



The Journal of the Astronomical Society of India.

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SESSION 1911-1912.

[No. 1.]

Report of the Meeting of the Society held on Tuesday, the 5th November 1912.

THE Annual General Meeting of the Astronomical Society of India was held on Tuesday, the 5th November 1912, at the Imperial Secretariat Buildings (ground floor), at 5 P.M.

H. G. TOMKINS, C.I.E., F.R.A.S., *President*, in Chair.

S. C. GHOSE, M.A., *Officiating Secretary*.

The minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

President.—We now have to proceed to the alteration of Bye-Law 27. The Bye-Law alteration has been proposed by Mr. Lee and passed by the Council. I will read the amended Bye-Law which is to take the place of the present Bye-Law. It was found advisable to draft the Law on other lines and Mr. Lee very kindly did so. The result is the present Bye-Law.

(The amended Bye-Law was read.)

The President then asked if there was anybody who had to make any remarks about the Bye-Law, and the Bye-Law was then passed. The Secretary then read the report of the Society for the Session 1911-12, which was adopted.

The President then delivered his address and at its conclusion he asked the scrutineers to announce the result of the election. Mr. Bryning, one of the scrutineers, then read the names of the new Council as follows :—

<i>President</i> ...	...	W. J. SIMMONS, ESQ.
<i>Vice-Presidents</i>	...	1. H. H. THE MAHARAJA RANA BAHADUR SIE BHAWANI SINGH, K.C.S.I., F.R.A.S. 2. COL. S. G. BURRARD, R.E., C.S.I., F.R.S. 3. J. EVERSLED, ESQ., F.R.A.S. 4. C. MITCHIE-SMITH, ESQ., C.I.E., F.R.S.E., F.R.A.S.
<i>Secretaries</i>...	...	1. DR. E. P. HARRISON, PH.D. (<i>Scientific</i>). 2. C. V. RAMAN, ESQ., M.A. (<i>Business</i>).
<i>Members</i> ...	...	1. J. C. DUTT, ESQ., M.A., B.L. 2. D. N. DUTT, ESQ., M.A. 3. F. W. HOWSE, ESQ. 4. W. A. LEE, ESQ., F.R. MET. S. 5. C. T. LETTON, ESQ. 6. SARODA CHARAN MITRA, ESQ., M.A., B.L. 7. DR. D. N. MULLICK, B.A., D.Sc. 8. C. W. PEAKE, ESQ., M.A. 9. C. K. SARKAR, ESQ., C.E., M.S.A., M.S.E. 10. MRS. TOMKINS.
<i>Directors of Sections</i> —		
<i>Director of Classes</i> ...	...	H. G. TOMKINS, ESQ., C.I.E., F.R.A.S.
<i>Lunar Section</i> ...	...	THE REV. J. MITCHELL, M.A.
<i>Meteor Section</i> ...	...	P. C. BOSE, ESQ.
<i>Variable Star Section</i> ...	...	B. M. RAKSHIT, ESQ., B.A.
<i>Instrumental Director</i> ...	...	S. WOODHOUSE, ESQ.

<i>Secretary</i> ...	...	P. C. BOSE, ESQ.
<i>Librarian</i> ...	...	J. A. LAWRIE, ESQ.
<i>Editor</i> ...	...	J. J. MEIKLE, ESQ.
<i>Treasurer</i> ...	...	U. L. BANERJEE, ESQ., M.A.

The President.—I will now make over the Chair to Mr. Simmons, and in doing so I shall like to thank the members of the Society for the support and help they have given me and the Council in pushing on the work of the Society and also in getting members during the first two years that I have occupied the Chair. I trust that members will continue their support to Mr. Simmons in the work which he is going to undertake. I would now ask Mr. Simmons to take the Chair.

Mr. Simmons then took over the Chair as President from Mr. Tomkins.

Mr. Simmons.—Ladies and Gentlemen, I feel sure that no one in this room is more keenly conscious of the responsibility which devolves on the President of this Society than I am myself. As some of the members are aware, I hesitated for a long while before giving my consent to being put forward as the nominee of the Council. I know that apart from the difficulty of holding the office any work I did would have to be compared with the excellent work the President has done during the last two years; it is not everyone who could work as well as Mr. Tomkins has done. Another point is that I am a very busy man, and I am not a very young man; indeed I have passed the age at which Mr. Huxley said anyone posing as a scientific authority ought to be pole-axed. I will ask you therefore, before I close, to give me a full measure of your assistance; indeed in consenting to be nominated I only did so because I felt sure I could depend on your aid. I also ask all our members to help in getting us more members for the Society. With regard to the work of the Society I think I had better reserve for some future occasion my views on the subject, leaving you meantime to reflect on the excellent advice Mr. Tomkins has given us in his Presidential address. I thank you for the honour you have conferred upon me and I earnestly ask you for your support in working the Society.

Mr. Dhar.—Ladies and Gentlemen, it has now devolved upon me to propose a vote of thanks for the work done by the retiring members of the Council during the last

session, and in doing this pleasant duty I need only remark that this was certainly well deserved. I will also try to impress upon some of the Indian Members that they should take an interest in the fascinating study of Astronomy and try to do actual work instead of only reading books and magazines on the subject. As regards the study of Astronomy, it is not a new science to India nor is it one that the Indians do not take kindly to. There was a Pandit in some part of Orissa who made his own instruments with such things as bamboo sticks and iron, etc. To keep these models in view I should think that the younger portion of the Society should take up the subject in right earnest.

I now propose a vote of thanks for the work of the last session.

Mr. Bell.—I beg to second it.

The President.—The vote of thanks has been carried.

Mr. Dutt.—I beg to propose a vote of thanks to the auditors of the accounts, which many of us know to our cost is not a very pleasant task.

The vote was seconded by Mr. Demetrius and was accepted and carried unanimously.

Mr. Tomkins.—I would like to propose a vote of thanks to the scrutineers, whose task in my idea is even more tedious than that of the auditors.

Mr. Bose.—I beg to second it.

The vote was accepted and carried unanimously.

Mr. Simmons.—This evening's meeting has now come to a close, and the next one will be held on the last Tuesday in November the 26th instant. I hope there will be a good attendance on that occasion and that a large number of papers will be sent in.

The meeting was adjourned.