

Minutes of a meeting of the Council of the Astronomical Society of South Africa held at the Royal Observatory on the 28th June 1926 at 8 pm.

Present

Dr. Spencer Jones, Vice President in the chair, Capt. Cameron-Swan, Messrs Cox, Forbes, Harey + Houghton (Honorary Secretary).

Mr. Smith had intimated that he could not be present.

This number (six) did not constitute a quorum, but it was decided to proceed with the agenda, seeking confirmation at a later meeting of the Council.

Alternate

The Secretary stated that Mr. Reed had appointed Capt. Cameron-Swan as his alternate.

Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were read; they will be confirmed at the next meeting of the Council.

The Secretary stated that he had written as directed to Messrs Worsell and Skjellern regarding Variable star observations; no replies had yet been received.

Dr. Harris had agreed to serve as a representative of the Society on the <sup>National</sup> S. African <sup>or Astronomical</sup> Committee of the Inter-<sup>National</sup> Astronomical Union. The Chairman stated that Dr. Halm, Dr. Roberts and LeWood had been nominated by the Royal Society of S. Africa.

With Dr. Harris's concurrence, 500 sheets had been printed, each bearing 4 circles of  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " diameter for use by the Mars Section, at a cost of £1. The Council approved this payment.

Correspondence

The Secretary laid on the table the letters received and copies of those written by him since the last meeting.

The following were considered:-

Letter from Johannesburg Centre of 30th March and reply of 9th April on various matters.

Letter from Mr. S.C. Venter of 7th April and reply of 16th April regarding the observation of meteors.

Letter from Mr. A.C. Thornton of 10th April and 17th May

regarding the purchase of two Lang's Constellation charts.

Letter of 11th June from Mr. B. Coetzer asking the price of 24 pairs of charts for the Universal Sundial, for use at his school. The Council agreed that the charge should be 12/-.

Journal

The Chairman as Editor stated that he had received for review the copy of "Stellar Atmospheres" asked for. The Secretary reported that he had written to the publishers for a copy of "The Earth and the Stars" by Dr. C. G. Abbot. He also read letters from Capt. G. E. B. Stephenson of Bombay and from the Honorary Secretary of the West of Scotland Branch of the B.A.A. wishing to subscribe to the Journal.

Financial  
Position

The Secretary, in the absence of the Treasurer, read the financial statement dated 26th June showing a balance in hand of £2.13.2; £6 was still due for printing the last Journal. He stated that he had received a letter of good wishes from the Natal Astronomical Association enclosing a donation of £5. The Council directed that their thanks should be conveyed to the Association. Mr. Forbes stated that a contribution would be paid by the Cape Centre after 30th June; a further sum was also expected from the Johannesburg Centre.

Nominations  
for next  
Council

The Secretary reported that he had received a list showing that in the Johannesburg Centre at 30th May there were 16 members in good standing, and 5 new members as to whom he had enquired whether they were in good standing; no reply had been received. The Cape Centre had furnished lists giving the names of 55 members in good standing at the date of the present meeting. On the assumption that the Johannesburg Centre would be entitled to four representatives on the new Council, that Centre had been asked to send in at least 4 nominations, but none had been received. An urgent reminder would be sent. After discussion it was decided to proceed with the nominations for the Cape Centre representatives, leaving the Vice President to be nominated later.

from among the persons nominated as members of Council by the Pharmacy Centre.

The following nominations were received in due form:-

Office	Name	(1) Proposed (2) Secunder
President	H. Spencer Jones M.A., Sc.D.	{ A.W. Long W. Reid
Vice President	W. Reid	{ W.H. Cox H.E. Houghton
do	Senator the Hon. A.W. Roberts, etc.	{ H. Spencer Jones B.F. Jarey
Secretary	H.E. Houghton	{ H. Spencer Jones A.F. J. Forbes
Treasurer	W.H. Smith	{ B.F. Jarey W.H. Cox
Member of Council	D. Cameron-Swan	{ B.F. Jarey H. Spencer Jones
do	J.E. Ennor	{ H.E. Houghton A.F. J. Forbes
do	J.K.E. Hale, Ph.D.	{ W.H. Cox D. Cameron-Swan
do	A.W. Long	{ H. Spencer Jones H. Houghton
do	D.G. McIntyre	{ A.F. J. Forbes B.F. Jarey
do	H.W. Schregerel	{ W.H. Cox A.F. J. Forbes
do	R. Watson	{ A.F. J. Forbes W.H. Cox
Auditor	S. J. Steer	{ H.E. Houghton B.F. Jarey

The Secretary said that he hoped to receive the Pharmacy nominations in time for the Ballot Papers to be printed and distributed on the 14th July.

Draft of  
Annual  
Report

The Draft Annual Report of the Council was submitted by the Secretary and with slight verbal amendments was approved.

Programme of  
Annual Meeting

After informally consulting one or two members of the Council, the Chairman has approached Dr. B. J. Schonland of the University of Cape Town, who had consented to address the Society on recent theories with regard to the atom. The Council expressed their agreement with this arrangement and thought the meeting should be advertised. It was hoped that Dr. Schonland's address would be in a form suitable for publication.

Next meeting  
of Council

It was decided that a meeting of the Council to confirm the foregoing proceedings be held at 35 Water Street, Cape Town, on 14th July at 8 pm.

The meeting then terminated.

B. Geneva Jones