

6. COMMISSION DES TÉLÉGRAMMES ASTRONOMIQUES

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From April 6, 1935 (date of the last report) up to the present date (Feb. 26, 1938) the Bureau has distributed 723 telegrams and published 174 circulars (Nos. 535-708).

The Bureau has again 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. 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 the endeavour has been made to reduce the costs of the telegraphic service as much as 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.

In the work of the Bureau I have been effectively assisted by Miss Vinter Hansen, Messrs Möller, Thernöe and Hjerting and—in the period April 1935 till Sept. 1936—by Prof. B. Strömgren. In the correspondence and in general work I have been to a great extent assisted by Miss Mackeprang.

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ELIS STRÖMGREN

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