

Brosche, P. *et al.*: 1973, *Astrophys. J.* **183**, 803.

Kapahi, V. *et al.*: 1973, *Astron. J.*, in press.

Swarup, G. *et al.*: 1971, *Astrophys. Letters* **9**, 53.

Joshi, M. *et al.*: 1973, *Astron. J.*, in press.

The Working Group pointed out that calibration sources are still needed for the southern hemisphere.

The report was adopted and the Working Group dissolved.

#### 5. THE UNIT OF FLUX DENSITY

Kerr proposed the following resolution that was passed by the Commission: 'RESOLVED, that the name 'Jansky', abbreviated 'Jy', be adopted as the unit of flux density in radio astronomy and that this unit, equal to  $10^{-26} \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ Hz}^{-1}$ , be incorporated into the international system of physical units.'

#### 6. STANDARD EQUINOX FOR ASTRONOMICAL CATALOGUES

Bolton proposed the following resolution that was passed by the Commission, after discussions with Commission 8: 'RESOLVED, that the equinox of 1950.0 should remain the standard equinox for astronomical catalogues.'

#### 7. OPTICAL AND RADIO DEFINITIONS OF RADIO VELOCITY

Optical astronomers have customarily defined radial velocity as  $cz = c\Delta\lambda/\lambda_0$ . Radio astronomers usually express radial velocity as  $cd\lambda/\lambda_0$ . For vacuum ultraviolet lines redshifted into the visual, some spectroscopists have quoted a  $z = (\lambda_{\text{air}} - \lambda_0, \text{vac})/\lambda_0, \text{vac}$ . Differences between these various definitions become appreciable for velocities above  $1000 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ . A joint working group convened by Commission 30 and involving Commission 40 members M. Roberts and B. Clark will be established to attempt to unify the definitions.

#### 8. POLARIZATION DEFINITIONS

A working Group chaired by Westerhout was convened to discuss the definition of polarization brightness temperatures used in the description of polarized extended objects and the galactic background. The following resolution was adopted by Commissions 25 and 40: 'RESOLVED, that the frame of reference for the Stokes parameters is that of Right Ascension and Declination with the position angle of electric-vector maximum,  $\theta$ , starting from North and increasing through East. Elliptical polarization is defined in conformity with the definitions of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE Standard 211, 1969). This means that the polarization of incoming radiation, for which the position angle,  $\theta$ , of the electric vector, measured at a fixed point in space, increases with time, is described as right-handed and positive.'

#### 9. NEWSLETTER ON UNIDENTIFIED MOLECULAR LINES OR NEGATIVE SEARCHES

D. Johnson and B. Donn proposed a means for reporting and documenting new unidentified radio lines and negative-result searches for molecular lines. Forms with a tentative format were presented that will be sent to active observers who can summarize past and future line search results. These summaries will be circulated among the observers or published occasionally in the existing literature.

#### 10. INTERFERENCE AND FREQUENCY ALLOCATIONS

F. G. Smith summarized the worldwide status of frequency allocations for the radio astronomy service that resulted from the World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC) in 1971, and