

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY  
Thursday, January 4, 1979

The meeting was convened at 7:25 by President Lowry. The Roll Call affirmed 29 members present; 8 members absent.

The minutes of the December 7th meeting were read and approved.

The Society voted to approve requests for excused absences for the December meeting.

There being no further business items President Lowry called for the stated program:

Littleton J. Pardue presented an essay captioned:

Time. A sub-title would include the definition, philosophy, history and evaluation of the mensuration, assizement and gauging of the devices and systems concerned with time.

Robert B. Sivley submitted a compendium, or summary of research, on:

Sleep - Perchance to Dream. This was a dissertation, accompanied by graphic materials, about the phenomenon that occupies nearly one third of our time. The verbage ranged from Biblical examples through classic lore, behavioral science experimentation, speculation about dreams to the methodology of research concerning sleep.

Each paper was enthusiastically received.

Following the intermission seven members offered comments, conjecture, personal views, pragmatic reminiscence and approbation.

The scribes responded with relevent reenforcement and expository comment.

The program for February 1 was announced.

E. Ben Self  
Thomas W. Westerfield

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 by President Lowry.

Respectfully,

*Leslie B. Crane*

Leslie B. Crane  
Secretary and Treasurer

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY  
Thursday, February 1, 1979

The meeting was convened at 7:22 by President Lowry. The Roll Call verified the attendance of 29 members; 8 members absent. Finn Torjesen was the guest of Dr. William Rowlett. Mr. Torjesen is a furloughed missionary from Asia and the near East.

The minutes for the January 4th meeting were read and approved.

The Society voted approval for requests concerning excused absences at the January meeting.

President Lowry alerted the Committee on Nominations regarding the preparation of a slate of nominees for the year 1979-80. The Committee:

J. Brooks Major  
David E. Cumbee  
William T. Turner

Having concluded regular business, the President called for the stated program.

E. Ben Self presented a paper on:

The Craziness of Champions. This Emersonian type essay analyzed the technique and motivation for becoming a champion. Elements included the isolation involved; the correlation of maximum effort and ultimate achievement; the role of pride, reward, recognition, and the residual benefits in behavior that yields distinction.

Thomas W. Westerfield submitted a review entitled:

Now You See It - Now You Don't. This document described the enigma of geography and navigation known as "The Bermuda Triangle". The series of incidents involving tragic maritime and aviation accidents elicit plausible explanations that range from extraordinary phenomena through mystical causation. The tragedies remain the objects of continuous speculation and tenuous theories.

Both papers received rapt attention.

The customary intermission followed.

Having reconvened 11 members offered comment, criticism, a number of anecdotal reviews and incisive wit. The content covered personal experiences, the American psyche and simplistic hero worship.

In rebuttal, the authors responded with apt comment, reciprocal compliments and appropriate acknowledgements.

The program for March 1 was announced:

David B. Conley  
Stephen E. Underwood

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The meeting was adjourned at 9:44 by President Lowry.

Respectfully,

*Leslie B. Crane*

Leslie B. Crane  
Secretary and Treasurer

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY  
Thursday, March 1, 1979

The meeting was convened at 7:23 by President Lowry. The Roll Call affirmed the attendance of 25 members; 12 were absent.

The minutes for February 1 were read and approved.

The membership voted concurrence with requests for excused absence at the February meeting.

The Committee on Nominations submitted its report concerning nominees for the year 1979-80 as follows:

President: Gladstone Major  
Vice President: William T. Turner  
Secretary-Treasurer: Leslie B. Crane

The election will be at the April meeting.

The President called for a report from the Membership Committee. Chairman, Brooks Major submitted the name of Dr. John Newsom. The Society was reminded that the name of Dr. Frank Nash, having been held over from the November meeting when voting was suspended, is in regular order for consideration.

The President called for the stated program.

David Conley presented, extempore, a discourse on The Ayatullah Ruhollah Khomeini. The material covered the origin, development and current emergence of militant reactionary Islamic rule in Iran.

Stephen Underwood presented a chronological brief on the emergence of Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-p'ing (pronounced dung-sheow-ping) and the normalization of relations between China and the United States.

Both presentations received absorbant interest.

The usual intermission followed.

Upon reconvening ten members submitted challenges and viewpoints that ranged from Jeremiad warning to imponderable generalizations. A concise description of rebuttal would be - an exercize in converting and convincing.

The program for April 5 was announced:

Charles L. Tilley  
Jack D. Amis

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The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 by President Lowry.

Respectfully,

*Leslie B. Crane*

Leslie B. Crane  
Secretary and Treasurer



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY  
Thursday, April 5, 1979

The meeting was convened at 7:20 by President Lowry. The Roll Call confirmed 27 members present, 10 absent.

The Minutes for March 1 were approved as read.

The membership voted concurrence with request for excused absences at the March session.

The report of the Committee on Nominations was reviewed and the election of officers called for. There being no further nominations a motion prevailed instructing the Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for those nominated for the year 1979-1980.

President: Gladstone Major  
Vice President: William T. Turner  
Sec.-Treas.: Leslie B. Crane

The membership voted on the report of the Membership Committee submitted at the March meeting. The vote - verified by the tellers:

Franklin A. Nash - favorable  
John M. Newson - favorable

The president called for the stated program:

Charles Tilley presented a paper entitled:

Bye Bye My Babies - The Lullaby of Madison Ave. The manuscript summarized the world of advertising, the hyperbole, the panoply of persuasion, the consumerism, the epigrammatic, bombastic hucksterism and the modes of the art in every media.

Jack Amis delivered a polemic entitled:

Ape of a Cold God; The Life and Thoughts of Karl Marx

Within the parentheses of his lifetime this egocentric intellectual exemplified the dialectic materialism of the social-economic revolution. The author of Das Kapital died in 1883. Eleven attended his funeral at Highgate Cemetery yet the thunder clouds still reverberate from the interpretations of his pseudo-science and economic theory.

Following intermission six members presented comments and viewpoints. The authors responded with appropriate rebuttal.

The program for May 3, the 78th Open Session was announced:

Howard H. Willen  
David N. Gardner

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 by President Lowry.

Respectfully,

*Leslie B. Crane*

Leslie B. Crane  
Secretary and Treasurer