

Obituary We deeply regret to record the death on March 11, 1966 of Mr. Donald G. McIntyre, an Honorary Member of the Society and a former President. He was one of the oldest of our Members having joined the Cape Astronomical Society ... a forerunner of our present Society ... in 1916, at the same time as Mr. R. Watson. In his early days in the Society, Mr. McIntyre regularly contributed one or two lectures each year and by his articles in the "Cape Times", by radio talks and by popular lectures did much to keep the public informed on the latest developments in astronomy. In his later years, when on account of poor health, he could no longer attend meetings, he retained his interest in the Society's activities and was largely responsible for organising two of its special publications, viz. the booklets on La Caille and on Sir John Herschel. As a sixtieth birthday present to himself ... and to the Society ... he wrote and published a monograph on "Comets in Old Cape Records". He donated many of his astronomical books to the Society and also his 3-inch telescope.

But astronomy was not his only hobby. He took a keen interest in Africana and had an international reputation as an authority on chess. A few years ago he compiled an anthology of chess problems entitled "Some Problems for my Friends". Another of his works was "The Diocesan College" which he wrote to commemorate his old school's hundredth birthday in 1949. By profession Mr. McIntyre was an auditor at E. R. Syfret and Company and he served with the South African Forces in East Africa during World War I.

McIntyre. Donald Glencoe McIntyre, F.F.A.S., a Vice-President of the O.D. Union since 1953, died peacefully at Claremont, Cape Town, on 11th March, 1966, at the age of 76, after a long illness. At his own wish his funeral was private. He was at Bishops from 1908 to 1909 and, as Life Member No. 9, was the senior surviving Life Member of the O.D. Union. After leaving Bishops, Donald studied accountancy and for many years was employed by E. R. Syfret and Company of Cape Town. During the First World War, he served with the South African forces in East Africa. To O.D.'s he is perhaps known as the author of "A Century of 'Bishops'", published in 1950, and widely acclaimed not only as an authoritative work, but as a useful addition to Africana. Donald maintained an intense interest in a wide variety of subjects. He became an authority on Africana, Astronomy, Etchings, Organs (and music generally) and Chess. Over the years he wrote many articles on these and other subjects in which he maintained a special interest, as well as leaders for the *Cape Times*. During the 1930's he had published his "Early Organs and Organists at the Cape", "The Translucency of Saturn's Rings", "Alexander William Roberts" (Astronomer and Teacher), and, in more recent years, his "Comets in Old Cape Records" and "Sonatas in Chess". He was one of the very few South Africans to become a Fellow of The Royal Astronomical Society and was a past President of The South African Astronomical Society. In 1920, Donald was one of four people to observe a star through (i.e. behind) one of Saturn's "rings". As far as is known, this is the only occasion in the history of astronomy that such an observation has been made. But it is probably in the world of chess that Donald was best known. He corresponded with chess enthusiasts throughout the world and continued doing so until shortly before his death. He was once described by the publication, "S.A. Chess" as 'South Africa's leading problemist'. Two chess problems which he devised and which he originally contributed to the College Magazine during his school-days, have been reproduced in textbooks on chess—one published in England and one in Czechoslovakia. Donald always maintained a keen interest in Bishops. Over the years, he presented the school with many scientific books including several on astronomy. He also presented a 10-inch Reflector Telescope to the College Astronomical Society. He was a bachelor and, at the time of his death, had no close relatives living. He will, however, be sadly missed by Bishops, the O.D. Union and a wide circle of people.

McIntyre

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