

permitted M. Baldet to make a general research on the constitution of comets (*Annales de l'Observatoire de Meudon*, t. VII, 1926).

M. Baldet recommends:

1. That observers having the use of great telescopes should pay attention to the stellar nuclei of the comets and endeavour to determine their dimensions by photometric methods.

2. That the particular spectrum, hitherto unidentified, of the light of the gases immediately enveloping the stellar nuclei of the comets should be studied with the greatest possible dispersion in order to obtain the exact wave-lengths; further that laboratory work should be undertaken in order to determine its origin.

The Commission adopted for submission to the General Assembly a resolution recommending further research, particularly by low-temperature laboratory investigations, on the origin of the absorption bands in the spectra of the exterior planets; it was also agreed that the Commission should compile a list of the names employed or proposed for the markings on Mars.

Commission 17. (NOMENCLATURE LUNAIRE.)

Professor Turner (in the chair) proposed that Dr E. W. Brown be nominated as Chairman of the next Commission, and suggested that the Committee be expanded.

The Report of the Committee was received and adopted.

A bill of £8 12s. 6d. was presented for the photographic reproduction of the portions of the lunar map drawn by Miss Blagg, and the following resolution was adopted:

“That the sum of £28 12s. 6d. be asked for to provide photographic copies of the lunar maps drawn by Mr Wesley and completed by Miss Blagg, and such other documents as may be useful to the Committee.”

Consideration was given to decisions to be taken with regard to nomenclature, with special reference to Miss Blagg's “Collated List”.

Letters were read from Dr Müller and Mr Lamèch, proposing a new name on the lunar map. The President was asked to reply, deprecating this introduction.

Commission 18. (LONGITUDES.)

Deux séances ont été tenues par la Commission les 7 et 9 juillet 1928.

Séance du 7 juillet:

Est adoptée la proposition de M. le Général Ferrié, Président, de nommer M. A. Lambert, de l'Observatoire de Paris, secrétaire de la Commission.

M. le Président résume l'ensemble des travaux effectués en octobre-novembre 1926 et signale la précision des résultats. Les contrôles de fermeture relatifs aux polygones fondamentaux discutés en Amérique, en Angleterre et en France se traduisent par des écarts inférieurs à 0^o.01.

Rév. E. C. Phillips, S.J., fait connaître la valeur provisoirement adoptée pour la longitude de “Georgetown College Observatory”, une correction de 0^o.01 au plus pouvant y être apportée ultérieurement.

Le Professeur F. Nušl annonce que la publication des résultats obtenus à l'Observatoire de Prague se fera prochainement. Une étude spéciale de l'équation personnelle des observateurs a révélé qu'elle est stable avec le micromètre impersonnel.