

PREFACE

Dr J. Landi Dessy, Director of the Astronomical Observatory, Córdoba, Argentina, invited the International Astronomical Union to hold a Symposium in Córdoba in connection with the celebration of the Centennial of the Córdoba Observatory; the date of foundation is October 24, 1871. He proposed that the Symposium should deal with Spectral Classification and Multicolour Photometry as seven years had elapsed since the Symposium No. 24 in Saltsjöbaden, and much development had occurred in the field.

The invitation and the proposal were accepted by the IAU, and the Symposium was held in Villa Carlos Paz, near Córdoba, between October 18 and October 24, 1971. It was attended by about 50 scientists representing Argentina, Canada, Chile, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Mexico, Sweden, Switzerland, U.K., U.S.A., Vatican City State and Venezuela.

The Symposium was divided into four sessions:

1. Classification of slit spectra,
2. Classification of objective-prism spectra,
3. Photometric classification,
4. Catalogues and documentation.

It was decided not to include *problems of calibration of absolute magnitudes and temperatures of stars* but to refer this to a separate symposium.

The contents of the present volume follow closely the programmes of the individual sessions of the Symposium.

All the participants at the Symposium appreciated the excellent hospitality of their Argentinian hosts and the efficient help given by the staff of the Córdoba Observatory.

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