

Commission 5. (BIBLIOGRAPHY.)

ACTING PRESIDENT: M. J. Bosler.

SECRETARY: Miss K. Williams.

M. Bosler in the absence of Prof. Stroobant, presented the President's report as printed in the reports (pp. 21-23).

A resolution presented by Mr F. de Roy, on behalf of the Belgian National Committee of Astronomy, on the question of filling the gap between the *Bibliographie générale* of Houzeau and Lancaster (1880) and the *Astronomischer Jahresbericht* (1899) was endorsed and adopted.

The Commission further expressed a hope that Prof. Stroobant would be enabled to complete and publish his work of bringing the "Vade Mecum" of Houzeau (1882) up to the date of the *Astronomischer Jahresbericht*.

It was reported that M. Pio Emanuelli had offered to prepare an alphabetical Table of Contents for the *Bibliographie générale* of Houzeau and Lancaster (vols. I and II). This proposal was warmly approved by the Commission.

A proposal from M. Gabba (Milan) that the Union should publish a bibliographical Bulletin, to appear at short intervals, was not adopted, as it was felt that an annual volume is sufficient, and more convenient, for the comparatively small literature of astronomy. A resolution on this subject was passed for submission to the General Assembly. Dr Kopff expressed a wish for further collaboration in the *Astronomischer Jahresbericht* from French bibliographers.

The text of the three resolutions passed by the Commission will be found on p. 282, among the resolutions forwarded for submission to the final meeting of the General Assembly.

A proposal from M. Pio Emanuelli, that the title of Commission 5 be changed to "Commission des analyses de travaux de bibliographie et de l'histoire de l'astronomie," was not adopted, the present title being considered sufficiently comprehensive to include the history of astronomy.

Commission 6. (TELEGRAMS.)

PRESIDENT: Prof. E. Strömgren.

SECRETARY: Mr Felix De Roy.

Sir Frank Dyson submitted the following resolution, which was seconded by Prof. Van Biesbroeck, and carried:

"The Commission recommends that the yearly subsidy of £66, granted since 1928 by the Union to the Central Bureau of Telegrams, be continued."

The President described some proposals of modifications to the European code which he thought desirable. By using time instead of arc for Right Ascension, and Declination instead of Polar Distance, anybody receiving a telegram would be able to read it directly, without any computations, whereas its security would remain sufficient. This code is, in the main, similar to one which Prof. Förster had suggested many years ago.

Several members having approved of the suggested modifications, the President announced that he would now discuss the matter with the members of the Commissions and with Prof. Kobold, of the Kiel "Centralstelle."