

AUSTRALIAN BRANCH - Western Australian Division.

Minutes of Meeting of Corporate Members of Division on 23rd April 1940 at 7.45 pm. in Physics Lecture Theatre.

Present; R.Davis, W.C.Parkinson, A.D.Ross, J.Shearer, S.E.Williams.

Resolved on motion of Ross, seconded by ^{Parkinson}~~Shearer~~: that a Division of the Australian Branch of the Institute be formed in W.A. under section 13 of the Constitution, the headquarters of the Division to be situated in Perth.

Resolved on proposal by Ross, seconded by Shearer: that Mr. W.C. Parkinson be elected chairman of the W.A. Division for session 1940.

Resolved on proposal of Davis, seconded by Parkinson: that S.E.Williams be elected Secretary of the W.A. Division for session 1940.

Resolved on motion of Ross, seconded by Shearer: that application be made to the Australian Branch of the Institute for a grant of £2:10:0d to meet the expenses of the Division during the session 1940.

Resolved on the motion of Shearer, seconded by Parkinson: that the W.A.Division is of the opinion that the Australian Branch should issue to all members of the Branch a Circular or Bulletin giving a brief resume of the activities of the Branch, its Committee and the Division.

Business meeting closed at 8pm.

General Meeting of W.A. Division held 23rd April 1940 in Physics Lecture Room. About 25 members and friends were present.

Dr. S.E.Williams gave an address entitled "Investigations into the Mechanism of Production of Short Wave Radio Fadeouts."

Dr. Williams described the nature of the ionospheric changes involved when a sudden fadeout occurred on short waves and ~~also~~ the observations of short-period disturbances in the hydrogen of the solar chromosphere which had been found to coincide with radio fadeouts on short waves. He showed ^{that} to produce simultaneous ionisation at the observed levels U-V radiation must be emitted from the eruption of such wavelength as would, besides ionising, also penetrate deep into the upper atmosphere. A survey of the possible radiations from an eruption suggested that the increased emission in the first Lyman line of hydrogen, at 1215A, was responsible for the ionisation and a means by which such radiation might produce positive oxygen ions and free electrons was described. He then described the results of experiments carried out by him at Sydney on the absorption of 1215A by oxygen, air nitrogen and watervapour which could be interpreted to give support for the idea that 1215 was responsible. After questions and discussion the meeting closed at 10 pm.