

6. COMMISSION DES TELEGRAMMES ASTRONOMIQUES

PRÉSIDENT: Professor Dr E. Buchar, Astronomical Institute, Technical University, Karlovo nám. 13, Prague 2, Czechoslovakia.

DIRECTRICE DU BUREAU: Mlle J. M. Vinter Hansen†.

DIRECTEUR INTERIMAIRE: M. K. A. Thernøe.

MEMBRES: Bobone†, Cunningham, Finsen, Hogg, Whipple.

In the course of the last period the Commission suffered the loss of two members. Dr J. Bobone of the National Observatory in Cordoba died on 21 October 1958, and Miss Julie M. Vinter Hansen, Director of the Central Bureau for Astronomical Telegrams, died on 27 July 1960. The latter conducted for many years the work of the Bureau and was largely responsible for the efficient working of this institution. Thanks to arrangements by Dr A. Reiz, Director of the University Observatory in Copenhagen, no interruption in the activity of the Bureau occurred, as Mr K. A. Thernøe assumed the duties of the late Miss Vinter Hansen.

With regard to a suggestion that the Telex System be introduced in the Bureau, most members of the Commission expressed the opinion that the present system of distribution of astronomical telegrams has proved satisfactory so far. No other suggestions have been made.

The Report of the Bureau has been prepared by Mr K. A. Thernøe.

E. BUCCHAR
President of the Commission

REPORT OF THE CENTRAL BUREAU FOR ASTRONOMICAL TELEGRAMS

The Central Bureau suffered a sad loss through the death, on 27 July 1960, of its director Miss Julie Vinter Hansen who since 1947 had conducted its work very efficiently and with never failing interest. In order to maintain the activities of the Bureau until a permanent arrangement could be made, the supervision was temporarily entrusted to the writer who for several years has participated in its work. In this capacity I have prepared the following report, covering the period from 20 October 1957 to 31 December 1960.

The work of the Bureau since 1957 has proceeded along the usual lines. The number of subscribers to telegrams and circulars, and to circulars only, has continued to rise, namely from 68 to 73 and from 117 to 158 respectively. Pleasing as is this rise, it calls, however, for a correspondingly greater amount of clerical work at the Bureau, and it would not have been possible to keep the subscription fees fairly low if we were not the recipients of subsidies from the International Astronomical Union and the Danish Rask-Orsted Foundation. These subsidies have so far paid for all the clerical work, but are definitely unable to do so any longer, owing to the considerably greater number of subscribers and the general rise in payments. Therefore, the Bureau has been impelled to ask for a somewhat larger subsidy from the Union.

The Bureau tries its best to satisfy the various wishes of the subscribers. In order to achieve this, the Bureau would be greatly helped if subscribers as far as possible would deal with the Bureau directly, and not through local agencies, as such arrangements may often cause unnecessary clerical work for the Bureau.

As to the more scientific work involved in the activities of the Bureau we have been greatly helped by astronomers not attached to the Copenhagen Observatory, primarily the British

Astronomical Association computers, but also by many others, for example in Czechoslovakia, U.S.A., and the U.S.S.R.

Below are given the number of telegrams received and transmitted to the subscribers together with the number of circulars issued, all in the period since the report in *Trans. IAU*, 10, *i.e.* from 20 October 1957 to 31 December 1960.

	Telegrams		Circulars
	Received	Sent	
1957 (from 20 Oct.)	12	76	12 (1623-1634)
1958	11	240	28 (1635-1662)
1959	36	522	43 (1663-1705)
1960 (to 31 Dec.)	29	602	42 (1706-1747)
	88	1440	125

On the suggestion of the General Secretary, the full lists of the names and addresses of the 73 and 158 subscribers to telegrams and circulars, and to circulars alone, have been omitted from this report.

K. A. THERNÖE