

4. COMMISSION DES ÉPHÉMÉRIDES

PRÉSIDENT: Prof. W. S. EICHELBERGER, *Prof. of Mathematics, U.S. Naval Observatory, Director of the Nautical Almanac, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.*

MEMBRES: MM. Andoyer, Brown, Cowell, Herrero, Jackson, Nakano, Rodrigues, Volta.

Of especial interest to astronomers in general are the changes being made in the British *Nautical Almanac*, beginning with the introduction of certain new material in the volume for 1929 and culminating in a general recasting of the form of the volume for 1931.

It may also be mentioned that the American Nautical Office has begun the formation of a new Zodiacal Catalogue to supersede that of Hedrick, the new catalogue containing all the stars in Gill's Catalogue of 2798 Zodiacal Stars as well as all those in Hedrick's Zodiacal Catalogue.

It is probable that the question of the continuance of the use of the expression "Greenwich Civil Time", or the substitution of some other expression will be discussed at the Leiden meeting.

The following two resolutions have been received from the Secretary of the American Section of the International Astronomical Union for the consideration of Commission 4 at the Leiden meeting:

Resolution 1. That the American Section approves of the proposal to bring before Commission 4 (Ephemerides) the question of the use of 1950.0 as a standard equinox for cometary and asteroid work.

Resolution 2. The American Section is favourable to the adoption of the same fixed dates for comet as for minor planet ephemerides, chiefly to facilitate comparisons.

The general sentiment of the American Section as understood by the President of Commission 4 was in favour of arriving at universal agreements at Leiden rather than in favour of particular plans.

W. S. EICHELBERGER
President of the Commission