' promised Paper). The Secretary read a letter from D<sup>r</sup> Roberts promising to send in his Paper for the Journal by the end of the month.

(Books for review) The Secretary read a letter from the McGraw-Hill Publishing Co, Ltd, London, regretting their inability to supply a copy of D<sup>r</sup> Louis Bell's

"Telescope" for review in the Journal, but promising to present to the Society copies of future books of a similar nature. The Secretary's draft reply to the Company was approved.

(Papers read at Centre meetings to be forwarded to the Editor.)

The following Resolutions were agreed to, nem. con.:

"That the Secretary be instructed to ask the Committees of the two Centres whether they would have any objection to furnishing the Editor with the MSS. of Papers read at their Meetings with a view to their publication in the Journal as opportunity offers."

(Re-appointment of Journal Committee.)

"That, in terms of Bylaw 7, a Committee of the Council consisting of Mr. Long, Mr. McIntyre and the Secretary (ex officio) be associated with the Editor in bringing out the Journals to be published during the ensuing year; and that the Committee be authorized, subject to the financial provisions of the Bylaw, to add to the list of contents of such Journals, as approved by the Council, any matter that the Editor may consider suitable for publication."

### Finance

(Payments authorized)

The Treasurer was authorized to pay  $17/6$  to H. B. Hare for supplying 1000 printed envelopes, and  $1/6$  to the Wesleyan Church for electric light consumed at the present Meeting.

(Secretary's & Treasurer's Expenses)

It was decided that petty cash disbursements by the Secretary and the Treasurer could be

repaid to those Officers without prior authorization by the Council.

(Free issues  
of Journals)

It was decided that from this date forward no further copies of Journal No. 1 should be supplied free to Members, and that in future <sup>new</sup> Members <sup>shall receive free only such</sup> ~~who join after the general~~ <sup>as are covered by their subscriptions.</sup> ~~free issue~~ of a Journal is complete must pay 4 for each copy of that and previous Journals.

Corrected  
at meeting 2  
24/10/23. See  
page 36

(Price of  
copies of  
Constitution)

The Secretary having reported that <sup>less than</sup> ~~40~~ copies of the printed Constitution remained, it was decided to charge  $\frac{1}{6}$  a copy in future, except that new Members and Associates should be entitled to receive one copy free.

(Banking  
arrangements)

A Resolution, in terms of the attached copy, which the Bank required to be passed by the Council as a condition precedent to the opening of an account, was agreed to.

Johannesburg  
Centre Rules

The Rules submitted by the Committee of the Johannesburg Centre in their Secretary's letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> August were approved.

Letter from  
Natal  
Astronomical  
Association

The Secretary read a letter from the Natal Astronomical Association intimating that the Association was not yet prepared to unite with the Society, but that it proposed to donate £5 to the Society's funds, and that the Association asked for the Society's assistance in organizing its observational work.

It was resolved, nem. con:—

"That the Council heartily endorse the sentiments expressed in the Secretary's letter of the 28<sup>th</sup> July to the Natal

Astronomical Association, and desire the Directors of Observing Sections to accord to that Association all possible assistance in the organization of its observational work and to communicate with its Secretary (Mr D.E. Forbes, Durban) in that behalf.

Free List  
for Journal

The question of the Free List to be adopted for the Journal was postponed till the next meeting.

Mr. Jeary announced that he was installing a 5" Cooke refractor at his residence, and that any Member of the Society would be at liberty to make use of it on any evening, whether he was at home or not. Dr. Halm cordially expressed the thanks of the Council to Mr. Jeary for his very kind offer.

J.M. Dulye :-

*- Copy -*

TO THE MANAGER OF

# The National Bank of South Africa, Limited.

(WITH WHICH ARE INCORPORATED THE BANK OF AFRICA LIMITED,  
AND THE NATAL BANK LIMITED.)

WYNBERG, C.P. Branch

SIR,

We beg to inform you that at a Meeting of the *Board* of the

*Astronomical Society of South Africa*

held at *Postbank* on the *13th* day of *August* 19 *23*, it was resolved "That an account be opened at the

" *WYNBERG, C.P.* Branch of the National Bank of South Africa, Limited, "and that the said Bank be hereby authorised and requested to pay all Cheques, Bills of Exchange, " Promissory Notes and other negotiable instruments purporting to be signed, made or accepted on " behalf of the *Society*, and to debit " same to the account to be kept with them by the said *Society*

" *Society*, whether such account be in credit or otherwise, to hold the " *Society* liable on all endorsements of " *Society* to all agreements or indemnities

" in connection with the issue of Letters of Credit, Drafts, Telegraphic Transfers, and all usual " Banking transactions, provided that the said Cheques, Bills, Promissory Notes, or other afore- " said documents are signed by *Treasurer*

" for the time being of the said *Astronomical Society of S.A.* " and countersigned by the

" \_\_\_\_\_ for the time being of the said \_\_\_\_\_

" that a list of the names and specimen signatures of the persons at present authorised to sign " under this resolution be furnished to the said Bank at the said Branch and that they be " advised in writing of all changes that may take place in the same from time to time; that " a copy of this resolution be furnished to the said Bank at the said Branch; and that it " remain in force until the receipt by the said Bank at the said Branch of a copy of a " resolution to be passed by the said *Society* " rescinding the same."

We beg to hand you herewith:—

1. Copy of our
2. A full list of the present \_\_\_\_\_ with their respective signatures.

Dated *13/8/23* 19 \_\_\_\_\_

(Signed) *J. Nelms* Chairman.  
*G. J. B. Oatman* Secretary.