

ACTIVITIES OF THE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS, NOVEMBER 30, 1956

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific was held at the Crocker-Anglo National Bank in San Francisco on Friday, November 30, 1956.

Present: Directors Custer, Gregory, Hackett, Hall, Kroll, Kron, Mayall, McKellar, Nicholson, A. G. Wilson.

In attendance: Bidelman, Chairman of the Publications Committee; Einarsson, Secretary; Mrs. Graves, Assistant Secretary.

A quorum being present, Andrew McKellar, President, called the meeting to order at 2:00 P.M.

Special Order: The Directors took under consideration the award of the Bruce Gold Medal (1957), in accordance with the statutes governing its bestowal. The President presented the letters received from the Directors of Córdoba, Greenwich, Harvard, Lick, Stockholm, and Yerkes observatories; each Director placing in nomination three candidates (first, second, and third) for the medal award. After discussion of the accomplishments of the nominees, the award was made, the name of the recipient to be withheld until he has received formal notice of his nomination.

Minutes: The minutes of the meetings of November 18, 1955, and January 11, 1956, were approved as they appear, respectively, in the *Publications* of February 1956 and April 1956.

Admission to Membership: Ninety-four applicants were elected to membership in the Society. Their names appear in one or another of the following issues of the *Publications* (1956): *April*, page 184; *August*, pages 378 and 379; *October*, page 476, and *December*, pages 565 and 566.

Committee Appointments: The Directors approved the following interim appointments by the President: (a) Nominating Committee—R. M. Petrie to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of W. P. Bidelman; (b) Publications Committee—Jean K. McDonald, representing Dominion Astrophysical Observatory.

New Committee: Heretofore the Publications Committee has had charge of preparation of the bimonthly *Publications* and the monthly *Leaflets*. By order of the Directors a new committee will be set up in 1957. The duty of this committee will be that of publication of the monthly *Leaflets*.

Robert J. Trumpler Fund: The Board accepted, with thanks, a fund contributed by the family and friends of the late Robert J. Trumpler. Interest accrued to the fund will be added each year. The use of the fund, or the interest thereof, will be decided by the Directors after consultation with a representative of the family.

Life Membership Fund: Amount in fund as of December 31, 1955—\$5,250. If this fund had been kept intact, the amount would have been \$12,500. However, during the 1930's, on the death of a life member, his contribution was transferred to general expense. Also, since the beginning of the award of the Bruce Gold Medal in 1898, Bruce medalists have been given a life membership in the Society. The cost of such a membership was not credited to the fund. Therefore, the Board of Directors took action as follows: (a) That \$7,250 be transferred from Surplus Account to Life Membership Account; (b) That at the time of granting a life membership to a Bruce medalist, \$100 be transferred from the Surplus Account to the Life Membership Account.

Astronomical Society of the Pacific Prize: The Directors discussed the practicability of award of a prize. Should the Society, on the infrequent occasion (not yearly) of a significant discovery in astronomy, present a prize to the discoverer? The Directors authorized the President to appoint a committee to consider this matter, the report of the committee to be prepared in time for consideration at the 1957 November meeting of the Board of Directors.

Leaflets—Volumes IV, V, VI: A proposal, that Volumes IV, V, and VI of the *Leaflets* be reprinted and bound, was referred to the Publications Committee for report at the January 15, 1957 meeting of the Board of Directors.

The meeting then adjourned.

STURLA EINARSSON
Secretary

Lectures.—The following Alexander F. Morrison Foundation lectures were given during the last four months of 1956:

- Sept. 10—Harold F. Weaver, at Stockton (Stockton Astronomical Society), "The Crab Nebula."
Nov. 8—Jean K. McDonald, at Sacramento (Sacramento Valley Astronomical Society), "Building a Model of a Star."
Nov. 12—R. N. Bracewell, at Stockton (Stockton Astronomical Society), "Radio Astronomy."
Dec. 11—Dinsmore Alter, at Santa Barbara (Santa Barbara Star Cluster), "The Moon."

Membership.—The following have recently applied for membership in the Society:

New Regular Members

- Carl Gamble, 3201 Coaltown Road, Moline, Ill.
S. C. B. Gascoigne, Mount Stromlo Observatory, Canberra A.C.T., Australia.
Alphonse Guinamand, La Parfumerie Française "Etoile," Terrenoire, Loire, France.
Charles W. Hurd, Box 48, Las Animas, Colo.
William Liller, The Observatory, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.
G. E. Moreton, 10846 S. Grand Ave., Ontario, Calif.
E. D. Onstott, 2421 Second Ave., Pueblo, Colo.
Leonard C. Steward, Box 177, Cactus, Ariz.
V. W. Thurn, HQ USAFE, DCS/Personnel, CTS Division, APO 633, New York, N.Y.
Carl A. Wirtanen, Lick Observatory, Mount Hamilton, Calif.

New Student Members

- Robert C. Clingman, Jr., 1064 Hubert Road, Oakland 10, Calif.
Gary A. McCue, 7855 S. Euclid Ave., Whittier, Calif.
Lawrence Mertz, Harvard College Observatory, 60 Garden St., Cambridge 38, Mass.

New Institutional Member

- Escola de Engenharia de São Carlos, Rua: 9 de Julho, 1 227, São Carlos, Estado de São Paulo, Brazil.