

Committee had nominated the following: For Commission 9 Dr Couder, for Commission 17 Dr Lyot,* for 24 Dr Jackson, for 25 Dr Baade, for 27 Mr Grouiller, and for 36 Prof. Minnaert.

Three motions had been proposed by National Committees of Astronomy in time to be placed on the agenda for the General Assembly, according to the statutes of the Union (see p. 15, under 7*a*, *b* and *c*). These motions requiring no immediate action by this Assembly, the President said that the Executive Committee proposed to refer the motion (*a*) to Commissions 4, 8 and 31, (*b*) to Commission 4, and (*c*) to Commission 5. No objections being raised to these proposals the President adjourned the General Assembly to Wednesday, August 10, at 10.30.

Meeting on August 10, 1938, 10.30 in the House of Parliament

The President, Prof. Esclangon, opened the General Assembly. Prof. Esclangon said he had first to announce the death of Prof. Shinzo Shinjo, which had been reported from Japan only a few days ago. He then said that replies had been received to the telegrams sent to Messrs Bianchi, Dyson and Schlesinger; the replies were read.

The President said that the Executive Committee proposed to elect Sir Arthur Eddington as President for the next three years; the new Vice-Presidents proposed were Profs. Abetti, Brunner and Ch. Fabry. In accordance with the statutes Dr Adams and Prof. Bergstrand would stay on another term, Profs. Banachiewicz, Bianchi and the President himself would retire automatically, and Dr Spencer Jones had informed the Executive Committee of his intention to retire.

The report of the Finance Committee (which had been presided over by Prof. Leuschner, while Prof. Rybka had acted as secretary) was then presented by its chairman, who remarked that an auditing committee of three members had been appointed whose report is included in the following:

Report of the Finance Committee

We have examined the accounts and vouchers for expenditure for the last three years and have verified that the balances shown agree with the bank statements. The balances carried forward from 1937 December were 7502.41 Guilders and £2664. 2s. 8*d.* sterling.

We are indebted to the General Secretary for the way in which he has placed his services at our disposal.

We consider it necessary to draw attention to the circumstance that some adhering countries are in arrears with their contributions.

(Signed) JULIE M. VINTER HANSEN
W. M. H. GREAVES
VINCENT NECHVÍLE

* As Dr Lyot preferred not to accept the presidency of this commission, Dr Adams consented to act as chairman for the time of the meeting.

The Finance Committee had before them the following applications for grants approved by the Executive Committee for submission to the General Assembly:

ANNUAL GRANTS								<i>Gold Francs</i>
Commission 6	Bureau des Télégrammes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,200
„	11 Cartes Synoptiques (Paris-Meudon)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,700
„	11 Immagini Spettroscopiche (Arcetri)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,350
„	19 Bureau de la variation des latitudes	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,250
„	27 Ephemerides of eclipsing binaries	...	...	...	...	...	...	800
„	31 Bureau de l'Heure	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,200
Bureau de l'Union	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,000
								<u>21,500</u>

SPECIAL GRANTS (for once only)								<i>Gold Francs</i>
Commission 5	Bibliographie Mensuelle	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,500
„	12 Solar spectrum	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,400
„	18 Longitudes mondiales	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,500
„	19 Publication des résultats de la variation des latitudes	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,600
„	23 Carte du Ciel	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,000
								<u>23,000</u>

An annual expenditure of about 29,200 francs had to be budgeted for, and with about 100 units available from the different countries the unit of subscription was fixed at 300 gold francs.

RESOLUTION

“The Finance Committee, by the unanimous vote of 20 countries represented, agreed to recommend for the years until the next meeting a unit of subscription of 300 gold francs.”

A. O. LEUSCHNER,
Chairman of the Finance Committee.

Prof. Leuschner remarked that through an oversight one of the items of the report as now presented had not been presented to the Finance Committee in its last session. The item had, however, been subsequently approved by the Executive Committee and its inclusion would not bring any change in the proposed unit of contribution. He moved, therefore, the adoption of the report as it stood; this was carried, as no one raised objections.

The following resolution was submitted by the Executive Committee and accepted by the General Assembly:

“It is resolved that Presidents of Commissions be given the power to form within their commissions new sub-commissions to deal with special problems. The membership of these sub-commissions need not necessarily be limited to members of the commission to which the sub-commission belongs. However, astronomers not belonging to one of the commissions of the Union cannot be made members of the

sub-commissions unless they would be simultaneously coopted on to the commission concerned, in the manner provided for by the statutes."

The resolutions and recommendations adopted by the various commissions, which had been stencilled and distributed to the members present, were then read by the recorders of the General Assembly.

The President, in moving the adoption of these resolutions as well as the reports of the commissions, explained that in a number of the resolutions involving finances, which had been read in the form in which they were submitted by the presidents of the commissions, the amounts were to be corrected so as to bring them into accordance with the report of the Finance Committee which had already been adopted. He moved the adoption of the resolutions so modified and of the reports of the commissions, but would first invite comments. No comments being made, the President remarked, in connection with a resolution submitted by Commission 4, that it would be of great value to have also tables of the numerical values of goniometric functions for seconds of time in addition to those for seconds of arc mentioned in the resolution. Dr Spencer Jones answered that such tables are already being published by the British Government.

The reports and resolutions were then adopted by the General Assembly, and the President adjourned the meeting to 14.30.

Meeting on August 10, 1938, 14.30 in the House of Parliament

The President opened the Assembly and said that the election of the new President and Vice-Presidents of the Union was the first item on the programme for this afternoon. Following the proposal made in the morning's Assembly by the Executive Committee, Sir Arthur Eddington was elected as President for the following three years. In connection with the election of the new Vice-Presidents, Prof. Banachiewicz made the following statement:

"Je ne doute pas que les savants qui sont proposés par le Comité Exécutif méritent bien d'être élus membres du Comité. Toutefois, je crois que le principe d'après lequel certains pays devraient être représentés au Comité Exécutif d'une manière permanente n'est pas juste, vu que les autres pays en sont affectés. Par conséquent la Délégation Polonaise a l'intention de proposer à la prochaine Assemblée Générale une modification partielle du règlement de l'Union Astronomique Internationale qui apporterait un changement à cet état des choses."

The President remarked that these proposals would have to be discussed in the next General Assembly, three years hence, and proposed the election of Profs. Abetti, Brunner and Fabry as new Vice-Presidents to replace the retiring Vice-Presidents Profs. Banachiewicz and Bianchi and Dr Spencer Jones. The proposal was adopted *nem. con.*

The next business was to elect members of various committees of the "Conseil International des Unions Scientifiques". The following nominations were submitted by the Executive Committee:

Committee on Solar and Terrestrial Relationships: Dr d'Azambuja and Dr Nicholson.

As representatives of the Union on the Executive Committee of the "Conseil