

BENGT STRÖMGREN

PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION

1970-1973

INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION UNION ASTRONOMIQUE INTERNATIONALE

> TRANSACTIONS OF THE IAU VOLUME XVB

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIFTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY SYDNEY 1973

AND

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY POLAND 1973

Edited by

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D. REIDEL PUBLISHING COMPANY

DORDRECHT-HOLLAND / BOSTON-U.S.A.

1974

Published on behalf of the International Astronomical Union by D. Reidel Publishing Company Dordrecht-Holland

Sold and distributed in the U.S.A., Canada and Mexico by D. Reidel Publishing Company, Inc. 306 Dartmouth Street, Boston, Mass. 02116, U.S.A.

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ISBN 90 277 0451 1

Printed in The Netherlands by D. Reidel, Dordrecht

PREFACE

The three years since the Brighton General Assembly have been the most active period in the history of the Union. 33 IAU Symposia and Colloquia, the first Regional Meeting under the Auspices of the IAU, several co-sponsored Meetings and many other special projects. All this culminating with two General Assemblies in two opposite parts of the Earth, Australia and Poland. At the same time the membership of the Union rose to 3200, the number of Commissions to 40, the number of adhering countries to 47.

The present Volume gives a general picture of the Union's recent activity. It contains the report of the Executive Committee, the report of the General Assembly, including the Commissions, Meetings, a short report on the Extraordinary General Assembly and an Appendix with the Members and Commissions of the IAU and the approved names of Lunar and Martian features.

I take this opportunity to thank all our collaborators, members of the Executive Committee, Presidents of Commissions, Chairmen of Specific Projects, IAU Secretaries and all the Members of the IAU for their contribution to keep our Union a living body of active scientists and a big international family.

> G. CONTOPOULOS General Secretary

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0251107X00031023 Published online by Cambridge University Press

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https://doi.org/10.1017/S0251107X00031023 Published online by Cambridge University Press