

### COMMISSION 32. (SELECTED AREAS.)

PRESIDENT: Prof. P. J. VAN RHIJN.  
SECRETARY: Dr C. H. HINS.

The draft report was adopted with one or two minor alterations.

The Commission discussed the points mentioned in section 12 in the report, "desiderata for future work."

1. Dr Shapley promised to consider the possibility of using the Bruce telescope for the Durchmusterung of the southern areas, going down to magnitude 18.5 approximately.

3. The President asked Dr Jackson's opinion about the possibility of observing the meridian positions of the standard stars of the southern areas from  $-30^\circ$  downward at the Cape observatory.

Dr Jackson's objection to such work was on account of the faintness of these standard stars. The whole southern sky from  $-30^\circ$  to the south pole will be repeated photographically with the wide angle lens.

4. Dr Adams promised to extend the Mount Wilson programme of radial velocities observations to the areas of  $-30^\circ$ .

As to the radial velocities of stars fainter than 9.0 m., Dr Adams promised collaboration with the spectrograph used at present by Mr Joy in the determination of radial velocities of Cepheids, after these observations had been finished.

Dr Shapley gave an account of Dr Bok's work on radial velocities by means of an objective prism. The work is still in an experimental state; it is expected that the radial velocities of tenth magnitude stars can be found with a p.e. of 7 km./sec.

Dr Shapley will consider the possibility of including the selected areas in the working programme.

As to the absorption of light in space, Dr Shapley remarked on the desirability of examining the plates eventually to be taken with the Bruce telescope (see 1) for the distribution of extra-galactic nebulae, this distribution giving indications about irregularities in the absorption of light in space.

### COMMISSION 33. (STELLAR STATISTICS.)

PRESIDENT: Prof. B. LINDBLAD.  
SECRETARY: Dr C. SCHALÉN.

A recommendation to the Union concerning the construction of certain tables was accepted.

A discussion was opened on the subject of collaboration in the study of open clusters. An application to the General Assembly was passed for a recommendation as follows: "That the Union call attention to the important problems connected with the open clusters and determinations of proper motions, radial velocities, magnitudes and spectra along the lines already inaugurated at several observatories."

It was agreed that Dr Mineur should approach the observatories of the *Carte du Ciel* on the subject of photographing the open clusters for the future determinations of proper motions.