

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE.
1910.

PART II.

WELLINGTON PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

THIRD MEETING: 6th July, 1910.

Mr. A. Hamilton, President, in the chair.

New Member.—Mr. E. S. Baldwin.

Astronomical Section.—The President referred to the report of the committee on the proposed formation of an Astronomical Section, and announced that owing to lack of time the Council was not prepared to recommend any proposal at present, but that a conference between the Council and the committee would take place at an early date.

Mr. C. P. Powles, chairman of the committee, expressed disappointment that the Council had not had time to reach a conclusion, and hoped the intended conference would be held shortly for the purpose of putting something definite before the public.

Papers.—1. "Notes and Descriptions of New Zealand *Lepidoptera*," by Mr. E. Meyrick, B.A., F.R.S., F.Z.S.; communicated by Mr. G. V. Hudson.

2. "A Revision of the Classification of the New Zealand *Tortricina*," by Mr. E. Meyrick, B.A., F.R.S., F.Z.S.; communicated by Mr. G. V. Hudson.

3. "Notes on the Life-history of *Melanchra rhodopleura* and *Leucania epiatra* Meyrick," by Mr. R. M. Sunley.

4. "New Zealand *Lepidoptera*: Notes on Collections made in 1909-10," by Mr. H. Hamilton, A.O.S.M.; communicated by Mr. A. Hamilton.

Exhibits.—The President exhibited interesting entomological specimens recently added to the Museum; also some stone implements recently received from India.

The President announced that the sum of £10 had been voted to Professor Bickerton to assist him in the elaboration and publication of

his astronomical theory; but the Council, in wishing him every success in his efforts to obtain a full hearing for his theory, does not profess to form an opinion as to its merits, but wishes him to have every facility in presenting it to the astronomical societies for criticism.

Joint Library Scheme.—The Chairman announced that the Council had resolved to allow Victoria College students and others interested the privilege of consulting books in the library, under suitable regulations to be drawn up by the Council.

FOURTH MEETING: *3rd August, 1910.*

Mr. Thomas King, Vice-President, in the chair.

Astronomical Section.—The report of the committee set up to advise on the formation of an Astronomical Section was received, and contained the following resolutions of the committee:—

1. That an Astronomical Section of the Wellington Philosophical Society be formed.
2. That the objects of the section be the establishment of an observatory in or about Wellington, and the promotion of the study of astronomical subjects generally.
3. That a fund be established for promoting the objects of the Carter bequest, and for rendering it available as soon as possible.
4. That the proposed observatory, if established, be called the King Edward VII Memorial Observatory, as a memorial to the late King.
5. That the question of promoting such a memorial be brought before the public, and that for this purpose a committee be formed, including prominent citizens, in conjunction with members of the Philosophical Society.

On the motion of Professor Easterfield, seconded by Mr. G. V. Hudson, it was resolved, That an Astronomical Section of the Wellington Philosophical Society be formed.

On the motion of Mr. G. Hogben, seconded by Professor Picken, it was resolved, That the Secretary should call a meeting of all who desire to form the section, and that the new section be forthwith formed, and elect its own officers.

Papers.—1. "University Reform," by Professor T. H. Laby.

2. "The Need for a Society of Eugenics in New Zealand," by Professor H. B. Kirk.

[Reports of these papers, and of the discussion thereon, were published in the *New Zealand Times* of the 4th and 6th August.]

SPECIAL MEETING: *17th August, 1910.*

Mr. Thomas King, Vice-President, in the chair.

An apology was received from Mr. A. Hamilton, President, for non-attendance, on account of ill health.

Mr. T. Buckley, Chief Electrician of the Telegraph Department, delivered an interesting lecture on wireless telegraphy, illustrated by numerous diagrams and experiments. The lecturer reviewed briefly the history of "wireless," and described the existing systems in considerable detail, and gave a number of practical illustrations on the apparatus