

Astronomical Society of South Africa

Minutes of meeting of the Council held at Wesleyan
Church School room Rosebank Tuesday November 17

1925 - at 8.15 pm.

Present. Mr W. Reid (President) in the Chair Messrs Cox
Jeary, ^{Sheper-}Jones Long Schoneveld Smith.

Mr Forbes had notified the President of his inability
to attend owing to absence from Cape Town. Mr McIntyre
was unable to be present owing to ill health.

Secretary The President explained that Mr Mc Robbie who
was appointed Assistant Secretary at the last meeting
of the Council had to relinquish the office owing
to his having to leave Cape Town to take up an appoint-
ment elsewhere. He said that since Mr Mc Robbie's
departure he himself had carried out the duties of
Secretary with the assistance of Mr Schoneveld, who
had promised to continue to assist till the return of
Mr Houghton.

Minutes Mr Schoneveld read the minutes of meeting of Council
held 1925 Aug 10.

Mr Long questioned the correctness of the minute of
the report of the Journal Committee, the figure mentioned
therein for printing the journal viz 12/6 per page he thought
was wrong, the quotation to the best of his knowledge was
15/- per page for ⁵⁰⁰ 500 copies & 13/6 per page for ³⁰⁰ 300 copies.
as no one present could verify this it was resolved
that the minutes be confirmed as it stood the question
to be brought up again.

Arising out of the minutes a copy of the letter addressed
by the President to Mr Theodore Mackenzie was read
and also Mr Mackenzie's reply thereto. It was resolved
that the correspondence be recorded.

Donation to
Journal.

At this stage Mr. Long reported that he had received from S^r Moir Director of the Mars Section a remittance of £317.0 being half the cost of reproducing drawings of Mars in Journal No 6. The Acting Secretary was instructed to write to S^r Moir thanking him for his donation.

Subscriptions
in arrears

The Cape Centre had reported the following members and Associates who were more than two years in arrears with Subscriptions - Mrs J. Granger & Mr A. Humphries (members) Mr W. P. Capel, Mr W. S. Harvey & Mrs H. Jones (associates). The Assistant Secretary had written letters to all these asking for payment, no reply had been received from any of these but a letter had been received from Mrs Jones' brother stating that he was no longer in South Africa. On the suggestion of Mr. Spencer Jones it was resolved to strike off the roll the name of Mrs H. Jones and that the others be communicated with by registered letter.

Correspondence

A letter was read from Mrs J. Mackenzie stating that she had reconstructed figures of some southern Constellations from Ptolemy's Catalogue and asking whether the Council would care to have it for the Journal. The Acting Secretary was instructed to thank Mrs Mackenzie for his offer and request him to forward it to the Editor for consideration.

A further letter was read from Mrs Mackenzie having reference to an article by Mr Stollis in The English Mechanic re the Appointment by the International Union of Astronomers of a committee to re-arrange the boundaries of the Constellations and the possible adoption of "meridians & parallels" for the old boundaries. He suggested that the Council should forward a protest against any such alteration.

Mr. Spencer Jones explained that the duty of the Committee would be to definitely assign to

constellations stars whose names were now placed in different constellations by various authorities there was no intention to alter the boundaries to make them conform to Meridian parallels: one of the stipulations being that the name of no variable star should be altered. The Acting Secretary was instructed to write to Mr Mackenzie conveying this information.

A letter was read from Dr R. G. Aitken which thanked the Society for copies of the Society's Journal. The ~~Acting~~ Acting Secretary said he had forwarded copies and had sent a covering letter which was read.

The Council approved the Secretary's action.

A letter was read from Senator Dr Roberts thanking the Society for electing him as Vice President. Mr Spencer Jones informed the meeting that Dr Shapley was provided with a sum of money to publish Dr Roberts' observations.

A letter was read from Mr Houghton pointing out the need of the Society acquiring headquarters in Capetown where there would be a room for keeping the Society's records & where the Secretary could look in as required. The meeting felt that the lack of funds made it useless to discuss this, however desirable. A further letter was read from Mr Houghton addressed to Mr de Jure (Director of Meteor Section), enclosing a circular on a work on Meteors by Dr C. P. Olivier, and suggesting that the Society's library might acquire a copy, by asking for one for review. It was resolved that the Acting Secretary write to the publishers asking for a copy for this purpose & send a copy of the Society's Journal no 6.

A letter was read from Miss H. L. Troughton stating that she had been appointed Hon Secretary of the Johannesburg Centre vice Mr. W. Eaton who had resigned the office.

A letter was read from the Yerkes Observatory offering a set of 48 slides presently at Pretoria for £20. The Secretary was instructed to pass the offer to the Cape Centre, in case they wished to avail themselves of it.

Financial Statement The Treasurer supplied a statement to Nov 17 showing Balance as reported Aug 10 £19.3.1 receipts £ 10 17 1 making a total of £30.0.2 Expenditure £10.0.2 Balance in hand £20.

Journal Mr. Long reported the price of journal No 6. The account had not yet been received but he estimated the cost to be about £41. It was resolved that £20 be paid in account and the remainder as funds were received from the Centres.

A discussion took place as to means for obtaining funds for the issue of the next journal, nothing was agreed upon and it was resolved to defer the discussion to a later date.

The meeting terminated at 10.15 pm.

William Reid,