

Report of the Special General Meeting held on Tuesday, the 28th February 1911, at 4-45 p.m.

The Meeting was called in order to amend Bye-laws Nos. 4 and 57, and to make new Bye-laws for the regulation of the Library.

After discussion, the Bye-laws as below were passed :—

New Bye-laws.

1. Subject to the direction of the Council, the Library shall be under the management of a Committee of three members appointed by the Council, of whom the Librarian shall be one.

2. When books are required for the Library, a list of such works as are suitable shall be made by the Library Committee, and these books, after report by the Treasurer as to the funds available, shall then be purchased by the Librarian. Members may suggest to the Committee suitable books for the Library.

3. On receipt of books for the Library, the Library Committee shall in case of each work decide, before they are placed on the shelves, whether such work shall be for reference in the Library only, or for circulation under the rules below.

4. The Librarian shall then add the work to the Catalogue and enter it in his library accounts, after which it shall be placed on the shelves.

5. No work of reference or periodical shall be removed from the Library.

6. No person who is not a member of the Society shall be permitted to borrow any book from the Library, or to have access to the Library, except with the permission of the Council.

7. If a member is desirous of borrowing books from the Library, he shall deposit the sum of Rs. 5 and shall sign a library card assigned to him by the Librarian. His signature shall signify his adherence to these rules and shall be kept by the Librarian. The deposit shall be refundable to the member when he ceases to borrow books from the Library, subject to his complying with Rules 9 and 12 below.

8. Books may be obtained from the Library on application to the Librarian, either personally at the Library or by written application.

9. Members who have books forwarded to them by post must remit to the Librarian, on receipt of the parcel, stamps to cover the cost of packing and carriage to them, and must prepay the carriage when returning the volumes. All books returned by post, etc., must be carefully packed. The receipt of the books should always be acknowledged, and on their return the Librarian should be advised of their despatch. (Members may deposit with the Librarian a sum of money not less than Re. 1, which will be used in defraying packing and carriage charges until expended.) The parcels shall be registered, acknowledgment prepaid both ways.

10. A member may only borrow one work at a time.

11. No work borrowed from the Library may be retained longer than 15 days from the date of receipt. If, however, no application for it shall have been made by any other member, the loan may be renewed for a second period of 15 days.

12. Any member borrowing or making use of a book or other property of the Library shall be responsible for it in case of loss or damage. If lost, the book shall be made good by the borrower, or in case of damage he shall be liable to pay the cost of the repairs to the satisfaction of the Council. Any property shall be considered as lost which is not returned within one month after the Librarian has made application for it. The term "borrower" in this rule includes all persons making use of the Reading Room or Library.

13. Books or other property of the Library in the possession of any member must be returned so as to reach the Librarian on or before September 15th in each year, and no book, etc., may be borrowed between that date and September 30th.

14. No unbound periodicals may be taken from the Library.

15. Every member who shall have transgressed any of the above regulations shall be precluded from borrowing any book from the Library until he receives the special permission of the Council.

16. A register shall be kept, in which shall be entered the title of every book borrowed, the name of the member borrowing the same, and the date on which it is lent, and an acknowledgment in writing shall be given at the time of borrowing any book from the Library; and on the return of

such book the Librarian shall insert opposite to the entry the date on which the book has been returned, and give in writing an acknowledgment of its return. And if on the return of such book the Librarian shall perceive that it has sustained any damage during its loan, he shall make a note of the particulars and report the same to the Library Committee.

17. In place of every book removed from the shelves, a card or board shall be substituted, on which shall be written the name of the borrower and date of issue.

Modifications of Existing Bye-laws.

Bye-law No. 57.—For the present Bye-law substitute :—

“The common Seal of the Society shall be a representation of the constellation Scorpio above observatory set among palm trees, the whole surrounded by a border of lotus flowers with the words and figures ‘Astronomical Society of India, 1910.’”

Bye-law No. 4.—From the first line of this Bye-law strike out the word “Treasurer,” and after the word “Sections” in line four add the words “the Treasurer.”

Grinding a 16-inch Speculum by hand.

BY W. E. BUCHANAN.

Having recently completed a 16" speculum, a few notes may be of interest to members who make or contemplate making their own mirrors—for Newtonian telescopes.

The disc of glass was procured from Chance Brothers, Birmingham; it was $2\frac{1}{2}$ " thick and weighed some 45 lb.

The tool was of cast zinc and of the same thickness as the speculum.

Zinc was selected as being easy to cast and turn, but iron I consider better.

The focal length having been decided on (in this case 96 inches, or 6 diameters) two templates were made from sheet glass, by fixing an ordinary diamond glass cutter at the end of a long rod suspended to a beam.

The distance between the diamond and the point of suspension was 192 inches, and this is the radius of curvature or twice the focal length.