

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PURE AND APPLIED CHEMISTRY

MINUTES OF THE BUREAU MEETING

Held in Munich
in the premises of the Technische Hochschule
on 29th August, 1959

*

*

*

Present: Dr W. A. Noyes Jr., President in the chair

Prof. R. Belcher - Dr J.H. Bushill - Sir E. Charles Dodds -
Prof. H. J. Eméleus - Prof. H. Erdtman -
Academician B. A. Kasanski - Prof W. Klemm -
Prof. E. J. King - Prof. W. Kuhn - Prof. M. Letort -
Prof. M. Lora-Tamayo - Prof. S. Mizushima -
Dr R. Morf - Prof. A. Stoll - Prof. A. Tiselius -
Sir Alexander Todd - Prof. T. Urbanski -
Prof. P. E. Verkade - Dr. E. Wichers

Apologized: Prof. G. Chaudron

Prof. D. Marotta

*

*

*

Minute 1

AGENDA

The agenda previously approved reads as follows:

1. Constitution of the Bureau and welcome of new members
2. Budget
3. Invitation of Poland to hold one meeting in Warsaw
4. Possible reduction of Titular Members in Commissions
5. Proposals aiming at making future Conferences more attractive
6. Definition of the Terms of references of Commissions and Divisions
7. Place and date of the next meeting

Minute 2

CONSTITUTION OF THE BUREAU AND WELCOME OF NEW MEMBERS

President Noyes opened the meeting at 3 p.m. by telling how much he appreciated the opportunity to serve the Union as President and expressing the wish that fruitful co-operation could be achieved within IUPAC.

Dr Noyes Jr. thanked the members of the Bureau for their help in the past and bid a hearty welcome to those who have been elected new members of the Bureau.

Minute 3

BUDGET

The Section Presidents were requested to submit their Budgets for 1960 and if possible for 1961. These budgets should give provisional activity programmes (see Appendixes...)

Minute 4

INVITATION OF POLAND TO HOLD ONE MEETING IN WARSAW

The invitation of the Polish delegate to hold the meeting or a function in Warsaw at the earliest convenience was accepted in principle.

Resolved:

- i) that the Secretary General should explore when such a meeting or function can be held
- ii) the thanks of the Union should be expressed to our Polish colleagues. The Secretary General to act. (see above).

M i n u t e 5

POSSIBLE REDUCTION OF TITULAR MEMBERS IN COMMISSIONS

A resolution put before the Council in the morning of that day by the British delegation and aiming at the reduction of the number of Titular Members in the Commissions (see Minutes of the Council meeting) was again discussed.

A recommendation made by the Finance Committee was discussed. Attention was drawn to the fact that by limitation of the number of Commissions and of Titular Members difficulties might arise with regard to geographical distribution and to representation of the various branches of Chemistry. No resolution was passed. The President or his representative is to discuss these problems with each Section President.

In the Moscow meeting of the Executive Committee a resolution was made reading as follows:

- i) that the Presidents of the Commissions and Divisions listed in the preamble of this Item should be requested to deliver a report on their activities
- ii) that the terms of reference of these six Commissions and Divisions should be circumscribed
- iii) that a careful study should be made whether it would not be possible to amalgamate two Commissions or Divisions which are working in the same field
- iv) that proposals should be submitted to the Bureau how to intensify the activity of and the collaboration between these Commissions and Divisions
- v) that, at the elections, new Titular Members should be appointed for a period of two years only, in order to clear the way for reconsideration and reorganisation in 1961.

These problems have been discussed previously by the Bureau as well as the Council.

The financial situation for IUPAC is such that the number and size of Commissions must be examined critically at periodic intervals. Normally each Section should determine whether its Commissions are performing useful tasks and whether they are too large or too small.

History has shown, however, that while some Sections at certain times do review their programmes carefully, the situation is by no means universally satisfactory.

The Bureau and the Executive Committee realize that arbitrary decisions which result in fiction must be avoided. Several proposals were made, particularly by Professors Tiselius, Klemm and Sir Alexander Todd. No formal resolution was passed but it was agreed that some members of the Executive Committee, i. e. either the President or some persons designated by him, would confer during the next few months with each Section President. By the time of the Bureau meeting in Leningrad in May 1960 definite proposals may be made concerning the Commissions and their sizes.

Minute 6

PROPOSALS AIMING AT MAKING FUTURE CONFERENCES MORE ATTRACTIVE

In the invitation circulated by the Secretary General in 1958, member countries and Titular Members have already been invited to make proposals and suggestions aiming at making future Conferences more attractive.

No such proposals were made. The fact that this time the Conference was separated from the Congress regarding date and premises gave rise to new problems. The national delegates who have attended the first Council meeting were not in a position to attend meetings of the Sections and Commissions during the Conference and therefore were prevented from taking an active interest in the Union's affairs.

This serious drawback can be overcome partly by organising open meetings in addition to closed meetings. The idea of open meetings may not be sufficient; other possibilities must be explored before the next Conference.

Some Section Presidents emphasized that there will always be members who work hard during a Conference whereas other members or delegates are not very occupied.

If arrangements are made to provide a Conference with interesting and attractive meetings, the duties of those already overburdened may be increased.

Resolved:

- i) that the Sections, Commissions and Divisions should hold open meetings in addition to closed meetings
- ii) that the incoming Bureau members should be invited to attend Commission and Section meetings as observers
- iii) that further possibilities aimed at making Conferences more attractive and aiming at better information of national delegates should be explored.

Prof. A. Tiselius and Prof. M. Letort agreed to report about this problem to the next Bureau meeting.

Minute 7

DEFINITION OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF COMMISSIONS AND DIVISIONS

A first draft of a By-Law which should describe very clearly the functions of Commissions was drafted by Kuhn and Morf. This draft should be elaborated in a more detailed form which makes quite clear for what purposes a Division or Commission may be appointed and in which cases only ad hoc Committees should be used.

Resolved:

that the Executive Committee should make proposals at the next Bureau meeting.

Minute 8

PLACE AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

It was

Decided: to hold the next meeting of the Bureau in Leningrad/USSR at the invitation of the Soviet Academy of Sciences (Executive Committee 16/17th May and Bureau 18/19th May).

Original signed by

Dr W. A. Noyes Jr.
President



Dr R. Morf
Secretary General