

26. COMMISSION DES ETOILES DOUBLES

Report of Meeting, 26 August 1964

PRESIDENT: Peter van de Kamp.

SECRETARY: Sarah Lee Lippincott.

The Executive Committee's proposal to appoint K. A. Strand as President and P. Couteau as Vice-President was approved. Following the instructions of the Executive Committee, an Organizing Committee was suggested and approved as follows:

Dommanget, Eggen, van de Kamp, Kulikovsky, Muller, Petrie.

Reports and Discussion

Van de Kamp communicated that Worley has expressed his willingness to provide a new edition of his orbit catalogue when the Commission feels it advisable; he is also prepared to compile annual supplements. Within the year, Worley hopes to publish errata to the present catalogue and he solicits any errata that members of the Commission have noticed.

The Commission approved the proposal of a colloquium on the Evolution of Double Stars to be held in 1966 in Uccle. (The organization of this colloquium was subsequently approved by the Executive Committee of the IAU.)

The disposition and the management of the Double Star Catalogues were discussed at length. Whitford stated that the Lick Observatory does not wish to have the responsibility of maintaining the Catalogues at this time. The offer of the United States Naval Observatory to be the official Double Star Centre was voted upon and approved.

The details of the management were worked out at a meeting by an Ad Hoc Committee consisting of van de Kamp, Kulikovsky, Muller, Strand (absent), Whitford, v.d. R. Woolley. Guided by the discussion in the Commission meeting, their recommendations were subsequently read to a meeting of Commission 26 on 1 September, held solely for that purpose.

DISPOSITION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE DOUBLE STAR CATALOGUES

(Recommendation of Commission 26 Sub-Committee)

A Sub-Committee, consisting of van de Kamp, Kulikovsky, Muller, Strand (absent), Whitford, and v.d. R. Woolley, to discuss the disposition and management of the Lick Double Star Index Catalogues (Index Catalogue and the Catalogue of Observations) met on 27 August 1964.

The Double Star Centre at the United States Naval Observatory has the following obligations:

- (1) The sole responsibility to maintain the catalogues to date.
- (2) To furnish the other centres and the Lick Observatory with supplements when new data become available.
- (3) To furnish individuals with data from the two catalogues at cost.

The other Double Star Centres will be limited for the present to the Observatory at Meudon and to the Royal Greenwich Observatory at Herstmonceux. It may be desirable in the future

to also have a centre in the southern hemisphere. Lick Observatory will be a depository without the responsibility of the centres.

The obligations of the other centres are:

- (1) To maintain the catalogues to correspond precisely to the original at the United States Naval Observatory.
- (2) To supply individuals with limited data as requested, the cost to be determined by the centre.

The Committee further agreed that it is the obligation of the double star observers to communicate to the Centre at the United States Naval Observatory:

- (1) Any errors found.
- (2) Copies of new observational data sent simultaneously to be published.

Whitford stated that he is ready to receive firm offers from the United States Naval Observatory and the designated centres to accept, at cost, copies of the catalogues.