

## 6. COMMISSION DES TÉLÉGRAMMES ASTRONOMIQUES

PRÉSIDENT: M. E. STRÖMGREN, *Director of the University Observatory, Copenhagen, Denmark.*

MEMBRES: MM. Dawson, J. Jackson, Spencer Jones, Shapley, Wood.

From June 4, 1932 (date of the last report) up to the present date the Bureau has distributed 452 telegrams and published 153 circulars (Nos. 382-534).

Again the Bureau has been supported by a great many colleagues and institutions.

As heretofore, the leading principle in our work has been as far as possible to procure provisional data for the continuous observation of new objects. Following this line the telegraphic service has been used when necessary to safeguard new discoveries, while in all cases possible the circulars have been depended on. Thus, as before, in dubious cases we have, to begin with, sent a telegram to a few correspondents only, asking for control. In cases of rediscovery of periodic comets and in other cases, when there was no risk of losing the object, we have distributed the announcement through the circulars.

Summing up it can be said, that as much has been done to reduce the costs of the telegraphic service as was possible without the risk of losing new objects. With a few correspondents we have had the arrangement that we communicate *all* telegrams to them, and of course we are ready to arrange this with any correspondent who might wish it.

The difficulties arising from different systems of counting time and equinox have been completely got rid of. The rules for uniformity in the dates used in ephemerides proposed at the Leiden meeting have been accepted by our correspondents.

The changes in the code in use are collected below for the convenience of the correspondents.

In the work of the Bureau I have been effectively assisted by Miss Vinter Hansen, Mr Möller and Dr B. Strömgren. In the correspondence and in general work I have been to a great extent assisted by Miss Mackeprang.

### ALTERATIONS IN THE OLD CODE

1. In all telegrams and circulars the "Universal Time" (Greenwich mean time reckoned from midnight) is used, except in the case of the Julian day.

2. As cipher preceding seconds of right ascension and north polar distance we use in the telegrams an 8 if the position given is referred to the mean equinox for the beginning of the year and reserve the cipher 7 for the rare cases, when a position might be telegraphed as apparent place (Circ. Nos. 90 and 125).

3. On various occasions the wish had been expressed that a change be made in the telegram-code, so that it would be possible to transmit a short communication concerning the physical appearance of newly discovered objects. The question was discussed at the I.A.U. meeting in Cambridge, U.S.A., in September 1932. A proposal by Prof. Van Biesbroeck and the undersigned was submitted to the Telegram-Commission and met with approval. After discussion with Prof. Kobold and Prof. Shapley the following change has been made in the telegramme-code by our Bureau (Circ. No. 470).

Instead of the decimal in the magnitude, which will probably never be needed

and in most cases has no real significance, a communication concerning the physical appearance of the object is introduced according to the following schedule:

	Nothing reported about tail	Tail < 1°	Tail > 1°
Nothing reported about appearance of the object itself	1	2	3
Object diffuse	4	5	6
Object has a nucleus	7	8	9

*Example 1:* ...21107 February 09109... means: ...21st February 9<sup>h</sup>10<sup>m</sup>-9 U.T., Magnitude 10<sup>m</sup>, object has a nucleus, nothing is reported about tail....

*Example 2:* ...21105 February 09109... means: ...21st February 9<sup>h</sup>10<sup>m</sup>-9 U.T., Magnitude 10<sup>m</sup>, object diffuse with a tail < 1°....

In various cases there has been a need for a code number for *stellar* appearance and I propose to use the cipher *o* for this purpose.

New instructions for the use of the European code, embodying the alterations made to it during recent years have been prepared but not yet issued, the question of alteration of the code being still unsettled.

#### *Actual List of Subscribers to telegrams and circulars*

Harvard College Observatory, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A.	Observatoriet, Saltsjöbaden-Stockholm, Sweden.
Observatory, Capetown, South Africa.	Observatoire, Genève, Switzerland.
Observatory, Melbourne, South Yarra, Australia.	Observatory, Helwan, Egypt.
Observatory, Edinburgh, Scotland.	Observatoire, Vladivostock, Russia.
Observatory, Greenwich, England.	Observatoire, Uccle, Belgium.
W. J. S. Lockyer, Sidmouth, England.	Dunsink Observatory, Dublin, Irish Free State.
J. Comas Solà, Barcelona, Spain.	Observatory, Tokyo, Japan.
Observatorio astronomico, Madrid, Spain.	Observatoire d'Astronomie physique, Meudon, France.
Observatorio Marina, Sanfernando, Spain.	Royal Astronomical Society, London, England.
Observatoire, Besançon, France.	Osservatorio, Campidoglio, Roma, Italy.
Observatoire, Floirac-Bordeaux, France.	Astrophysical Institute, Moskva, Russia.
Observatoire, Marseille, France.	Osservatorio, Genova, Italy.
Observatoire, Nice, France.	Observatorio Nacional, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
Observatoire, Paris, France.	Observatoire, Athènes, Greece.
Observatoire, Strasbourg, France.	Osservatorio Astronomico, Trieste, Italy.
Observatoire, Alger, North Africa.	Institut Astronomique, Leningrad, Russia.
Sterrewacht, Leiden, Holland.	Observatorium, Poznań, Poland.
Osservatorio Capodimonte, Napoli, Italy.	Observatoriet, Upsala, Sweden.
Osservatorio, Milano, Italy.	P. Emanuelli, Roma, Italy.
Osservatorio, Padova, Italy.	Science Service, Washington, U.S.A.
Osservatorio, Pinotorinese, Italy.	
Observatoire, Bucarest, Roumania.	

*Actual List of Subscribers to circulars only*

Observatoriet, Oslo, Norway.  
Observatoire astronomique, Jassy, Roumania.  
National Observatory of the Czechoslovak Republic, Ondřejov, Czechoslovakia.  
Lick Observatory, Mt Hamilton, Calif., U.S.A.  
Yerkes Observatory, Williamsbay, Wisc., U.S.A.  
Mt Wilson Observatory, Pasadena, Calif., U.S.A.  
U.S. Naval Observatory, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.  
Students' Observatory, Berkeley, Calif., U.S.A.  
Observatoire astronomique, Kraków, Poland.  
Observatoire, Lyon, St Genis Laval, France.  
Santiago Ribot, Santa Coloma de Farnés, Gerona, Spain.  
F. Yamamoto, Kyoto, Japan.  
Société astronom. tchéque, Observatoire Stefanik, Praha-Petrín, Czechoslovakia.  
Dominion Observatory, Kelburn, Wellington, New Zealand.  
Observatoriet, Lund, Sweden.  
Astrophysikal. Observatorium, Stará Ďala, Czechoslovakia.  
Observatorium Astronomiczne, Warszawa, Poland.  
Brown University Library, Providence, R.I., U.S.A.  
Observatoire de Juvisy, Seine et Oise, France.  
James Stokley, The Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, Pa., U.S.A.  
Institut Astronomique de l'Université Charles, Praha-Smíchov, Czechoslovakia.  
Osservatorio astronomico della R. Università, Bologna, Italy.  
Astronomisches Institut der Universität, Lwów, Poland.  
Taschkent Astronom. Observatorium, Tashkent, Russia.  
Museum for Natural History, New York City, U.S.A.  
Sterrewacht, Lembang, Java.  
Observatory of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, U.S.A.  
J. F. Cox, Laboratoire d'Astronomie de l'Université, Bruxelles, Belgium.  
The Union Astronomer, Union Observatory, Johannesburg, South Africa.  
Observatoire de Toulouse, Toulouse, France.  
Axel V. Nielsen, Observatoriet, Aarhus, Denmark.  
Amigos de la Astronomía, Observatorio Astronómico, La Plata, Argentina.  
Mount Lubomir Observatory, p. Kasina Wielka, wojef. Kraków, Poland.  
Axel Corlin, Lund, Sweden.  
Institut d'Astrophysique de l'Université de Liège, Cointe-Sclessin, Belgium.  
Astronomitscheskij Institut im. Schternberga, Moskva, Russia.  
H. P. Hollis, Blackheath, London, S.E. 3, England.  
Oswald Thomas, Wien III, Austria.

ELIS STRÖMGREN

*President of the Commission*

*April 6, 1935*