

February.

Minister a. de Bussos. So when the evening session opened, and as the first paper on the programme was not there I asked the President if he would re-read his address as there were a number present who had not heard it. This he refused to do. J. D. Dennis then rose to speak about the address & was ruled out of order, he then wrote a motion (referring to the address), this the president refused to put to the meeting, whereupon Dennis withdrew from the meeting under protest. I again arose & asked whether that motion could not come up at all, speaking at some length when I was also ruled out of order. — The programme of the evening was then gone through, I reading my paper on "Height of reflections of the electric light." — After the meeting many of us were at the Russell discussing the event of the evening. ~~There was a great deal of discussion on the subject of the programme~~

Wednesday 20  
five

Attended Board meeting. — Before attending the D.L.S. meeting in the evening I hurriedly (as I had little time) consulted Dr. Ferguson as to "Parliamentary Rules," as I was bound to have the President's address discussed and the objectionable part repudiated. With "blood in my eye" as Locke said I went to the meeting & after the proceedings opened made a motion "that the president's address be now received & open for discussion." I as expected was ruled out of order, but there was no baffling me tonight — I demanded to have the question put to the meeting whether I was out of order, the president refused to do so, chaos reigned — I finally put the question myself and found only three dissenting voices (G.R. McKeath (his cousin) Beller (Irish catholic like himself) & Bellot (French catholic)). There was speaking & counter speaking — I during all this time kept standing & facing the meeting, some threatened to sever their connection with the Assoc. on account of the arbitrary presence of the president. At five the president re-read his address and a vote of repudiating certain clauses carried, — for which purpose we moved the president off of the chair

In the time being, as he would not put the motion. Thereafter he resumed the proceedings of the programme carried out. — Mr. Lightfoot a visitor said that the proceedings of the House of Commons weren't a patch to this. — After the meeting I called on King at the granterium, he was in his night gown + about retiring. C. Humphreys who was with him was already in bed. He insisted on my staying — so I told them of Knight's visit, + we chatted away for an hour over the medicine "Cinacosa" which I as Dr. had prescribed —

Tuesday 21  
pleasant

Attended Board meeting + finished all business by noon having picked the 3 D.F.S. candidates, present Pritchard on the "limited la." + Geo. St. White for D.F.S. After 4 PM. I called on the Dep. Secy. Gen. A. C. B. Jones and remained with him till 6 PM. He fully told me his plans of laying the foundation of combined geologic surveys — of driving the thin end of the wedge, that he had to proceed quietly and cautiously. The first step had been taken by making W. F. King — Chief astronomer, and now he proposed to take me into the civil service, but he said "you will have to make a considerable sacrifice." — How much has your salary been — well it has been about \$2200 = (\$6 per day). He then said that he began with I would receive only \$1600 =, King getting \$1800 =, I said it was a shame that King didn't get more. — He continued and said that I would not be required to remove from Pretoria, and that my living allowances would be worth something, although he was not very explicit as to the field allowances otherwise they are \$3 1/2 per diem. — Upon questioning him he told me that my official title would be "Astronomer." — What made his proposition at all acceptable to me was that it would not necessitate my removal to Ottawa. (W. Filvie is also to be taken into the civil service.)