

22. COMMISSION DES METEORES ET METEORITES

PRÉSIDENT: Professor Dr V. V. Fedynsky, Astronomical Council of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R., Moscow, U.S.S.R.

MEMBRES: Astapovich, Ceplecha, Davies, de Jager, Fesenkov, Guigay, Guth, Hey, Hirose, Hoffmeister, Hoppe, Huruhata, Huxley, Jacchia, Katasev, Krésak, Levin, Lovell, Millman, Nielsen, Olivier, Öpik, Porter, Prentice, Siedentopf, O. Thomas, R. N. Thomas, Whipple.

La Commission a deux Sous-Commissions: 22 *a*, 22 *b*.

The Report of Commission 22 is printed on page 557.

22a. SOUS-COMMISSION DES METEORITES

PRÉSIDENT: Dr F. L. Whipple, Director of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, 60 Garden Street, Cambridge 38, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

MEMBRES: Astapovich, Harrison Brown, Krinov, Leonard†, Levin, Link, Nininger, E. W. Salpeter.

INTRODUCTION

The marked acceleration in meteoritic research during the past few years is truly gratifying. Such research is an important prelude to vehicular exploration of the Moon and planets. In it may lie the vital key to the problem of solar system origin and evolution.

Because of the large number of diversive contributions in the field of meteorites, the present report must be both incomplete and sketchy. Hopefully the references included will assist students and investigators in making further progress in understanding our only samples of extra-terrestrial matter. Much research has been done in related fields of high-velocity phenomena, ion sputtering, physics and dynamics of meteorites in space and in other fields. No report is made here of such research.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The late Professor F. A. Paneth has left his collection of meteorites for experimental study in which portions of the material may, if necessary, be destroyed. Qualified investigators desiring to make use of this opportunity should apply to the Secretary of the Paneth Meteorite Trust, Dr. H. Wänke, Max-Planck-Institut für Chemie, Mainz, Germany. The collection may be augmented by later additions, and those in a position to do so are recommended thus to increase the facilities for the experimental study of meteorites which is in general not possible with specimens located in museums.

In Canada a program for the routine reporting of all bright fireballs is being organized on a national basis. Standard fireball report forms are being widely distributed, and a central co-ordinating agency has been established in Ottawa with the address: Meteor Centre, National Research Council, Ottawa 2, Ontario. Travelling exhibits of meteorites will be used in a general educational campaign. The above activities are being organized by the recently formed Associate Committee on Meteorites of the National Research Council of Canada, which will also serve as an international liaison office on meteorites.