

I N T E R N A T I O N A L A S T R O N O M I C A L U N I O N

TWENTY-FIRST MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

BERKELEY

Monday, 14 August 1961

Tuesday, 22 August 1961

Summary Report

The meetings were held in Dwinelle Hall on the Berkeley campus of the University of California as follows:

Monday, 14 August: 9.30 a.m. - 12.00 noon

2.30 p.m. - 5.30 p.m.

8.00 p.m. - 10.00 p.m.

Tuesday, 22 August: 7.30 p.m. - 11.30 p.m.

The following were present: J. H. Oort (President); L. Goldberg, O. Heckmann, B. V. Kukarkin, R. M. Petrie, B. Sternberk, R. H. Stoy (Vice-Presidents); D. H. Sadler (General Secretary); A. Danjon (former President); P. Th. Oosterhoff (former General Secretary). V. A. Ambartsumian (President-elect) attended all sessions other than the first. P. G. Kulikovskiy attended as interpreter to Dr. Kukarkin and Miss Nel Splinter attended as Assistant Secretary.

Introductory note: The following report is intended primarily as a record of the decisions taken by the Executive Committee at the above meetings; it is not intended to be a complete report of all the proceedings, and it contains accounts of the discussions only when these are considered of some permanent value as a record. For convenience of reference, the report on each item is recorded under the item number in the following list of agenda, independently of the order in which it was taken at the meeting. (The Report of the Special Nominating Committee, the Statement on Taiwan, the texts of the Resolutions on Project West Ford, the memorandum by the General Secretary on the future organization of the Union, and the proposed new structure of the ICSU are not included in this Report; they will however be attached to the copy of the Report kept in the archives of the Union.)

Agenda

1. Opening by the President
2. Report of the Special Nominating Committee
3. Report by the General Secretary
4. Consideration of the Agenda for the General Assembly
5. The name of Taiwan
6. Admission of new Adhering Countries
7. Qualifications for Adhering Countries
8. Place and date of the next General Assembly
9. Financial Account and Budget
10. Unit of Contribution
11. Advisory Finance Committee
12. Investment of the Union's capital
13. Charges for Reprints
14. International Latitude Service
15. Quarterly Bulletin on Solar Activity
16. Astronomical News Letters
17. Telegram Bureau
18. Minor Planet Center
19. Bibliography of Astronomy, 1881-1898
20. New Members of the Union
21. Presidents and Vice-Presidents of Commissions
22. Organizing Committees for Commissions
23. Membership of Commissions
24. Dissolution of Commissions and Creation of new Commissions
25. Resolutions for the General Assembly
26. Organization of future Symposia
27. Future organization of the Union
28. Limitation of Membership
29. Commission Structure
30. Publication of Symposia Volumes
31. Appointment of Assistant General Secretary
32. International Council of Scientific Unions
33. Inter-Union Commission on "The Teaching of Science"
34. Inter-Union Commission on "Solar and Terrestrial Relationships"
35. World Meteorological Organization
36. Union of International Associations
37. The World Calendar

1. Opening by the President. The President welcomed members of the Executive Committee and expressed his pleasure that all members, including both advisers, were present.

2. Report of the Special Nominating Committee. The Report of the Special Nominating Committee, which had previously been circulated, was formally adopted. It was thus agreed that the General Assembly be asked to elect: Professor V. A. Ambartsumian as President; and Professor Y. Hagihara and Professor G. Haro as Vice-Presidents.

3. Report by the General Secretary. The General Secretary informed the Executive Committee of the detailed arrangements for the General Assembly, with particular reference to the Invited Discourses, the Joint Discussions, Commission meetings, the public lecture by Professor F. Hoyle, and other matters. He gave a brief account of the administration of the U.S. Fund to assist non-American astronomers to attend the General Assembly. The Executive Committee expressed its great appreciation of the magnificent efforts of Dr. L. Goldberg, Dr. D. H. Menzel, and all others associated with the collection and administration of the Fund. He went on to summarize the fine work that had been done by Dr. Goldberg and officials in the U.S. National Academy of Sciences in ensuring that all non-American participants in the General Assembly had received visas to enable them to attend. There had been one or two difficulties due to late applications and to change of dates for an unofficial Symposium, but these had been successfully overcome. The Executive Committee expressed its appreciation of the arrangements made and of the fact that a representative of the State Department was present in Berkeley to assist with any difficulties that might arise during the General Assembly.

The General Secretary reported briefly on the arrangements in hand for the publication of the proceedings of the various symposia. In particular he reported that Academic Press (London) Limited is publishing the proceedings of Symposium No. 14 (The Moon).

He then referred to the increasing amount of administrative work and said that in his opinion some drastic change in the administrative structure of the Union would be essential in the near future (see item 27).

4. Consideration of the Agenda for the General Assembly. The Executive Committee considered the Agenda for the General Assembly as printed in the "Agenda and Draft Reports". Decisions were made as follows (the number relates to that of the General Assembly agenda):

G.A. 6 (c): Confirmation was given to the invitations by the General Secretary to the following acting Presidents:

Commission 3: D. Barbier
Commission 21: F. E. Roach
Commission 22: L. Krésak
Commission 23: P. Sémirot

G.A. 8: It was agreed to recommend that the revised Statutes and By-Laws be accepted by the General Assembly, subject to

a few typographical corrections to the French texts. The Executive Committee expressed its appreciation of the work of the Statutes Committee, consisting of A. Danjon, P. Th. Oosterhoff and D. H. Sadler.

G.A. 9: The proposal that "all Sub-Commissions become committees or working parties of their main Commissions, with the exception of Sub-Commission 29a, which should become a Commission" was confirmed.

G.A. 10 (a): Discussion took place on the procedure to be adopted at the General Assembly for the consideration of the resolutions submitted by the Czechoslovak and USSR Academies of Sciences. It was agreed that the two resolutions should be combined and taken together, that the General Secretary should put the question as objectively as possible to the General Assembly, that the Czechoslovak and USSR representatives should state that they had no comments to make, that the President should make a statement (as had previously been agreed by the majority of the Executive Committee), and that the matter should then be open for general discussion, to be followed by a secret ballot.

The Executive Committee discussed the action it would take if the resolution were adopted by the General Assembly; a majority, including the President and General Secretary, thought that it would be necessary for them personally to resign. But it was made clear that this should not be used in any way as a threat and that in any case the members of the Executive Committee would assure that the normal administrative business of the Union would be carried on until other arrangements could be made.

It was agreed that a statement, incorporating the essence of the above discussions and of the agreed procedure should be circulated confidentially to the principal representatives of the adhering countries, before the first session of the General Assembly. It was further agreed that the General Assembly should be asked to send a message to Chinese astronomers regretting their absence from the General Assembly and sending good wishes for Astronomy in China.

G.A. 10 (b): It was decided to refer this resolution to Commissions 25 and 29, which subsequently set up a small committee to carry the matter out.

G.A. 10 (c): The President reported briefly on the history of Project West Ford and Dr. Goldberg read a statement of U.S. Government policy, that had recently been published.

It was agreed to set up a small committee (consisting of A. Danjon, P. Th. Oosterhoff and R. M. Petrie) to co-ordinate during the assembly discussions between individuals and at the various interested Commissions, and to prepare draft resolutions for consideration by the General Assembly at its final session. The final texts of these resolutions, as agreed by the Executive Committee, were subsequently adopted by the General Assembly.

The Executive Committee attached the utmost importance to adequate consultation in ample time before any irrevocable actions, which might conceivably endanger the future of Astronomy, were taken; and provision for such consultation was made in the resolutions. The following IAU committee was appointed to co-operate with representatives of the U.S. authorities in estimating the characteristics of the West Ford test belt and (if the experiment is carried out) of determining the observed properties of the belt: W. A. Baum, D. Brouwer, B. F. Burke, J. W. Findlay (secretary), J. M. Greenberg and W. Liller. The membership of this committee is to be regarded as provisional.

It was agreed that copies of Resolution No. 1, relating to the general launching of space experiments which could possibly adversely affect astronomical research, should be sent to the Governments of all countries in the world. Subsequently the General Secretary was authorized to interpret this instruction in a less rigorous manner; copies will not necessarily be sent to the Governments of many small countries, which are unlikely to have the means of launching such experiments for many years.

G.A. 11: The Committee decided to refer the resolution in G.A. 11 (a) to Commissions 19 and 31 and the one in G.A. 11 (b) to Commission 41. With regard to the latter resolution, the view was expressed that the Union cannot bind the countries to establish committees on the History of Astronomy. This resolution should therefore only be passed by Commission 41.

It was later reported that Commissions 19 and 31 had agreed not to take any action to combine the two Commissions at the present time.

G.A. 22: It was agreed to recommend that the General Assembly appoint the President and General Secretary to represent the Union at meetings of the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU).

5. The name of Taiwan. Consideration was given to the formal request from the "Academia Sinica of the Republic of China (Taiwan)" to rescind the resolution of the Executive Committee (see Report of the Executive Committee meeting in Herstmonceux, September 1959), concerning the usage of the names Taiwan and China.

It was agreed that this request should be declined and that the General Assembly should be asked not to accept a resolution on this matter for discussion.

In this connection reference was made to the use, in the list of participants at the 11th General Assembly issued by the local organizing committee, of the name China, when Taiwan should properly have been used. The General Secretary stated that a correction was being issued, and that care would be taken to ensure that the agreed short names were always used in future. It is necessary, however, to use the description "The Republic of China" in certain limited contexts.

6. Admission of new Adhering Countries. Consideration was given to the application for admission of new Adhering Countries. The following countries were admitted; the adhering organization and the category of membership are as indicated:

Brazil: Conselho Nacional de Pesquisas - (category 3)

North Korea: Academy of Sciences of the Democratic Peoples
Republic of Korea - (category 2)

Turkey: Turkish Astronomical Society - (category 1).

In relation to North Korea the General Secretary stated that it had been provisionally admitted to the ICSU and he proposed to regard adherence as coming under revised Statute 3 (a), provided this admission was confirmed by the ICSU General Assembly (as it in fact was).

The General Secretary reported that no further progress had been made in respect of the enquiries from Colombia, South Korea, New Zealand, Pakistan and the Philippines.

7. Qualifications for Adhering Countries. Professor Heckmann raised the question of the desirability of defining a standard of astronomical activity (for example, possessing a number of astronomers of sufficient calibre to be Members of the Union) which a country must reach before it can be considered for admission as an adhering country of the Union. He pointed out that there is an inconsistency in the Union's policy in demanding standards for Members and not for countries. He suggested that the Statutes should be changed to allow the Executive Committee to refuse an application from a country in which the standard of astronomical activity was not judged to be sufficiently high.

The General Secretary pointed out that the practical implementation of such a proposal would be difficult, even if the Executive Committee

considered that such discretionary powers were desirable and defined a standard.

No decision on the substance of this point was made, and it was referred to the new Executive Committee for consideration at the same time as the future organization of the Union.

8. Place and date of the next General Assembly. Professor Heckmann formally renewed the invitation from the Senat der Freien und Hansestadt Hamburg to hold the twelfth General Assembly of the Union in Hamburg in the summer (probably August) of 1964. He stated that he had received an assurance that all entitled under the Statutes of the IAU to participate in the General Assembly would be welcomed in his country. With this assurance the Executive Committee agreed unanimously to recommend that this invitation be accepted by the General Assembly.

No consideration was given to the choice of place for General Assemblies after 1964, but it was noted that invitations had been received in respect of 1967 from Argentina, Australia and Czechoslovakia.

9. Financial Account and Budget. The General Secretary reported that the provisional allocation to the IAU from the UNESCO subvention for 1962 had been fixed at \$15,000. He further wished to propose an amendment to the proposed Budget of expenditure for the period 1 January 1962 - 31 December 1964 (circulated with circular letter No. 16 of 28 February 1961), namely to increase the provision for the Administrative Office from \$14,000 to \$16,000. The Executive Committee then formally adopted the amended Budget for transmission to the Finance Committee, together with the accounts for the previous years as printed in the Report of the Executive Committee in the "Agenda and Draft Reports".

Later, the Executive Committee studied the report of the Finance Committee for submission to the General Assembly. The Finance Committee had suggested a few minor amendments to the financial report on pages xxvi - xxvii of the "Agenda and Draft Reports", and recommended that an accountant be appointed to relieve the General Secretary of the task of preparing the three-year financial account in the Report of the Executive Committee. This recommendation was accepted.

It was noted that the requests for financial assistance by Commission 5 (a grant of \$3000 to its President for translation of articles) and by Commission 40 (a grant of \$3000 for the Publication of a Catalogue on "Solar Radio - Electric Events") had not been accepted by the Finance Committee and that no provision for such expenditure was included in the budget. The Executive Committee agreed with the decision in respect of Commission 5, and noted that it was very probable that funds for the Catalogue proposed by Commission 40 would be available from other sources.

10. Unit of Contribution. The Executive Committee agreed to recommend to the Finance Committee that the unit of contribution be increased from 500 to 600 gold francs, the maximum allowed under the old Statutes. This recommendation was approved by the Finance Committee and included in its Report for submission to the General Assembly.

11. Advisory Finance Committee. Consideration was given to the desirability of the continuation of the Advisory Finance Committee. In view of the inclusion of the UNESCO subvention in the Budget to be submitted to the General Assembly, it was agreed that the main function of the Advisory Finance Committee no longer existed and that its remaining functions might well be exercised by the Executive Committee itself. The General Secretary was instructed to thank the members of the Advisory Finance Committee for their valuable services in the past.

12. Investment of the Union's capital. The General Secretary reported on his preliminary contact with N. M. Rothschild & Sons, London, England, regarding the investment of the Union's capital, now kept in savings accounts in the U.S.A. and amounting to about \$56,000. It was agreed that the General Secretary should be authorized to invite N.M. Rothschild & Sons to invest about half of the Union's capital on its behalf. Note. Later, the terms offered were such that the General Secretary recommended that the invitation be withdrawn.

13. Charges for reprints. The Executive Committee formally agreed to the action of the General Secretary in ceasing the practice of supplying 25 free reprints of the individual Reports of Commissions as published in the Draft Reports. A small charge will in future be made for the first 25 reprints, in addition to the usual charges.

14. International Latitude Service. Consideration was given to the future location of the Central Bureau of the I.L.S., acting on the advice of the working group under the chairmanship of Professor E. P. Fedorov, and an ad hoc committee under the chairmanship of Dr. R. H. Stoy. Offers to set up the central bureau in their countries had been received from Belgium, France, Japan, U.S.A. and U.S.S.R.; but Belgium, U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. had either withdrawn their offers or intimated that they were willing to accept only if no other country wished to assume responsibility for the work.

It was agreed to accept the offer from the Science Council of Japan to set up the Central Bureau of the I.L.S. (to become I.P.M.S. - International Polar Motion Service) at Mizusawa, under the directorship of Dr. T. Hattori.

The General Secretary was instructed to express the Union's appreciation of their offers to the other countries concerned.

The working party submitted the text of the constitution of the I.P.M.S. to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee approved the constitution (a copy of which is attached as Appendix A), and agreed to the nomination of Professor E. P. Fedorov and Dr. B. Guinot as the IAU representatives on the Council.

(Note: These arrangements and the constitution require confirmation and agreement by IUGG (International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics) and FAGS (Federation of Astronomical and Geophysical Permanent Services); this was subsequently obtained.)

The General Secretary said that he would write to Professor G. Cecchini to thank him for the work he had done as Director of the Bureau.

15. Quarterly Bulletin on Solar Activity. It was agreed to accept the suggestion that had been made that the Inter-Union Commission on Solar and Terrestrial Relationships (IUCSTR), which was formally set up during the General Assembly at Berkeley with C.W. Allen as President and D. K. Bailey as Secretary, should act as advisory council for the above permanent service. This suggestion had been agreed by the Director of the Service, Professor M. Waldmeier, by Commission 10, and by the Inter-Union Commission.

It was hoped that the delays in publication would be reduced.

16. Astronomical News Letters. Professor V. Kourganoff had stated that he could no longer continue to edit the Astronomical News Letters after the end of 1961. As the demand for the A.N.L. is now much reduced (owing to the commercial translation into English of the Astronomical Journal of the USSR), it was decided to discontinue the A.N.L. as from the end of 1961. This decision is in agreement with the views expressed by Professors B. J. Bok and O. Struve, who were largely responsible for the introduction of the A.N.L., and by Commission 5.

The General Secretary was asked to express the gratitude of the Union to Professor Kourganoff for its outstanding contribution to astronomical understanding.

17. Telegram Bureau. The General Secretary reported that it had been possible to arrange for the Telegram Bureau to be continued in Copenhagen, through the courtesy of Dr. A. Reiz. Mr. K. A. Thernbe would assume the Directorship of the Bureau; there would be some simplifications of procedure, and a slightly increased subsidy from the Union.

These proposals, which had been agreed by Commission 6, were approved by the Executive Committee, which expressed its gratitude to Dr. Reiz.

18. Minor Planet Center. This matter had been previously dealt with by correspondence. Dr. P. Herget had found it possible to continue with the Service in Cincinnati.

19. Bibliography of Astronomy, 1881-1898. The General Secretary reported on the rather unsatisfactory position regarding the completion of this work. There are many gaps and it was proving difficult to obtain reliable information as to the state of completeness. (Subsequently, the General Secretary received a full report from Dr. A. Dermul.)

Commission 5 recommended that a subsidy of \$5,000 be provided towards the cost of publication. The Executive Committee had already agreed to such a sum at its meeting in Prague, but no progress had been made towards publication since then. The Finance Committee had now agreed to make provision for a sum of \$5000 in the Budget for the years 1962-1964, but requests the Executive Committee only to authorize expenditure if satisfied with the completion of the project. The General Secretary undertook to discuss the matter further with Dr. Dermul and to give him every assistance in persuading countries to complete their contributions as soon as possible.

20. New Members of the Union. The Executive Committee approved the list of new Members of the Union, which had been submitted to and agreed by the Nominating Committee.

The General Secretary stated that a request had been received for clarification of the responsibility of National Committees of Astronomy in respect of nominations for Membership for:

- (a) their nationals working at foreign observatories;
- (b) foreign astronomers working in their countries.

It was agreed that new Members can be proposed by the National Committees of Astronomy of either the country in which they are working, or the country of which they are nationals.

The Executive Committee considered a suggestion by the National Committee of Astronomy of Austria to indicate in the list of Members in the Transactions those Members who have retired from active work. It was decided that this was not practicable.

21. Presidents and Vice-Presidents of Commissions. The list of Presidents and Vice-Presidents of Commissions was composed by the Executive Committee for submission to the General Assembly. In drawing up this list the Executive Committee had the benefit of comments by the Nominating Committee, as well as from Presidents of Commissions.

22. Organizing Committees for Commissions. The Executive Committee gave its general approval to the organizing committees for the Commissions; these had been suggested by the Commissions themselves, on the basis of preliminary suggestions by the Presidents of Commissions co-ordinated by the General Secretary.

23. Membership of Commissions. The Executive Committee made no comment on the Membership of Commissions, which is largely a matter for the Commissions themselves. On this occasion each individual Member of the Union had been asked to state on which Commissions he wished to serve.

24. Dissolution of Commissions and Creation of new Commissions. The Executive Committee considered various proposals for the dissolution of Commissions, for the creation of new Commissions and for new names of Commissions. It was agreed to recommend to the General Assembly that:

- (a) Commission 3 be dissolved.
- (b) Sub-Commission 29a become Commission 36.
- (c) Commission 14 be renamed "Commission on Fundamental Spectroscopic Data".
- (d) Commission 28 be renamed "Commission on Galaxies".

It was agreed not to recommend that Sub-Commission 29c should become a full Commission.

25. Resolutions for the General Assembly. The Executive Committee considered the report of the Resolutions Committee (consisting of A. A. Mikhailov, O. Struve and the General Secretary), recommending that only one of the 23 resolutions received was suitable for formal submission to the General Assembly. A few of the resolutions were incorporated in the report of the Finance Committee and some referred to matters which are being considered separately by the Executive Committee. The remaining resolutions would be printed in the reports of the Commission meetings and listed separately in the Transactions.

The Executive Committee agreed to ask the General Assembly to adopt the following resolution:

"Considering the impracticability of giving individual attention to every resolution adopted by each of its 58 Commissions and Sub-Commissions,

"and having full confidence in its Commissions,

"this General Assembly wishes to give its endorsement to the resolutions adopted by its individual Commissions,

"and recommends that astronomers give effect to these resolutions in so far as they are able."

The General Secretary called attention to two resolutions adopted by COSPAR (Committee on Space Research), which required some action by the Union. It was agreed that these resolutions, which had not yet been formally referred to the Union, could not be submitted to the General Assembly. But the General Secretary was asked to see that they received adequate publicity among astronomers by publication in the Transactions or Information Bulletins.

26. Organization of Future Symposia. Consideration was given to the choice of Symposia for the years 1962, 1963 and 1964, bearing in mind outstanding proposals and those made by Commissions during the General Assembly. It was noted that the U.S. National Academy of Sciences proposes to hold a symposium in Los Angeles in August 1963 dealing with the results of the IGY and IGC programmes; this will be held in conjunction with the General Assembly of IUGG and must be borne in mind when arranging symposia in 1963.

The Executive Committee considered each of the proposals in detail after discussion with those primarily interested: its recommendations were communicated to the new Executive Committee, which was responsible for making the final decisions.

(Full details of the proposals and the choice of Symposia are given in the Report of the 22nd meeting of the Executive Committee.)

27. Future organization of the Union. The General Secretary had circulated a memorandum listing a number of questions concerning the future organization of the Union. He pointed out that the Union was growing so much in size and complexity that there must be:

either (a) a drastic change of administrative structure, with a permanent administrative secretary and permanent headquarters;

or (b) a drastic simplification of administration.

Discussion took place on each of the main headings of the General Secretary's memorandum, but there was no clear consensus of opinion as to the answers to the questions posed.

It was, however, agreed that an Assistant General Secretary, with paid secretarial assistance, should be appointed to take over some of the duties of the present General Secretary. Dr. J. C. Pecker was invited to accept the post of Assistant General Secretary, and indicated his willingness to do so.

It was decided that the whole question should be referred to the new Executive Committee, with a recommendation that a committee be appointed to consider, at leisure and in full detail, the future organization of the Union. Names were suggested of Members of the Union to serve on this committee and these names are incorporated in the list of members of the committee appointed by the new Executive Committee.

Dr. Kukarkin suggested that it would be desirable to obtain the views of all Members of the Union on these important questions; but the General Secretary pointed out the practical difficulties of doing this. It was agreed that a statement of the formation of the committee, and of its aims, should be included in an Information Bulletin, inviting Members of the Union to express their opinions on a few specific questions if they so wished. It was further agreed that the committee should have power to consult adhering organizations.

28. Limitation of Membership. Discussion took place, in connection with item 27, on whether it was desirable or not to impose some artificial limitation on the increasing number of Members of the Union. Various suggestions were made, such as restriction to full-time professional astronomers; but none of the suggestions met with general agreement.

In this connection the question was raised of a possible revision of the categories of membership to accord more closely with the number of Members from each country; this was generally not favoured.

It was then decided that this question should be referred to the new Executive Committee, with a recommendation that it be referred to the committee considering the future organization of the Union.

29. Commission Structure. The Executive Committee noted that the abolition of Sub-Commissions would tend to simplify the Commission structure of the Union. Some discussion took place on the possibility of grouping Commissions, in order still further to reduce the administrative work and unnecessary overlap of interest. No decision was reached and the matter was referred to the new Executive Committee.

30. Publication of Symposia Volumes. The Executive Committee did not discuss this item, but referred it to the new Executive Committee for possible consideration by the committee on the future organization of the Union.

31. Appointment of Assistant General Secretary. As reported under item 27, Dr. J. C. Pecker was appointed Assistant General Secretary. It is noted that he would require secretarial assistance, and, with the agreement of the Finance Committee, the Executive Committee recommended to the General Assembly that a larger provision be made for the administrative office for the next period of three years.

The General Secretary pointed out that there was no provision in the Statutes for the appointment of an Assistant General Secretary, but that this was not an important matter. It should, however, be rectified when the Statutes were further revised.

The Executive Committee expressed its gratitude to Dr. Pecker for his willingness to accept this office, and to Professor Danjon for making it possible for Dr. Pecker to accept the additional duties involved.

32. International Council of Scientific Unions.

(a) Consideration was given briefly to the membership of the IAU in the special committees and other organizations of the ICSU, namely COSPAR (Committee on Space Research), CIG (Comité international de Géophysique), IUCAF (Inter-Union Commission on Allocation of Frequencies for Radio Astronomy and Space Research), FAGS etc. It was agreed that there was no necessity for any changes in the representation, though it was noted that the ICSU was considering the re-organization of FAGS.

(b) The General Secretary reported that a determined effort was being made by the ICSU to improve its relationship with the Unions, and a request had been made to the IAU to advise the ICSU as to how best it could assist the work of the Unions. The General Secretary was authorized to deal with this matter.

(c) At the meeting of the Executive Board and the General Assembly of ICSU in London, in September 1961, the whole future structure of the ICSU would be discussed. Full details of the proposed future structure of the ICSU, together with comments by the General Secretary, were made available to the Executive Committee. But it had not been possible to study these in detail. The matter was referred to the new Executive Committee.

(d) Although not specifically mentioned in the agenda, the General Secretary informed the Executive Committee that a request had been received from CIG for assistance in respect of the publication of the Solar Map Volumes, D.1, D.2, of the Annals of the IGY. These are being published under contract by Pergamon Press, which, however, wished to place an absurdly high price on these volumes. The assistance of the IAU was being sought both in respect of a possible subsidy towards the cost of the volumes, and in respect of assistance with sales' promotion. The

Executive Committee agreed that the Union could not accept any financial responsibility for the publication of these volumes, for which it had no direct editorial responsibility. However, the General Secretary was authorized to do all he could to help in keeping the price down to the minimum.

33. Inter-Union Commission on "The Teaching of Science". The General Secretary reported that the Union had been asked to support a proposal from the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics to the ICSU to form an Inter-Union Commission on "The Teaching of Science". He had replied non-committally and said that the question of IAU participation in such a Commission would be discussed by the Executive Committee in Berkeley. After discussion the Executive Committee agreed that the Union should maintain an interest in the proposal, but should not exhibit undue enthusiasm for it. The Union has no Commission on the Teaching of Astronomy.

Note by General Secretary: It is convenient to record here that at the meetings of ICSU in September:

- (A) A report of a committee, presided over by the General Secretary of the IAU, on the ways in which the ICSU could help the Unions was adopted by the Executive Board.
- (B) The whole question of the future structure of the ICSU was referred to a committee, which will report within about a year.
- (C) It was arranged that the actual printing of the Solar Map Volumes should be undertaken by an organization in France, through the good offices of General Laclavère. By this means the cost of production would be nearly halved and the proposed price reduced by a factor of three. After some initial difficulties the compilers of the Volumes had agreed that the technical production was quite satisfactory. Thus the IAU will not be called upon for any further assistance.
- (D) An Inter-Union Commission on "The Teaching of Science" was set up without IAU membership.

34. Inter-Union Commission on Solar and Terrestrial Relationships. The General Secretary reported that the above Commission was now formally constituted and held its inaugural meeting on 14 August 1961. At this meeting the membership of the Commission was confirmed as follows:

IAU (Astronomy)	IUGG (Geodesy and Geophysics)	URSI (Scientific Radio)
C. W. Allen (president)	J. Bartels	G. M. Allcock
J. F. Denisse	B. Haurwitz	D. K. Bailey (secretary)
R. Giovanelli	F. Link	R. Coutrez
E. R. Mustel	M. Nicolet	A. H. Shapley

and, in addition, E. N. Parker was appointed as a Corresponding Member.

A full report on the meeting of this Inter-Union Commission will be published in the Transactions of the Union.

With reference to item 15, the Inter-Union Commission agreed to act as an Advisory Council for the Quarterly Bulletin on Solar Activity, and suggested that the request for any such action should come through Commission 10.

The Executive Committee signified its full agreement.

35. World Meteorological Organization. The Executive Committee was unable to offer any formal comments or suggestions to the W.M.O. in regard to the development and use of artificial satellites for meteorological purposes.

36. Union of International Associations. It was agreed that the Union should not accept the invitation to become a corresponding organization of the UIA.

37. The World Calendar. The General Secretary reported briefly that he had been approached by Miss E. Achelis with a request that the Union re-endorse the recommendation by Commission 32 in 1922 in favour of the adoption of the World Calendar. He had informed Miss Achelis that the resolution by Commission 32 was never formally approved by the General Assembly and that it was therefore not possible to re-endorse it. The Executive Committee agreed with this action.

After the conclusion of business, the President expressed his thanks to the members of the Executive Committee for their help in conducting the affairs of the Union. He thanked in particular Professor Heckmann and Professor Kukarkin, who were due to retire. He also thanked Professor Danjon and Professor Oosterhoff for their helpful advice during the past three years.

Royal Greenwich Observatory,
Herstmonceux

D. H. Sadler
General Secretary

October 1961