

COMMISSION 26: DOUBLE AND MULTIPLE STARS (ETOILES DOUBLES ET MULTIPLES)

Report of Meetings, 18 and 23 August 1982

PRESIDENT: O. G. Franz

SECRETARY: J. Dommanget

18 August 1982

The President opened the meeting and welcomed those in attendance. J. Dommanget was appointed to serve as Secretary. All present stood briefly in silence to honor the memory of two distinguished colleagues, P. M. Djurkovic and U. Guntzel-Lingner, lost by death since the 1979 meeting.

1. Commission officers and membership

By written nomination and secret balloting, the Commission endorsed the following officers for 1982-1985:

President: M. G. Fracastoro

Vice President: K. D. Rakos

Organizing Committee: J. Dommanget, W. D. Heintz, and H. A. McAlister

Continuing for a second term on the Organizing Committee will be A. Poveda and C. D. Scarfe. Franz will serve one term as an ex-officio member.

The President announced the resignation from the Commission of A. S. da Silva and M. C. Johnson. He then presented, and the Commission endorsed, the following list of proposed new members: E. Cabrita, R. B. Culver, A. N. Dadaev, F. C. Fekel, O. E. Ferrer, C. A. Hernandez, G. Ishida, M. I. Kumsiashvili, N. L. Magalashvili, R. Pannunzio, G. N. Salukvadze, A. M. Shulberg, M. Tapia, A. Valbousquet, and K. A. van der Hucht.

2. Double star work with the 26-inch Johannesburg refractor

At the invitation of the President, J. Hers attended the meeting and commented briefly on the status of the Johannesburg refractor. He expressed his willingness to help explore conditions under which some use of this instrument for visual double star work might be resumed. Among these conditions would have to be expressions of real interest by double star observers from abroad to come to Johannesburg for short or longer observing visits if given some financial help. Statements of interest and specific information on necessary assistance (e.g., travel expenses, living expenses, accommodations, etc.) should be communicated directly to J. Hers, Post Office Box 48, Sedgfield, South Africa 6573.

3. Name of Commission 26

A proposal by Dommanget to change the name of the Commission from "Double Stars (Etoiles Doubles)" to "Double and Multiple Stars (Etoiles Doubles et Multiples)" was adopted unanimously and forwarded to the Secretary General for formal action by the General Assembly during its second session at Patras.

4. Proceedings of IAU Colloquium No. 62

R. Harrington reported that some authors of contributed papers have shortened

their manuscripts to reduce printing costs, while others have agreed to pay charges for excess pages. Publication of the proceedings still depends on the availability of the necessary funding.

#### 5. Nomenclature of components of multiple systems

At the request of the President, Heintz submitted a statement concerning the designation of the components of multiple stars. Following several comments by Commission members, the President recommended that further discussion be postponed until the second session of the Commission to allow all interested members time to review the problem and to analyze the statement of Heintz.

#### 6. Supplementary Rules (By-laws)

The President recalled that during its meeting of 19 May 1981 at Flagstaff, Arizona, the Organizing Committee discussed and endorsed new Supplementary Rules (By-laws) to define and clarify the nominating and balloting procedures for Commission offices. These proposed by-laws, intended not to replace or alter, but to supplement the existing Internal Working Rules, were subsequently submitted to all Commission members for their review and written comments. While those who responded expressed unanimous support for the intent of these by-laws, some difficulties and certain inconsistencies with existing working rules were noted, indicating the need for further deliberations before a final version of the by-laws could be prepared.

The President's remarks were followed by extensive and often spirited discussion, particularly concerning voting by proxy and the problems which balloting by mail may pose if unforeseen and unpredictable situations should arise. The Commission then decided, by unanimous vote of those present and voting, to adopt the new by-laws "in principle." The retiring president was directed to form an *ad hoc* committee for the purpose of revising the proposed Supplementary Rules, perhaps combining them with existing Internal Working Rules, and submitting a revised text to the Commission for ratification as soon as possible after the Patras General Assembly.

23 August 1982

### I. SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS

1. A. H. Batten: Recent Results on  $\Sigma 2367$  and 70 Ophiuchi
2. C. E. Worley: Status Report on the Double Star Index, Observation, and Orbit Catalogs
3. J. Dommanget: A New Catalog of Ephemerides of Radial Velocities for Orbital Visual Binaries
4. C. D. Scarfe: Zeta Herculis - The Third Dimension

### II. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

#### 1. Co-sponsorship of symposia and colloquia

The Commission voted to offer co-sponsorship for the following proposed meetings:

- a) Symposium on "Calibration in Astronomy"; tentative plans being coordinated by A. H. Batten.

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b) Colloquium on "MK Spectral Classification: Criteria and Applications"; R. F. Garrison, Chairman, Colloquium Organizing Committee.

c) Colloquium on selected topics concerning the "Masses and Dynamics of Double and Multiple Stars," to be held at Lembang in June 1983; B. Hidayat, Chairman, Local Organizing Committee.

## 2. Next IAU Double Star Colloquium

A tentative proposal to hold a "Double Star Colloquium" in 1984 in Italy was presented by Fracastoro and accepted by the Commission. Precise date, location, and specific topic will be determined by a colloquium organizing committee at a later date.

## 3. Nomenclature of components of multiple stars

In response to the statement presented by Heintz during the session of 18 August 1982, separate proposals on the designation of components of multiple systems were presented by Coureau and Valbousquet. Heintz reiterated that the purpose of his statement was not to make a specific proposal, but to call attention to this problem and the need for its consideration and solution. Since it was clear that such a solution could not be found during the remainder of the Commission meeting, the President urged those most interested in and affected by this problem to confer directly and to develop a mutually acceptable nomenclature.

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