

Minutes of the annual General Meeting of the Astronomical Society of S. A. held at Benson House, Long St. Capetown on Wednesday July 16th 1930 at 8 p.m.

The President, Mr. Wood, was in the chair. The attendance was good.

Minutes. The minutes of the annual general meeting of July 31, 1929, were read & confirmed.

Annual Report. This was read by the secretary. Its adoption was proposed by Dr. Spencer Jones, seconded by Major Fairbairn & agreed to.

Finance. The Treasurer read the financial statement, showing a balance in hand of £22-2-10. The adoption of the report was proposed by Major Fairbairn, seconded by Mr. Pearce & agreed to.

Address. Mr. Wood then gave his address, taking as his subject 'The Expansion of the Universe'. He traced the history of the knowledge of astronomy from the time when the stars were believed to be fixed immovably to a solid hemispherical vault & the planets crawled across it, to the present day.

At the conclusion Dr. Spencer Jones proposed a vote of thanks & was seconded by Mr. Loag. Senator Roberts also spoke in praise of Mr. Wood's address. Dr. Spencer Jones mentioned the modern difficulties in the geometries of Einstein & de Sitter. Dr. Roberts spoke of Kelvin's estimate of the total mass of the universe, one fifth of the present estimate, & suggested the possibility of interstellar matter making up the balance.

The vote of thanks was carried with applause.

close of ballot. The chairman declared the ballot closed at this point & Messrs Russell & deKock undertook to act as scrutineers.

Section Reports. These were read as follows:-

Court section by Mr Forbes [Director]
 Variable class section by Mr Smith.
 War section by the secretary.
 No reports were to hand from the competing and Meter sections.

Result of Ballot. The following were declared elected to the Council for the ensuing year:-

President: Capt Cameron-Coan
 vice Presidents: Dr Spencer Jones
 Mr R. Watson
 Mr H. E. Wood.
 Secretary: Mr S. Skewes.
 Treasurer: Mr W. H. Smith.
 Auditor: Mr E. J. Steer.

All the above were unopposed.

The ballot for Council members was as follows:-

Mr Long	35	Mr W. Luttre	25
Mr Houghton	35	Mr Tearey	22
Mr Horrocks	29	Mr Jackson	18
Mr Schougevel	29	Miss Troughton	18
		Mr Mason	14

Having regard to the seats reserved for Johannesburg members, the following were declared elected.

Mr Long, Mr Houghton, Mr Horrocks, Mr Schougevel,
 Mr Jackson, Miss Troughton.

other business. (A). On the motion of Mr Wood it was unanimously agreed to send the Society's congratulations to Prof. Eddington on his knighthood.

(B). On the motion of Mr Smith, seconded by Mr

Schoupsel it was resolved to record in the minutes
 a vote of thanks to Mr. Houghton the retiring secretary
 (c). On the motion of Mr. Schoupsel, seconded by Mr.
 Wood it was agreed to send a letter of thanks to the
 Editor of the Cape Times for his readiness to help the
 society by the publication of articles, monthly notices
 &c.

The meeting then terminated.

D. Jameran-Swan,
 Capt.