



The Photographic Society

OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, LIMITED

P.O. BOX 2007, JOHANNESBURG

PRESIDENTIAL REPORT

Mr. Van Vuuren, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The circumstances under which it is my privilege to report to you this year, are considerably different from those of the previous year, not only because of the remarkable difference in the nature of our venue, but mostly because a great many elements of stress, and undercurrents of doubt and antagonism have been removed. This happy state, however, must not lull us into a sense of false security, because there are still many criticisms directed at us, and some not without foundation, and it will be the incoming Board's responsibility to see that these criticisms are eradicated and our house put into perfect order.

We have made remarkable progress during the past year, mainly due to the efforts of Vice-President Derrick Beadle who, through successful negotiations with the Association of the Phonographic Industry, the Performing Rights Society, and the Publications Board, has brought great relief to all member Clubs. This fact, and also the fact that in future years UNICA will only deal through P.S.S.A. in matters affecting our country, have placed our Society in an unassailable position as the National body dealing with all matters affecting amateur photography in Southern Africa. This very fact, however, brings with it grave responsibilities, viz. respecting at all times the law of the land as laid down by the government, and justifying our existence not only in the eyes of International and National photographic bodies, but also in the eyes of individual members.

That we have done extremely little for individual members in the past, over and above supplying them with our Bulletin, the South African "Amateur Photography," is only too clear, and this matter must become the major issue for the incoming Board to consider. And whilst on the subject of individual members there is also the question of what P.S.S.A. can do to assist the non-European section of our community. At the moment we have the system of Subscriber membership for non-Europeans whereby they receive all benefits of the Society with the exclusion of social benefits. If, however, we are going to continue to seek co-operation, collaboration and even assistance from the central government- or State-aided bodies such as the National Film Board and the National Film Institute, this policy may have to be reviewed, and fairly soon. This, also is a matter for the incoming board.

In August of this year, after a long period of careful deliberation and planning, an extraordinary General Meeting of your Society was called for the express purpose of making certain necessary changes to the constitution. The only change that did not meet with unanimous approval was the change whereby Directors will in future be elected by postal ballot, and that the Directors so elected will, from their ranks, elect a President and two Vice-Presidents. It is not my intention to defend this

motion, as it reflects common policy in practically all major companies. Far from being an infringement of the democratic rights of the individual members, it does give the Board the opportunity of electing into its highest offices those who they feel are best suited for such responsibility.

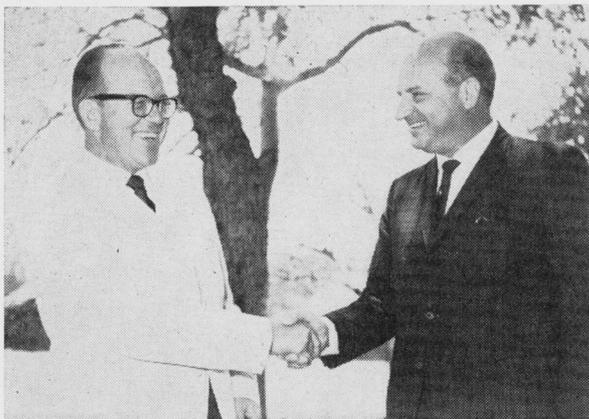
You will also notice that the finances of your society are very healthy indeed. The idea was put forward by at least one Director that, should this upward trend continue, your society should consider the publication of its own bulletin, as in the past. The question one would like to ask, however, is whether our present bulletin is not partly responsible for this upward trend in our finances and membership? Admittedly the ideal state would be to publish our own journal rather than being associated with an independent publication such as "Amateur Photography," but then our journal must offer more than members are getting now, without jeopardising our finances. As soon as we are confident that this could be done, it will receive our fullest attention.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Chairmen of all divisions and subsections for the work they have done. These are Mr. Derrick Beadle, Vice-President and Chairman of the Motion Picture Division, Mr. Lionel Bevis, Chairman of the Tape Recorded Lectures committee, Mr. John Geldard, Vice-President and Chairman of the Colour Division, Mr. Denis Bradley, Chairman of the Journal Committee, Mr. Fred Harris, Chairman of the Pictorial Division, Mr. Graham Cousins, Chairman of the Film Library, Mr. Mike Winchester, Chairman of the Portfolios Section, Mr. Steve D'Elboux and Mr. Bill Kobrow for their tremendous assistance in the Protea Salon, Mr. Gordon Maddox, Chairman of Honours and Awards Committee, Mr. Brannie Penny our Company Secretary and Mr. Colin Marik, our Hon. Treasurer. In particular I would also like to thank Mr. Russell Stephen, Chairman of the Congress Committee for the second year, for making this Congress at Pretorius Kop possible. I would also like to welcome Mr. Steve Scholly as a new Director to the Board.

A special vote of thanks also to Mr. P. Z. J. Van Vuuren, M.E.C., for the honour he has done our Society in coming all the way from Pretoria to open Congress here today.

In conclusion I would like to sound a note of warning, a warning based on observing the fate of other National bodies in our Country over the past decade. A lot of hard work has gone into our Society over the past ten years. We are now firmly established. We are beginning to flourish. Let us not become complacent, or allow ourselves to believe that we are immune to enmity or subversion. Let us recognise enemies and subversive elements, the wolves in sheep's clothing who may try to infiltrate our ranks, and deal with them accordingly.

(continued on page 44)



The President, Dr. J. K. du Toit, greets Mr. P. Z. J. van Vuuren, M.E.C., who opened Congress.

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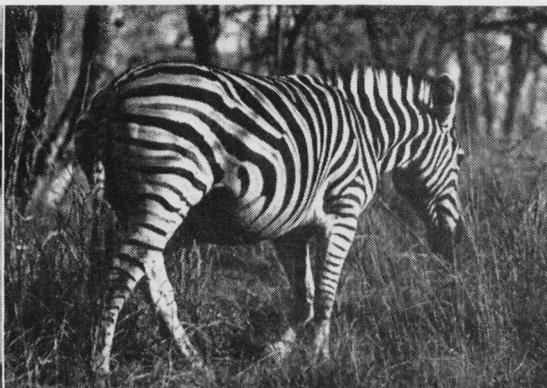


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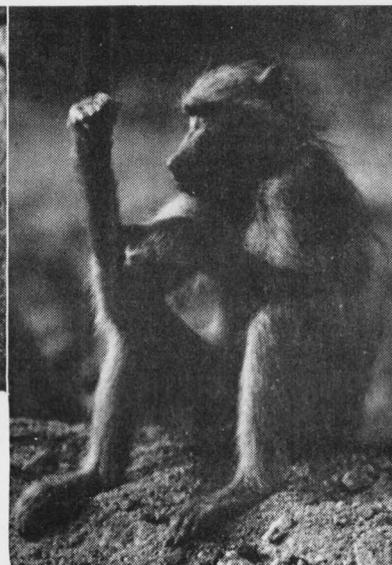
The President, Congress Chairman R. D. Stephen and Mr. van Vuuren.



R. D. Stephen (Service Medal).



After exciting days members were ready to get into their pyjamas at night.



A member has a problem.



The President congratulates.



Dick Rose-Innes, A.P.S. (S.A.).

John Richard, A.P.S. (S.A.).



THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of the Tenth Annual General Meeting of the Society held at Pretorius Kop, Kruger National Park, on Saturday, 17th October, 1964, at 11.30 a.m.

Present.

Dr. J. K. du Toit (in the chair) and thirty-six members including six other Directors.

Apologies for absence

were received from Messrs. Beadle, Bevis, Peyton, Winchester and Seaton. In the absence of the Company Secretary, Mr. D. W. Bradley was asked to act as Secretary for the duration of the meeting.

Minutes of the 9th A.G.M.

It was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously that these Minutes be taken as read.

Accounts for the Year ended 30th June, 1964.

It was unanimously agreed that the Auditor's Report be taken as read.

Presidential Report.

The Chairman read his Presidential Report. (Annexure A).

Journal.

Arising from the President's Report Mr. Bradley asked that members should express their views on the Society's Journal, "Amateur Photography." He said that he had had complaints from two members that the amount of P.S.S.A. news in the Journal was inadequate—neither could say what they felt was missing. He had replied to these two gentlemen that all news which came to hand, which was considered to be of general interest to photographers, was published.

Mr. Blum said he had no complaints and considered the Journal an excellent medium for dissipation of P.S.S.A. news. Having organised a "House Journal" himself he appreciated the difficulty in getting "copy."

Mr. McCullough said that members should forget that "Amateur Photography" was a commercial publication but remember that it was our Official Journal. He felt that most members were more interested in the fact that A.P. was our Official Journal than that it was not run by P.S.S.A. members themselves.

Mr. Geldard said it was the opinion of some Durban Directors that A.P. was absorbing P.S.S.A. as many people looked upon it as just another magazine and didn't realise that it was the Official Journal of the Society. They would prefer a duplicated sheet which was our own rather than a magazine run by somebody else. Several members spoke in disagreement with this view and Mr. Geldard then said that though he was expressing the views of some of his co-directors in the Durban area, they were not his own views. He liked "Amateur Photography."

Mr. P. du Toit (Germiston C. & C.C.) said his Club was very grateful for all that P.S.S.A. had done for members

during the last year and they looked upon the Journal as a most satisfactory bonus.

Mr. Burger (Vereeniging) thanked the Directors for making A.P. the Society's Official Journal but agreed that more P.S.S.A. News should be published if it could be obtained. He also requested that more articles for the Cine worker were needed. Mr. Bradley said he would pass this request to the publishers and mentioned that if any members could supply articles he was quite sure that the publishers would be most happy to receive them. Incidentally any articles used would be paid for at the usual rates.

Next Venue.

An invitation was received from South Coast Camera Club, Amanzimtoti, that the Congress be held under their auspices in 1965 provided that "Protea" Salon could be shown to delegates. Dr. J. K. du Toit said that he thought that this would be possible but that the Salon could only be on show during the period of Congress. To obtain P.S.A. rating certain dates had to be adhered to but he contemplated no difficulty. He agreed that it was desirable that Protea Salon be made available to any Club organising P.S.S.A. Congress.

Protea Salon.

Mr. Geldard reported that Mr. Bevis had not yet received the 1963 Protea Salon for inclusion in the Tape Recorded Lecture programme. Mr. D'Elboux said that this had been posted and he would check with the Post Office.

Badges.

Mr. P. du Toit said many smaller Clubs could not afford to have their own Blazer Badges and it would be a good idea if they could be permitted to have their Club name added to the P.S.S.A. badge. The Chairman said that this may not be permitted by the Bureau of Heraldry but the matter would be investigated.

Round the Country with P.S.S.A.

Mr. Ted Dickinson said that "Round the World with P.S.A." had been very much enjoyed by Clubs who had seen it, and suggested that something on similar lines should be organised by P.S.S.A.

Judges.

Mr. E. Entin (Randfontein) said that smaller Clubs had considerable difficulty in obtaining Judges and suggested that a panel of available Judges be created by P.S.S.A. Dr. du Toit said that there were two difficulties (a) That when this was tried in the past, few Clubs replied to correspondence; (b) if P.S.S.A. approved of certain people as Judges it could be inferred that they disapproved of others who were not on the list. Mr. Geldard said that his Colour Division received and judged three or four sets of Colour Slides every month and they gave a criticism on tape where such was supplied by the Club. He suggested that a similar scheme could be inaugurated by the Pictorial Division. It was agreed that the incoming Board and Directors should see to this.

Judging.

Mr. McCullough suggested that P.S.S.A. lay down a Judging System by Points Values.—It was agreed that

judging was far too individual a business and also P.S.S.A. did not want to interfere with any Club's domestic affairs.

Censorship.

Mr. Geldard reported that Mr. Peyton had complained that he had been informed by a non-member that a certain foreign film could not be shown until it had passed the censorship of the Publications Board. His complaint was that P.S.S.A. should have advised him of this. Mr. P. du Toit said that every member had been sent a letter giving full details as to how the Censorship Act affected members. It would appear that Mr. Peyton had mis-read this letter. Mr. P. du Toit also mentioned that a local Magistrate was empowered to preview foreign films or slides and could grant an exemption certificate.

Membership.

Mr. Bradley mentioned that he and Mr. Beadle thought that consideration should be given to a complete re-orientation of Membership Policy. He suggested that only Clubs should be full members and would pay a small levy of perhaps 15 cents per head of membership as their annual subscription to P.S.S.A. Every member of a member Club would then be affiliated to P.S.S.A. and the Society would then be the mouthpiece for all photographers—not just a handful. The meeting appeared to feel that there was food for thought in this suggestion. The Chairman suggested that this be left to the new Board who could, if they felt fit bring the matter up as a proposal at the next A.G.M. Mr. P. du Toit felt that the matter was too important to shelve for twelve months and suggested that the matter be put in the hands of a sub-committee who should report back to members within three months. This was agreed.

The meeting terminated at 1.05 p.m.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

The Board of Directors of the Society wish to congratulate the following recipients of Honours and Awards which were announced, at the 1964 Congress of the Society.

The Associateship. This Honour was granted to Mr. Dick Rose-Innes of Roodepoort for an excellent set of monochrome prints and to Mr. John Richard for twelve very beautiful Colour Transparencies.

Both these gentlemen are members of The Camera Club of Johannesburg and their fellow members must be proud of them.

The Service Medal was awarded to Mr. D. G. Beadle for his outstanding work in connection with "Performing Rights," "Re-recording Rights," "The Censorship Act" and for re-vitalising the Motion Picture Division.

Service Medals were also awarded to Mr. R. D. Stephen and Mr. J. R. Sheppard, Chairman and Secretary respectively of the 1963 Congress.

This Congress, the first to be held in Johannesburg, was most successful thanks to the magnificent organisation.

THE DURBAN CAMERA CLUB

The Durban Camera Club is to hold its first-ever Annual Exhibition of Black and White Prints and viewing of colour slides. These will be the winning entries of the annual competitions and also the monthly competitions of the year. Trophies for the year will be presented at this meeting which will be held at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, 27th January, 1965, at the Arthur Smith Hall, Technical College, Durban. All photographers are invited to attend.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

of the

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

P.O. Box 2007, Johannesburg.

I,, hereby apply for membership of P.S.S.A. and, if admitted, agree to abide by all regulations of the Society.

My postal address is:

.....
.....
.....

I am a member of
(other photographic bodies)

Qualifications Race

I enclose Cheque/Postal Order for R to cover Annual Subscription (R3.15); Blazer Badge (R1.75); Lapel Badge (75c) and commission.

Date Signature
Individual photographers may use this form, or a facsimile, when applying for ordinary membership of the Society.

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