

# Transactions

OF THE

## BANFFSHIRE FIELD CLUB.



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[www.banffshirefieldclub.org.uk](http://www.banffshirefieldclub.org.uk)

**TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 1930.**

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A meeting of Banffshire Field Club was held at Banff this evening, ex-Provost Gordon presiding in the absence of the president, Sheriff More.

Rev. Dr Bruce, Banff, in the course of a paper which he read said that Field Clubs went to the fields for their subjects of study and wished to learn what kind of world we live in, both the earth below and the starry world above. In consequence he would invite them to look into the geology of their neighbourhood and then go on to study the wider universe. After describing the three Periods of Geology and giving illustrations of their fossils, the Palæozoic or Primary, the Period called Secondary, and the Period called Tertiary, he described the Old Red Sandstone of Rhynie, Turriff and Gamrie, and noted the various fossils found in it—fishes, trilobites, mollusc, ferns, &c., and urged them next summer to have a geological excursion to one or other of these places. But geology must be supplemented by astronomy, and of late the interest in this science had greatly increased by the discovery of Radium and the wonders of Wireless. It was now known that the sun and many stars were getting less through age and that though it might take millions of years yet, our sun was hastening on to his end. But scientists held that all stars and worlds came out of the great Nebulæ Christus and that we could see many new or baby worlds in the process of formation. He wanted specially to study the Nebulæ of Orion and of Ursa Major, both of them visible each clear night; also the star numbered 891 N.G.C., and the star 7217 N.G.C., in which the nebula were to be seen full in and in whorls, as well as the star Betelgeux, which was believed to be thousands of times larger than our own sun, which, as seen from Orion, was only one of the smaller stars with its attendant planets of which our earth was one. Without doubt it was now

proved matter was passing into radiation and radio-active energy was overthrowing all old ideas of things. Newton's theory of gravitation was being modified and Einstein's modern doctrine of Relativity was taking its place. This was explained and members were urged to use both their microscopes for the flowers at their feet and their telescopes for the starry heavens above.

A short discussion followed and Dr Bruce was thanked for his contribution.