

41. COMMISSION DE L'HISTOIRE DE L'ASTRONOMIE

PRÉSIDENT: H. Dingle.

MEMBRES: MM. Abetti, Armitage, Baehr, Birkenmajer, Brasch, Dijksterhuis, Dittrich, D. S. Evans, Filliozat, Fleckenstein, Horn d'Arturo, Kamiński, Kary-Niyazov, Kulikovsky, Lundmark†, Madwar, Marguérat, Michel, Nordenmark, Nørlund, Pannekoek, Pelseener, Pogo, Sadykov, Samaha, Mme Sawyer-Hogg, MM. Seydl, Tchenakal, Téhérany, Woolard, Yabuuti, Zinner.

The work of this Commission is summarized, as before, in the bibliography given below, which at least shows that studies in the history of astronomy are plentiful and widespread. The International Union for the History of Science held one of its triennial meetings at Florence and Milan in September 1956 and a further gathering near Paris in June–July 1957, during which several communications concerning the history of astronomy were presented and will be published in due course. Some enquiries on historical matters have been received from astronomers since the last meeting of the commission, and have been answered by those qualified to deal with them.

A number of suggestions have been made for extending the usefulness of the commission. It is proposed that the meeting at Moscow should discuss the desirability of publishing short accounts of the archives of astronomical observatories and institutes, with special reference to letters from astronomers of other countries who have worked there (Kulikovsky). Reciprocally, a request has been received that Russian astronomers should prepare an abstract, in English and French, of the history of Russian astronomy, which is so little known in the West on account of language difficulties, and that, in return, western astronomers should provide, in Russian, such information concerning the history of western astronomy as is required in the U.S.S.R. If necessary, a subvention might be requested from the Union or from U.N.E.S.C.O. for the work of translation (Abetti). A further suggestion is that Presidents of other commissions should consider the desirability of requesting from this Commission information on the history of subjects which are now engaging their attention. For example, the revision of the definition of the unit of time which is now being made should obviously be considered with full knowledge of what has gone before, and while in this case such knowledge is doubtless ready to hand, this may not always be so.

These and other matters might profitably be discussed at the Moscow meeting.

H. DINGLE

President of the Commission

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Translation

Drake, Stillman. *Discourses and Opinions of Galileo*. (New York, Doubleday Anchor Books, 1957. Pp. xii + 302.)

New books

Armitage, A. *Copernicus, the Founder of Modern Astronomy*; second edition, revised and enlarged. (New York and London, Thomas Yoseloff, 1957. Pp. 236.)

Carmody, F. J. *Arabic Astronomical and Astrological Sciences in Latin Translation: A Critical Bibliography*. (Berkeley and Los Angeles, California, University of California Press, 1956. Pp. vi + 193.)

Chant, C. A. *Astronomy in the University of Toronto*. (University of Toronto Press, 1954. Pp. 56 + 4 plates.)

Dijksterhuis, E. J. *Archimedes*. (Copenhagen, 1956.)

— *Die Mechanisierung des Weltbildes*. (Berlin, 1956.)

HISTOIRE DE L'ASTRONOMIE

- Douglas, A. Vibert. *The Life of Arthur Stanley Eddington*. (London, Nelson, 1956. Pp. xiv + 207.)
- Duhem, P. *Le Système du Monde*, Tome vi, pp. 740 (Paris, 1954): Tome vii, pp. 664 (Paris, 1956).
- King, H. C. *The History of the Telescope*. (London, Griffin, 1955. Pp. xvi + 456.)
 — *The Background of Astronomy*. (London, Watts, 1957. Pp. vi + 254.)
- Koyré, A. *From the Closed World to the Infinite Universe*. (Baltimore, Johns Hopkins Press, 1957. Pp. xii + 313.)
- Kuhn, T. S. *The Copernican Revolution*. (Cambridge, Mass., Harvard University Press, 1957. Pp. xx + 297.)
- Lewis, O. *A Pioneer West Coast Scientist* (Biography of George Davidson.) (University of California Press, 1954.)
- Masselink, J. F. *De Grieks-Romeinse Windroos*. (Utrecht-Nijmegen, 1956.)
- Munitz, M. K. (ed.). *Theories of the Universe from Babylonian Myth to Modern Science*. (Glencoe, Ill., The Free Press, 1957. Pp. x + 437.)
- Neugebauer, O. (ed.). *Astronomical Cuneiform Texts*. (London, Lund-Humphries, 1955, 3 vols.)
- de Santillana, G. *The Crime of Galileo*. (Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1955. Pp. xv + 339.)
- de Vaucouleurs, G. *Discovery of the Universe*. (London, Faber and Faber, 1957. Pp. 327.)
- Wanders, A. J. M. *Het Raadsel Mars. De Geschiedenis van een Geheimzinnige Wereld*. (Utrecht, 1956.)
- Wright, H. *Sweeper of the Sky, The Life of Maria Mitchell, First Woman Astronomer in America*. (New York, Macmillan Co.)
- Zinner, E. *The Stars Above Us*. (London, Allen and Unwin, 1957. Pp. xiv + 141.)
 — *Deutsche und Niederländische Astronomische Instrumente des 11–18 Jahrhunderts*. (München, C. H. Beck, 1956. Pp. x + 679.)

Articles

- Abel, A. and Martens, M. 'Le Rôle de Jean de Vesale, Médecin de la Ville de Bruxelles, dans la Propagande de Charles le Téméraire', *Cahiers Bruxellois, Revue Histor. Trimestr.*, t. 1, fasc. 1, Janv.-Mars, 1956; pp. 41–86.
- Abetti, G. 'Thirty Years of Solar Work at Arcetri', *Vistas in Astronomy*. (London and New York, Pergamon Press, 1955–56, 1, 624–30.)
- Adams, W. S. 'Early Solar Research at Mount Wilson', *Vistas in Astronomy*, 1, 619–23.
- Aiton, E. J. 'Descartes's Theory of the Tides', *Ann. Sci.* 11, 337–48, 1955.
 — 'The Contributions of Newton, Bernoulli and Euler to the Theory of the Tides', *Ann. Sci.* 11, 206–23, 1955.
- Anders, G. 'Tycho Brahe gestorben am 24 Oktober 1601 in Prag', *Wissenschaft und Fortschritt*, 5, no. 10, 302, 1955.
 — 'Friedrich Herschel geboren am 15 November 1738 in Hannover', *Wissenschaft und Fortschritt*, 5, no. 11, 334, 1955.
- Armitage, A. 'The Astronomical Work of Nicolas-Louis de Lacaille', *Ann. Sci.* 12, 163–91, 1956.
 — 'Halley's Astronomical Heritage', *Mem. Brit. Astr. Ass.* 37 (3), 9–15, 1956.
- Baehr, U. 'Tafeln zur Behandlung Chronologischer Probleme, Teil I–III', *Veröff. Astr. Rechen-Inst. Heidelb.* no. 3.
- Barthel, T. 'Maya-Astronomie, Inschriften aus dem Südreich', *Z. Ethn.* 76, Teil 2a.
- Bergmann, 'Christian Huyghens, geboren am 14 April 1629 in den Haag', *Wissenschaft und Fortschritt*, 5, no. 4, 118, 1955.
- Böker, R. 'Babylonische Beobachtung des Perseidenradianten', *Sterne*, 30, nos. 9–10, 178–81, 1954.
- Botley, C. M. 'Halley and the Aurora', *J. Brit. Astr. Ass.* 66, 31–3, 1955.
 — 'Some Great Tropical Aurorae', *J. Brit. Astr. Ass.* 67, 188–92, 1957.
- Brunner-Traut, E. 'Die Ägyptische Grundlage unseres Kalenders', *Aus Heimat*. 63, nos. 1/2, 16–19, 1955.

COMMISSION 41

- Burch, G. B. 'The Counter-Earth', *Osiris*, **11**, 267-94, 1954.
- Campbell, D. A. 'Samuel Pepys and Optical Matters', *J. Brit. Astr. Ass.* **67**, 113-15, 1957.
- Cannegieter, H. G. 'In Memoriam Ewout van Everdingen (1873-1955)', *Hemel en Dampkring*, **53**, 189-91, 1955.
- Carmody, F. J. 'Notes on the Astronomical Works of Thâbit b. Qurra', *Isis*, **46**, 235-42, 1955.
- Chapin, S. L. 'The Astronomical Activities of Nicolas Claude Fabri de Peiresc', *Isis*, **48**, 13-29, 1957.
- Dewhirst, D. W. 'Observatories and Instrument Makers in the Eighteenth Century', *Vistas in Astronomy*, **1**, 139-43.
- 'Richard Reeves (Rives, Rieves), fl. 1641-79', *J. Brit. Astr. Ass.* **67**, 145, 1957.
- Dingle, H. 'Edmond Halley: His Times and Ours', *Observatory*, **76**, 117-31, 1956.
- Evershed, J. 'Recollections of Seventy Years of Scientific Work', *Vistas in Astronomy*, **1**, 33-40.
- Fleckenstein, J. O. 'Astronomiegeschichtliche Bemerkungen zum Kultus der Mondgöttin Artemis', *Verhand. Schweiz. Naturf. Ges.* 172-4, 1955.
- *Euleri Opera Omnia II. 5 (Principia Mechanica)*. Orell Füssli, Zürich, 1957.
- 'I Contributi alla Ricerca Geofisica nella Regione della Galleria del Sempione (1898-1907)', *Atti dell Istituto Lombardo di Scienze e Lettere*, Milano, 91-104, 1956.
- Freiesleben, H. 'Galileo Galilei', *Stuttgarter Wissenschaftliche Verlagsgesellschaft m.b.H.* 1956, pp. 165.
- Gaythorpe, S. B. 'Jeremiah Horrocks and his "New Theory of the Moon"', *J. Brit. Astr. Ass.* **67**, 134-44, 1957.
- Greene, J. C. 'Some Aspects of American Astronomy, 1750-1815', *Isis*, **45**, 339-58, 1954.
- Grégoire, F. 'Le Dernier Défenseur des Tourbillons: Fontenelle', *Rev. Hist. Sci. Paris*, **7**, 220-46, 1954.
- Guyot, E. 'La Détermination de l'Heure Autrefois et Aujourd'hui', *Ciel et Terre*, 1956, p. 457.
- Hahn, R. 'Quelques Nouveaux Documents sur Jean-Sylvain Bailly', *Rev. Hist. Sci. Paris*, **8**, 338-53, 1955.
- Hartner, W. 'The Mercury Horoscope of Marcantonio Michiel of Venice: a Study in the History of Renaissance Astrology and Astronomy', *Vistas in Astronomy*, **1**, 84-138.
- Hellman, C. Doris. 'Matthaeus Zeisius, Author of a Tract on the Comet of 1577', *Osiris*, **11**, 486-503, 1954.
- van Herk, G. 'De Gedaante van de Aarde. Een oud Probleem, Nieuw Aangevat', *Hemel en Dampkring*, **53**, 109-22, 1955.
- Hoblyn, T. N. 'The Isaac Newton Apple', *Observatory*, **75**, 134-5, 1955.
- Hoffmeister, C. 'Vom Wesen des Genialen, zum Gedächtnis von Carl Friedrich Gauss', *Sterne*, **31**, nos. 7-8, 113-19, 1955.
- Hsi Tze-Tsung. 'A New Catalogue of Ancient Novae.' In a Chinese journal.
- Hunter, A. and Martin, E. G. 'Fifty Years of Trigonometrical Parallaxes', *Vistas in Astronomy*, **2**, 1023-30.
- 'The Flamsteed 90-foot Lens', *Observatory*, **76**, 25-6, 1956.
- Irttenkauf, W. 'Der Computus Ecclesiasticus', *Archiv. Musikwissenschaft*.
- Jackson, J. 'The Distances of the Stars: a Historical Review', *Vistas in Astronomy*, **2**, 1018-22.
- Kamienski, M. 'The Probable Apparition of Halley's Comet in 2320 B.C.', *Acta Astr.* **6**, 3-23, 1956.
- 'Halley's Comet and Early Chronology', *J. Brit. Astr. Ass.* **66**, 127-31, 1956.
- 'Researches on the Periodicity of Halley's Comet; Part III, Revised List of Ancient Perihelion Passages of the Comet', *Acta Astr.* **7**, 111-18, 1957.
- Kennedy, E. S. 'Parallax Theory in Islamic Astronomy', *Isis*, **47**, 33-53, 1956.
- Knox-Shaw, H. 'The Radcliffe Observatory', *Vistas in Astronomy*, **1**, 144-9.
- Koyré, A. 'A Documentary History of the Problem of Fall from Kepler to Newton', *Trans. Amer. Phil. Soc.* **45**, 329-95, 1955.

HISTOIRE DE L'ASTRONOMIE

- Kühnhanss, M. 'Galileo Galilei, der Erfinder der Pendeluhr', *Neue Uhrmacher-Zeitung*, **10**, no. 2, 14, 1956.
- Laurie, P. S. 'Flamsteed's Well', *Observatory*, **76**, 24-5, 1956.
- 'The Buildings and Old Instruments of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich', pp. 44: issued privately.
- Lloyd, H. 'Eine Uhr, welche die Planetenzeit angibt', *Schweiz. Uhrmacher-Zeitung*, **78**, no. 8, 65-70, 1956.
- Malcolm, D. 'An Eye-Witness Account of Baily's Beads at the Annular Eclipse of 1858', *J. Brit. Astr. Ass.* **67**, 76, 1957.
- Masselink, J. F. 'Betekenis en Taak van de Geschiedenis der Grieks-Romeinse Windroos', *Hemel en Dampkring*, **55**, 109-21, 1957.
- Michel, H. 'Les Ancêtres du Planetarium', *Ciel et Terre*, 1955, p. 78.
- 'Boussoles de Mine du XVIIe et XVIIIe. S.' *Ciel et Terre*, 1956, p. 617.
- 'A propos des Premières Montres', *Technica*, Mars, 1956.
- 'Un Traité de l'Astrolabe du XVe Siècle', *Mélanges Millas*, Barcelona, 1956.
- 'Catalogue Raisonné de l'Exposition d'Histoire des Sciences', Bruxelles, 1957.
- Mikhailov, A. 'The Pulkovo Observatory', *Observatory*, **75**, 28-32, 1955.
- Minnaert, M. G. J. 'Het Levensende van Copernicus', *Hemel en Dampkring*, **53**, 97-8, 1955.
- Mogenet, J. 'L'introduction à l'Almageste', *Acad. Belg. Cl. des Lettres, Mémoires*, Coll. 8, t. 51, fasc. 2, 1956, pp. 51.
- Müller, R. 'Zwei Felszeichnungen von Astronomischer Bedeutung', *Orion*, **11**, nos. 1-2, 79-80, 1956.
- Needham, J. 'The Peking Observatory in A.D. 1280 and the Development of the Equatorial Mounting', *Vistas in Astronomy*, **1**, 67-83.
- , Beer, A. and Ho Ping-Yü, "'Spiked" Comets in Ancient China', *Observatory*, **77**, 137-8, 1957.
- Neugebauer, O. 'The Egyptian "Decans"', *Vistas in Astronomy*, **1**, 47-51.
- Nielsen, A. V. 'Christian Horrebows Observationer af Venuspassagen I 1761', *Nord. Astr. Tidsskr.* no. 2, 47-50, 1957.
- 'Pater Hell og Venuspassagen 1769', *Nord. Astr. Tidsskr.* no. 3, 77-97, 1957.
- Norlind, W. 'On a Copy of Tycho Brahe's "Mechanica" and of his Great Star Catalogue', *Observatory*, **75**, 254-55, 1955.
- Pannekoek, A. 'Ptolemy's Precession', *Vistas in Astronomy*, **1**, 60-61.
- 'The Discovery of Neptune', *Centaurus*, **3**, 126-37, 1953.
- Pelseneer, J. 'Le Créateur de la Radio-astronomie (K. G. Jansky)', *Arch. Int. d'Hist. Sci.* no. 31, 1955, pp. 215-16.
- 'Un Astronome Belge au Brésil (L. Cruls, 1848-1908)', *Arch. Int. d'Hist. Sci.* no. 33, 1955, pp. 441-42.
- Poulle, E. 'Peut-on Dater les Astrolabes Médiévales?' *Rev. Hist. Sci. Paris*, **9**, 301-22, 1956.
- Price, D. J. 'An International Checklist of Astrolabes', *Arch. Int. d'Hist. Sci.* no. 34, 1955, pp. 243-63 and 363-81.
- Ronan, C. A. 'Halley—The Man and his Work', *Mem. Brit. Astr. Ass.* **37** (3), 16-28, 1956.
- 'The Effect of Halley's Astronomical Work on Later Astronomy', *Mem. Brit. Astr. Ass.* **37** (3), 29-33, 1956.
- Rosen, E. 'Was Maurolico's Essay on the Nova of 1572 Printed?' *Isis*, **48**, 171-75, 1957.
- Schoenberg, E. 'Unbekannte Briefe von C. F. Gauss und F. W. Bessel', *Abh. Bayer. Akad. Wiss.* no. 71, pp. 58, 1955.
- Schöve, D. J. 'The Sunspot Cycle, 649 B.C. to A.D. 2000', *J. Geophys. Res.* **60**, 127-46, 1955.
- 'Sunspot Maxima since 649 B.C.', *J. Brit. Astr. Ass.* **66**, 59-61, 1956.
- 'Halley's Comet and Kamienski's Formula', *J. Brit. Astr. Ass.* **66**, 131-9, 1956.
- Schütte, K. 'Edmund Halley, zur 300 Wiederkehr seines Geburtstages am 29 Oktober 1956', *Kosmos*, **52**, no. 10, 453-7, 1956.
- Serrure, G. 'L'Expérience du Pendule de Foucault, Reproduite à Usumbura', *Ciel et Terre*, 1956, p. 244.

COMMISSION 41

- Seydl, O. 'The Polar Lights in the Records of the Old Chroniclers', *Meteorological Reports (Czech Journal)*.
- 'List of 402 Northern Lights Observed in Bohemia, Moravia and Slovakia from 1013 to 1951', *Travaux de l'Institut Géophysique de l'Académie Tchecoslovaque des Sciences, Prague*, 1955.
- Shane, M. L. *Lick Observatory*, 13th edition, 32 pages, illustrated. Univ. of California.
- Stahlman, W. D. 'Astronomical Dating Applied to a Type of Astrological Illustration', *Isis*, **47**, 154–60, 1956.
- Stephan, P. 'Ortung in Völkerkunde und Vorgeschichte', *Z. Vermessungsw.* no. 5, 1–36, 1956.
- Subbotin, M. F. 'Das Wissenschaftliche Erbe von Carl Friedrich Gauss und Seine Arbeiten auf dem Gebiet der Astronomie', *Wissenschaftliche Annalen*, **5**, no. 8, 632–41, 1956, Akademie-Verlag, Berlin.
- Stevenson, W. H. 'A Letter from W. Herschel to Sir Joseph Banks, P.R.S.' *Occ. Notes R. Astr. Soc.* **3**, no. 18, 115–17, 1956.
- Tabaroni, G. 'Globi Celesti Sulle Monete Romane', *Coelum*, **24**, 7, 1956.
- 'La Posizione Degli Equinozi Sulla Sfera del l'Atlante Farnese', *Coelum*, **24**, 169, 1956.
- Thorndike, L. 'Eclipses in the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Centuries', *Isis*, **48**, 51–7, 1957.
- 'The Latin Translations of Astrological Works by Messahala', *Osiris*, **12**, 49–72, 1956.
- 'Notes upon Some Medieval Latin Astronomical, Astrological and Mathematical Manuscripts at the Vatican', *Isis*, **47**, 391–404, 1956.
- Tolles, F. B. 'Philadelphia's First Scientist: James Logan', *Isis*, **47**, 20–30, 1956.
- Turner, G. 'Nineteenth-Century Studies of the Polarisation of Light Reflected by the Moon', *J. Brit. Astr. Ass.* **67**, 185–8, 1957.
- Visser, S. W. 'Het Nova Zembla Verschijnsel', *Proc. Acad. Sci. Amst. B.*, **59**, 375–85, 1956. Summary in *Hemel en Dampkring*, **55**, 74–7, 1957.
- van der Waerden, B. L. 'Tables for the Egyptian and Alexandrian Calendar', *Isis*, **47**, 387–90, 1956.
- 'Eine Byzantinische Sonnentafel', *S.B. Bayer. Akad. Wiss.* 159–68, 1954–55.
- 'Diophantische Gleichungen und Planetenperioden in der Indischen Astronomie', *Vjschr. Naturf. Ges., Zürich*, **100**, no. 3, 153–70, 1955.
- Wanders, A. J. M. 'Frederick Kaiser en de Aswenteling van Mars', *Hemel en Dampkring*, **55**, 69–73, 1957.
- Waterfield, R. L. 'Instrumental and Technical Advances in the last Forty Years', *J. Brit. Astr. Ass.* **66**, 1–19, 1955.
- Wattenberg, D. 'Der Himmel im Zeiss-Planetarium', *Wissenschaft und Fortschritt*, **5**, no. 9, 261–3, 1955.
- Wellman, P. 'Die Instrumentelle Entwicklung in der Astrospektroskopie', *Mitt. Astr. Ges.* 74–82, 1954.
- Werner, H. 'Gekrönte Sternbilderwesen, Ergebnisse der Vergleichenden Sternbilderkunde', *Z. Ethn.* **80**, 116–24.
- Widorn, T. 'Zur Herkunft der Sterngrößen', *Sterne*, **31**, 217–23, 1955.
- Winkler, H. 'Astronomische Uhren', *Mitt. Einstein-Sternw. Görlitz*, no. 3.
- Whitaker, E. A. 'La Carte Lunaire de J. D. Cassini', *Ciel et Terre*, 1955, p. 285.
- Woolf, H. 'British Preparations for Observing the Transit of Venus of 1761', *The William and Mary Quarterly* (Williamsburg, U.S.A.), **13** (3), 499–518, 1956.
- Zinner, E. 'Johannes Kepler, 1751–1630', In *Die Grossen Deutschen*, Propyläen-Verlag, 1956.
- 'Der Glaube an die Sterne', *Universitas*, **10**, 179–83, 1955.
- 'Die Sanduhr', *Die Uhr*, **8**, no. 24, 1955.
- 'Von Alter Süddeutscher Uhrmacherei', *Neue Uhrmacher-Zeitung*, **9**, no. 14, 1955.
- 'Der Müncher Uhrmacher Hans Koch und seine Werke', *Neue Uhrmacher-Zeitung*, **9**, no. 23, 1955.
- 'Fälschungen?' *Neue Uhrmacher-Zeitung*, **10**, no. 23, 1956.
- 'Zur Deutung der Astrologischen Bleikapsel in Freiburg', *Forschungen und Fortschritte*, **30**, 65–7, 1956.

HISTOIRE DE L'ASTRONOMIE

- Zinner, E. 'Die Hölzerne Uhr vor 1650', *Die Uhr*, **II**, no. 5, 1957.
 — 'Ein Merkwürdiger Altdeutscher Holzschnitt', *Archiv. für Geschichte des Buchwesens*, **I**, 365–6, 1957.
 — 'Uhren auf Bildnissen', *Neue Uhrmacher-Zeitung*, **II**, 1957.
 — 'Alte Sonnenuhren an Gebäuden sind Bedroht', *Forschungen und Fortschritte*, **3I**, 1957.

Historical Leaflets of Astronomical Society of the Pacific

1955

308. Sandage, A. 'The Evolution of the Stars'.
 310. Underhill, A. B. '48 Librae—A Stellar Curiosity'.
 311. 'Barnard's Automatic Comet Seeker'.
 312. Phillips, J. G. 'Astrophysical and Laboratory Cooperation'.
 314. Miller, W. C. 'Two Prehistoric Drawings of Possible Astronomical Significance'.
 316. Richardson, R. S. 'New Moons'.
 318. Deutsch, A. J. 'Radio Emission from Astronomical Bodies'.
 319. Brasch, F. E. 'What is the Principia and What is its Origin?'

1956

320. Merrill, P. W. 'Hydrogen in the Stars'.
 321. Merrill, P. W. 'Carbon in the Stars'.
 322. Buscombe, W. 'Exploding Stars'.
 325. Herbig, G. H. and Worley, C. E. 'Some Basic Astronomical Data'.
 327. Roemer, E. 'Polaris'.
 328. Merrill, P. W. 'Oxygen in the Stars and Nebulae'.
 330. Pettit, E. 'The Achromatic Refractor'.
 331. — 'The Reflector'.

1957

333. Richardson, R. S. 'Some Observations of Mars Made at Mount Wilson in 1956'.
 334. Herbig, G. H. 'The Stars of the Orion Nebula'.
 336. Sahade, J. 'The System of Algol'.
 337. de Vaucouleurs, G. 'Exploring Southern Galaxies'.

Japanese papers

- Ayuzawa, S. 'Development of the theories of earth's sphericity and its revolution in Yedo period, Japan', *Nippon Rekishi*, no. 71, 1954.
 Hiraoka, T. *T'ang Calendar*. A monograph, 1954.
 Nakamura, S. 'On recording wooden pegs unearthed at Touang-Houang by Aurel Stein', *Proc. Acad. Japan*, vol. 30, 1954.
 Arisaka, R. 'Concerning the activities of the astronomers of Asada School in Kansei era, Japan', *Historia*, nos. 11, 12, 13, 1955.
 Hasimoto, M. 'Time system in mediaeval Japan, inferred from the rising and setting of the sun', *J. Hist. Sci., Japan*, no. 36, 1955.
 Maeyama, Z. 'On the astronomical tables of Kansei, Yedo Period', *Tenmon Geppô* (The astronomical herald), vol. 49, 1956.
 Imai, I. 'Almanac before and after the Nara period, Japan', *J. Hist. Sci., Japan*, no. 40, 1956.
 Yabuuti, K. 'Some problems concerning the calendars in Yin Dynasty, China', *Tôyôsi Kenkyû*, vol. 15, 1956.
 — 'On the theory of the planetary motions in Chinese astronomy', *Tôhô Gakuhô*, Kyoto, vol. 26, 1956.
 — 'European astronomy introduced in modern China', *J. Hist. Sci., Japan*, no. 33, 1954.
 — 'Development of astronomy in Europe during 18th century'.
 — 'On the influence of western astronomy in Yedo period', both are contained in a monograph entitled, *History of Science in 18th Century*, ed. by A. Kobori, 1957.
 Yamamoto, I. *Provisional List of Uncertain Comets*. Kyoto, 1956.

COMMISSION 41

Russian papers

- Nikolai Copernic*, collection of papers and materials, Prof. B. V. Kukarkin, editor. Publishing House of the Acad. of Sc. U.S.S.R., pp. 112; many illustrations, 1956.
- Carl Friedrich Gauss*, collection of papers on the 100th anniversary of his death, including a paper by Prof. M. F. Subbotin 'Astronomical and Geodetical Works of Gauss'.
- Leonard Euler*, collection of papers on the 250th anniversary of his birth, including Prof. M. F. Subbotin's paper 'Astronomical Papers of Leonard Euler'.
- Aksentieva, Z. N. 'Alexandre Jakovlevitch Orlov (1880-1954)', *Publ. Poltava Obs.* **5**, 1-16, 1955.
- Asmus, V. F. 'Cosmogonical Hypothesis of Kant and its Place in the History of Natural Science', *Problems of the History of Natural Sciences and Engineering*, no. 1, 34-43, 1956.
- Baranovskaja, L. S. 'On the History of Mongolian Astronomy', *Publ. Inst. Hist. Nat. Sci. and Eng. Acad. Sci. U.S.S.R.* **5**, 321-30, 1955.
- Vorontsov-Velyaminov, B. A. *Essays on the History of Astronomy in Russia*, State Technical and Theoretical Publishing House, pp. 372, 1956.
- Depman, I. J. 'Gauss and Derpt. Juriev University', *Problems of the History...*, no. 1, 241-5, 1956.
- Zhel'нин, P. and Muirsepp, P. 'Material Souvenirs of V. Struve's Activity at the Tartu Observatory in 1812-1839', *Publ. Inst. Hist...* **17**, 473-84, 1957.
- Zubov, V. P. 'Pierre Gassendi', *Problems of the History...*, no. 2, 61-76, 1956.
- Idelson, N. I. 'Studies in Astronomy by A. N. Krylov', *Publ. Inst. Hist...* **15**, 24-31, 1956.
- Kartushin, V. *Vasilii Vasilievitch Vitkovsky (1856-1924)*, Geodetical Publishing House, pp. 100, 1956.
- Colman, E. 'Life and Scientific Activity of Ruger Boscovic', *Problems of the History...*, no. 2, 91-109, 1956.
- Mamedbeili, G. D. 'Stellar globe of the Maraga Observatory', *Bull. Azerbaidjan Univ.* no. 9, 1955.
- Mikhailov, A. A. 'Kant's Ideas on the Nature of Tidal Friction', *Problems of the History...*, no. 2, 110-13, 1956.
- Rootsmjää, T. 'Academician V. Struve and his Activity in Tartu University', *Tartu Univ. Bull.* no. 37, 30-73, 1955.
- Slavenas, P. V. 'Materials on the History of Astronomy and Cartography in Lithuania', *Publ. Inst. Hist...* **5**, 331-6, 1955.
- Subbotin, M. F. 'Henri Poincaré, Studies in the Domain of Celestial Mechanics', *Problems of the History...*, no. 2, 114-23, 1956.
- 'K. F. Gauss's Activity in the Field of Astronomy and Geodesy', *Problems of the History...*, no. 1, 54-69, 1956. See also *Wissenschaftliche Annalen*, H. 8, 632-41, 1956, B.
- Sharonov, V. V. 'On the Question of M. V. Lomonosov's Priority in the Discovery of an Atmosphere on Venus', *Leningrad Univ. Bull.* no. 33, 12-15, 1955.
- Shcheglov, V. P. 'History of Tashkent Astronomical Observatory', *Publ. Inst. Hist...* **5**, 337-81, 1955.
- 'Pages in the History of Tashkent Observatory. Investigation of the Tashkent Latitude Variations', *Astr. J. Moscow*, **32**, 563-70, 1955.
- Mamedbeili, G. D. 'Mohammed Nasr Eddin Tusi'—popular monograph, 1957.

Contents of the first three volumes of the *Historico-astronomical Investigations* not included in the above references are given below. Each volume contains also selected references to Soviet and foreign literature on the history of astronomy.

Vol. 1, 1955, 368 pages

- Tchenakal, V. L. 'Two Unknown Projects of the Observatory of St Petersburg Academy of Sciences, Belonging to the Middle of the 18th Century'.
- Slavenas, P. V. 'Astronomy in the Lithuanian High School in the 16th to 19th Centuries'.
- Djalalov, G. L. 'The Difference of "Guragoni Zidj" from other zidjes'.

HISTOIRE DE L'ASTRONOMIE

- Djalalov, G. L. 'On the Problem of Compilation of the Samarkand Observatory Tables of Planets'.
- Nador, D. (Hungary), 'World Conception of Kepler and its rôle in the Evolution of understanding of Natural Law'.
- Perel, Ju. G. 'Vikentii Karlovitch Vishnevsky'.
- Piaskovsky, D. V. 'Progress of Astronomy in the Kiev University'.
- Korytnikov, S. N. 'Commencement of Astronomy in Kazan'.
- Tchenakal, V. L. 'Large Immovable Lomonosov Telescope with Siderostat'.
- Nabokov, M. E. 'Essays on the History of Astronomical Education in Primary Schools in Russia and in the U.S.S.R.'
- Korytnikov, S. N. 'I. M. Simonov and his autobiography'.
- 'D. M. Perevoshchikov and I. M. Simonov'. Letters by D. N. Perevoshchikov to I. M. Simonov (1830–1850).
- Perel, Ju. G. 'On the World Outlook of V. K. Zerassky'.
- Zotov, F. J. 'Memoirs concerning V. K. Zerassky'.
- 'Letters by A. M. Zhdanov to V. V. Vitkovsky' (1884–1892). Comments by Ju. G. Perel.

Vol. II, 1956, 420 pages

- Venzel, M. K. 'Short Essay on the History of Practical Astronomy in Russia and the U.S.S.R.'
- Tchenakal, V. L. 'Astronomical Observatory of the St Petersburg Academy of Sciences towards the end of the thirties of the 18th Century'.
- 'St Petersburg Meridian'.
- Korytnikov, S. N. 'Initial Period of the History of Astronomy in Moscow University'.
- 'D. M. Perevoshchikov's Leaving of the Moscow University' (supplemented by D. M. Perevoshchikov's letters to V. J. Struve, O. V. Struve, P. N. Fuss and S. P. Shevyrev).
- Tumanian, B. E. and Abramian, R. A. 'Astronomical Studies of Anania Shirakazi'.
- Nador, D. (Hungary). 'Progressive Features in the Scientific Thought of Galileo'.
- Rybka, E. (Poland). 'Jan Sniadezki' (on the 200th Anniversary of his Birth—1756–1956).
- Korpun, J. Ju. and Tsesevich, V. P. 'A. K. Kononovitch, a remarkable Ukrainian astrophysicist, his Predecessors and Pupils'.
- Perel, Ju. G. 'On the History of the Popularisation of Lambert's World Conception in Russia'.
- Klado, T. N. and Rasskin, N. M. 'I. Kant and the St Petersburg Academy of Sciences' (according to archival data of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R.).
- Ostashenko-Kudriavzev, B. P. 'Pulkovo in 1897' (memoirs).

Vol. III. 704 pages. Will appear in December, 1957

- Melnikov, O. A. 'History of Astrospectroscopy in Russia and the U.S.S.R.'
- Tchenakal, V. L. 'Small Observatories of the St Petersburg Academy of Sciences in the 18th Century'.
- 'Design and Erection of the Observatory of St Petersburg Academy of Sciences'.
- Nevskaia, N. I. 'A. D. Krassilnikov, the First Russian Astronomer'.
- Novokshanova, Z. K. 'Mechanicians of Pulkovo—Creators of Astronomical and Geodetical Instruments'.
- Mamedbeili, G. D. 'Maraga Observatory and Observatory of Peking in the 13th Century'.
- Perel, Ju. G. 'On Voltaire's Cosmological Conceptions'.
- Pickelner, S. B. 'Grigorij Abramovitch Shajn'.
- Ostashenko-Kudriavzev, B. P. 'My teachers' (S. P. Glazenap and M. A. Tatchalov).
- 'I. M. Simonov's letters to V. J. Struve 1870–1884', Comments by S. N. Korytnikov.
- Several short papers.

COMMISSION 41

Report of Meeting. 14 August 1958

PRESIDENT: H. Dingle.

SECRETARY: A. Beer.

The meeting was attended by about thirty members of the Union, of whom a good proportion contributed to the discussion.

Kulikovsky spoke of his proposal, mentioned in the *Draft Report*, concerning the publication of selected material from the archives of observatories and institutes. This was supported by several speakers. Przytkowski described work which was in progress in Poland on the astronomical correspondence of Hevelius, in which some 3000 letters had been examined, and on the preparation of an inventory of astronomical instruments of historical interest. He appealed for data concerning such instruments to be sent to him. An account of the astronomical MSS. preserved in the State Museum of Georgia (Tbilisi), dating from the ninth century, which was shortly to be published, was given by Kharadse, and a similar statement concerning the archives of the Azerbaijan observatory was given by Mamedbeily. It was agreed that institutions should be strongly recommended to examine material of this character which they might possess, and to publish such as is of historical interest.

Abetti's proposal, also mentioned in the *Draft Report*, for exchange of information between the U.S.S.R. and western countries, in the appropriate languages, was warmly supported. In this connexion Rybka mentioned that he and Birkenmajer were preparing a history of Polish astronomy, of some 1000 pages, which was expected to appear in two or three years. A similar work on the history of Chinese astronomy was in hand under the Academy of Sciences in China, and of this Tai gave a brief account. It was hoped that the volume would be available by the time of the next I.A.U. meeting. Beer stated that he hoped to be able to arrange for an English translation of this work to be published. Beer also reported on some interesting work which he had carried out with Needham and others on I-Hsing's eighth-century meridian line and the pre-history of the metric system. Slouka called the attention of the Commission to the illustrated history of astronomy in Czechoslovakia which had recently appeared under his editorship.

After the formal business had been completed, Link described an investigation on the deduction of long-period climatic changes from extended series of astronomical observations.