

## 6. COMMISSION DES TÉLÉGRAMMES ASTRONOMIQUES

PRÉSIDENT: M. E. STRÖMGREN, *Director of the University Observatory, Copenhagen, Denmark.*

MEMBRES: MM. Dawson, Dyson, Shapley, Wood.

From June 8, 1928 (date of the last report) up to the present date the Bureau has distributed 813 telegrams and published 175 circulars (Nos. 207-381). In two periods the number of telegrams and circulars has been particularly great: the Pluto- and comet-period in the spring of 1930 and the asteroid- and comet-period in the spring of 1932.

Again the Bureau has been supported by a great many colleagues and institutions.

As heretofore the leading principle in our work has been as far as possible to procure provisional data for the continuous observation of new objects. Following this line the telegraphic service has been used when necessary to secure new discoveries, while in all cases possible the circulars have been depended on. Thus, as before, in dubious cases we have to begin with sending a telegram to a few correspondents only, asking for control. In cases of rediscovery of periodic comets and in other cases, when there was no risk of losing the object, we have distributed the announcement through the circulars.

Summing up it can be said, that as much has been done to reduce the rather high costs of the telegraphic service as was possible without the risk of losing new objects. With a few correspondents we have had the arrangement that we communicate *all* telegrams to them, and of course we are ready to arrange this with any correspondent who might wish it.

The difficulties arising from different systems of counting time and equinox have been almost completely got rid of. The rules for uniformity in the dates used in ephemerides proposed at the Leiden meeting have been accepted by most of our correspondents.

Regarding the ephemerides given in our circulars our attention has been directed towards the fact that they have sometimes been rather too short for the convenience of transoceanic correspondents. As a general rule we have continued ephemerides as far as the reliability of the provisional orbits has made it advisable.

The changes in the code in use are collected below for the convenience of the correspondents.

In the work of the Bureau I have been effectively assisted by the staff of the observatory, Miss Vinter Hansen, Mr Möller and Dr B. Strömgren. In the correspondence and in general work I have been to a great extent assisted by Miss Mackeprang.

### ALTERATIONS IN THE OLD CODE

1. In all telegrams and circulars the "Universal Time" (Greenwich mean time reckoned from midnight) is used, except in the case of the Julian day.

2. As cipher preceding seconds of right ascension and north polar distance we use in the telegrams an 8 if the position given is referred to the mean equinox for the beginning of the year and reserve the cipher 7 for the rare cases, when a position might be telegraphed as apparent place (Circ. Nos. 90 and 125).

I intend to propose some further alterations in our code, which from certain points of view seems to be more complicated than necessary (e.g. it would perhaps be preferable to use *time* instead of *arc* in giving right ascensions).

*Actual List of Subscribers to telegrams and circulars.*

- Harvard College Observatory, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A.  
Observatory, Capetown, South Africa.  
Observatory, Melbourne, South Yarra, Australia.  
Observatory, Edinburgh, Scotland.  
Observatory, Greenwich, England.  
Lockyer, Sidmouth, England.  
Comas Solà, Barcelona, Spain.  
Observatorio Astronomico, Madrid, Spain.  
Observatorio Marina, Sanfernando, Spain.  
Observatoire, Besançon, France.  
Observatoire, Floirac-Bordeaux, France.  
Observatoire, Marseille, France.  
Observatoire, Nice, France.  
Observatoire, Paris, France.  
Observatoire, Strasbourg, France.  
Sterrewacht, Alger, North Africa.  
Sterrewacht, Leiden, Holland.  
Osservatorio Belmonte, Antella-Firenze, Italy.  
Osservatorio Capodimonte, Napoli, Italy.  
Osservatorio, Milano, Italy.  
Osservatorio, Padova, Italy.  
Osservatorio, Pinotorinese, Italy.  
Observatoriet, Stockholm, Sweden.  
Observatoire, Genève, Switzerland.  
Observatory, Helwan, Egypt.  
Observatoire, Vladivostock, Russia.  
Merton, Bognor Regis, England.  
Observatoire, Uccle, Belgium.  
Dunsink Observatory, Dublin, Irish Free State.  
Observatory, Tokyo, Japan.  
Observatoire d'Astronomie physique, Meudon, France.  
Royal Astronomical Society, London, England.  
Osservatorio, Campidoglio, Roma, Italy.  
Astrophysical Institute, Troubnikovskiy per 26, Moscou, Russia.  
Osservatorio, Genova, Italy.  
Sterrewacht, Lembang, Java.  
Observatorio Nacional, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.  
Observatoire, Athènes, Greece.  
Osservatorio Astronomico, Trieste, Italy.  
Institut Astronomique, Leningrad, Russia.  
Science Service, Washington, U.S.A.  
Observatorium, Poznań, Poland.  
Observatoriet, Upsala, Sweden.  
Observatoire, Bucarest, Roumania.

*Actual List of Subscribers to circulars only.*

- Observatoriet, Oslo, Norway.  
Observatoire Astronomique, Jassy, Roumania.  
Observatoire National de la République Tchèqueoslovaque, Ondrejow, Czechoslovakia.  
Lick Observatory, Mt Hamilton, Cal., U.S.A.  
Yerkes Observatory, Williams Bay, Wisc., U.S.A.  
"Popular Astronomy," Carleton College Observatory, Northfield, Minn., U.S.A.  
Mt Wilson Observatory, Pasadena, Cal., U.S.A.  
U.S. Naval Observatory, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.  
Students' Observatory, Berkeley, Cal., U.S.A.  
Le Laboratoire d'Astronomie, Université Libre, Bruxelles, Belgium.  
Observatoire Astronomique, Cracovie, Poland.  
Observatoire, Lyon, St Genis Laval, France.  
H. E. Burton, U.S. Naval Observatory, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.  
Santiago Ribot, Santa Coloma de Farnés, Gerona, Spain.  
Prof. Yamamoto, Kwasan Observatory, Kyoto, Japan.  
Société Astronom. Tchèque, Observatoire Štefanik, Praha-Petřín, Czechoslovakia.  
Dominion Observatory, Kelburn, Wellington, New Zealand.  
Observatoriet, Lund, Sweden.  
Astrophysikal. Observatorium, Stará Ďála, Czechoslovakia.  
Observatorium Astronomiczne, Warszawa, Poland.  
Brown University Library, Department of Astronomy, Providence, R.I., U.S.A.  
Observatoire de Juvisy, Seine et Oise, France.

James Stockley, The University Club, Philadelphia, Pa., U.S.A.  
Institut Astronomique de l'Université Charles, Prague-Smíchov, Czechoslovakia.  
Osservatorio astronomico della R. Università, Bologna, Italy.  
Astronomisches Institut der Universität, Lwów, Poland.

ELIS STRÖMGREN  
*President of the Commission*

*June 4, 1932*