

# British Astronomical Association

## VARIABLE STAR SECTION

### CIRCULAR 3

*Deurne, Antwerp, Belgium, 1922 October 17.*

23. rue Thisius.

#### (1) FIRST SECTIONAL MEETING, 1922 OCTOBER 25. —

As anticipated in Circular 2, it has been arranged for the First Sectional Meeting of the present Directorship to take place on Wednesday, October 25, at 2. 0 p. m. sharp, in the Smoking Library of Sion College, Victoria Embankment, London, previous to the Annual General Meeting of the Association. The meeting is expected to last up to (say) 3.30.

It is confidently hoped that a large number of members will make a special effort to be present at this meeting, which will afford such a good opportunity for them to make each other's personal acquaintance.

The Director will be at Sion College at 10 a. m., and he would be glad to meet any members who might happen to be also spending the morning in London.

(2) PROPOSALS TO THE MEETING. — The following proposals, which result of a thorough discussion with Mr. A. N. BROWN and Mr. C. L. BROOK, will be submitted to the meeting for approval :

1. *General Policy of the Section.* — No change to be made as regards policy, at least for the present. Our aim to be, as in the past, to observe a comparatively small number of carefully selected stars as completely as possible, special attention being given to those of the Long Period type ; to publish the general results annually, and the original observations every five years.

2. *Stars to be observed.* — The present Working List, as published in Circular 1, to hold good, there being added to it, for 1923 :

A. — Three Long Period variables of the Rousdon programme ( $P > 300^d$ ) :

**S CASSIOPEIÆ    S CYGNI    T DRACONIS**

B. — Two " Irregulars " : **SS AURIGAE**, of the U Geminorum type, and possibly **H. V. 3565 CANIS MAJORIS**, which is thought to belong to the rare R Coronæ type.

3. *Allotment of stars.* — New observers, once started, to take up fresh stars and fill in gaps when any variables on the list are insufficiently observed.

4. *Common stars.* — It is proposed that all observers should, as far as possible, follow  $\alpha$  (**MIRA**) **CETI**,  $\gamma$  (**CYGNI**), and **S URSAE MAJORIS**.

5. — *Charts and lists.* — Charts will continue to be produced by the blue print process of the standard size of 8 in.  $\times$  10 in., and will include sketches for finding. HAGEN's maps to be preferred, supplemented by Harvard stars, in order to standardize as far as possible the choice of comparison stars. A Catalogue of suggested corrections for faint comparison stars to be formed.

6. — *Colour observations*. — Without interfering with light estimates, observers to try to estimate the colour of the variables, especially near maximum, on the following numerical scale :

0 <sup>c</sup> Pure white	6 <sup>c</sup> Full orange
1 White, slight tinge of yellow	7 Deep orange
2 Yellowish white	8 Yellowish red
3 Pale yellow	9 Red, slight tinge of yellow
4 Pure yellow	10 Pure red (never observed)
5 Deep yellow	

These colour estimates will not be published in the Memoirs, but may prove of help later on, in studying the influence of colour perception on light estimates.

7. — *Publication of observations*. — It is suggested that, as far as practicable, the observations should be published as made.

8. *Observation of red stars*. — A succession of short gazes to be preferred.

9 — *Southern Observers*. — Letters to be written to suitable organizations or individuals in the Southern hemisphere, with a view of enlisting them in our ranks.

10. — *Nova Section*. — Members to express their opinion on this point. Many think that the V. S. S. ought to continue this task. If the Section does continue to be responsible for this work, means should be found of discussing and publishing the large number of observations of the last two naked eye Novæ in its possession.

11. — *Rome Resolutions*. — It is suggested, in order to give effect as far as possible to the Rome Resolutions :

(a) That members of the V. S. S. should not transmit their observations of stars on our Working List to other organizations, at least not for the purpose of having them published, in order to avoid original observations appearing in print in two or more places.

(b) That the Section should observe as many as possible of those variables (U Geminorum, R Coronæ and R Scuti types) observations of which are needed on every clear night, much depending for the present on the command of instruments of considerable power, and on the coöperation of more Southern observers.

(c) That the observation of Long Period variables requiring an especially thorough discussion should be entrusted in the first instance to the Section.

**(3) PRESENTATION TO MR. C. L. BROOK.** — It is proposed to present Mr. C. L. BROOK, as a token of gratitude for his splendid services to the Section, with an album nicely bound in leather, containing an Address with the signatures of the subscribers, and a collection of fine astronomical photographs. Subscriptions of any amount limited to 10/— each, may be sent to Mr. A. N. BROWN, Ludgrove, New Barnet, Herts.

**(4) 1922 OBSERVATIONS.** — Observations made in 1922 have already been received from the following members : J. J. BOUGON (17 sheets), A. N. BROWN (8), R. G. CHANDRA (39), E. A. COLLINSON (21), A. COUSINS (21), H. R. GRIMWOOD (11), E. J. HOW (3), W. J. H. WATERFIELD (25).

It is hoped that members will send in as soon as possible what observations they can.

FELIX DE ROY  
*Director.*