

## HAD NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 1985

### HOUSTON MEETING:

- o There will be a SPECIAL HAD SESSION Sunday January 5, at Rice, hosted and organized by Albert Van Helden. Sixty HAD members indicated on the last questionnaire that they would be arriving early to attend this special session. Due to the expected heavy response, please send in your paper abstract as soon as possible, once you receive the Houston meeting announcement from the AAS that includes the abstract form. In addition to sending the original abstract form to the AAS Executive Office, copies should be sent to the HAD Secretary and to Van Helden (Department of History, Rice University, Houston, TX 77001). Also, be sure to arrange for early arrival in Houston! Note: Contributed papers will be 10 minutes long.
- o The HAD will probably be given two sessions during the regular meetings of the AAS in Houston, January 6 through 9. All regular sessions will be held at the Shamrock Hilton near the Rice campus. As usual, abstracts are to be sent to both the AAS Office (original) and to the HAD Secretary.

### RESULTS OF HAD QUESTIONNAIRE

Your Secretary represented the HAD at the AAS Council Meetings in June at Charlottesville. In general the AAS Council was sympathetic to our petitions:

- o Affiliates may now vote in any HAD elections, but may not hold office.
- o Historical papers presented in historical sessions at AAS meetings will not prevent AAS members from presenting a scientific paper in the regular AAS sessions.

The HAD BY-LAWS will be amended and presented for final ratification at the Houston HAD business meeting.

Out of 87 (58 regular, 29 affiliates) responses to the HAD questionnaire, (received at least one week before the June AAS meetings) 70 members approved the latter petition (5 rejected it), and 59 approved voting rights (with 16 rejections). Responses were split on the right of affiliates to hold office: 28 thought affiliates should hold any office (37 were against this) while 28 thought they should be allowed to hold the office of Councilor only (20 rejected this).

## DUES AND HAD EXPENSES

Since the last Newsletter, 95 members have renewed and about one dozen new members have signed up. At the present time, our balance is about \$1800 (\$980 of it is in a AAS account). While 95 renewals is a healthy response, this represents only about half of the charter HAD membership. Therefore, we might expect another 100 charter members to renew sometime soon.

The normal expenses of the HAD are under control. The last questionnaire cost about \$100 for the mailing; it costs \$.22 per mailing domestic and \$.88 foreign, air. We will continue to invite a few special lecturers to HAD meetings (and pay their abstract fee) and we will continue to co-sponsor various AAS invited lecturers.

All of the above expenses had been predicted in calculating the \$6.00 (for three years) membership fee to the HAD. Both regular and affiliate members have been levied equally, up to now, even though Article II Section 2 ("Affiliate Members") of the HAD BY-LAWS clearly states:

"Affiliate members will pay as dues the regular dues of the Division plus an affiliate member charge, to accrue to the AAS, which will be as specified by the Council of the AAS."

We have not had to concern ourselves with implementing this until now. However, at the last AAS Council meeting, it was announced that, starting in 1987, the cost of adding division affiliate names to the AAS Membership Directory will be borne by the divisions. The AIP charges the AAS \$3.00 for each name in the Directory. Since the HAD contains about 110 affiliates, publishing their names each year would cost the division at least \$330. We will have a grace period of one year; the 1986 Directory will include affiliate names, and the division will not be charged for them. But we will be charged for including affiliates in the 1987 Directory, and this will be levied on or around August, 1986.

The AAS Council has left this matter up to each division to solve. We are encouraged to continue publishing affiliate names, at division expense. But we are also free to decide that affiliate names will not be published. Obviously, if we choose the former, we will have to increase the dues of affiliate members by \$3.00 per year (or to a total of \$9.00 + \$6.00 or \$15.00 for three years). If a dues increase is proposed by the HAD Committee, Article VI Section 1 of the BY-LAWS states that it can only be "ratified by the Members in attendance at the subsequent business meeting of the Division."

The HAD Committee therefore would like to solicit the opinion of the entire HAD membership, regular and affiliate alike, as to what should be our course of action. Please fill out the questionnaire below, and send it ASAP to the HAD Secretary, David

DeVorkin, Room 3557 National Air and Space Museum, Washington, DC 20560. The HAD Committee will use the results of the questionnaire, looking both at affiliate and regular responses, to propose action at the HAD business meeting in January. This proposal will then be ratified or turned down by all members present.

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Tear and return to: D.H. DeVorkin, Room 3557 National Air and Space Museum, Washington, DC 20560

I am a regular\_\_\_\_\_/ affiliate\_\_\_\_\_ member of the HAD, and prefer that the HAD Committee:

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. List Affiliate names in the AAS Directory and charge all Affiliates \$15.00 for three years (1986-1988) starting in 1986, or \$9.00 for three years (1986-1988) for Affiliates already renewed as of January 1986.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Not list Affiliate names in the AAS Directory and that the HAD dues remained unchanged. .
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#### DIVISION NEWS

##### --SLIDE SET

A new slide set, "Astronomers of the Past", is now available from the ASP. It includes slides of 50 astronomers from Herschel to Shapley. Images of each astronomer were chosen to best depict what they looked like when they made their most notable contributions. The ASP History Committee also prepared a 24-page booklet giving capsule biographies and captions, and a short bibliography on the history of astronomy. The slide set can be obtained from: The Astronomical Society of the Pacific, Catalog Sales Dept. 1290, 24th Ave, San Francisco, CA 94122 and costs \$34.95 plus \$3.00 postage and handling, domestic, and \$6.00 foreign (and California sales tax if applicable).

##### --HENRY DRAPER CENTENNIAL SYMPOSIUM

On October 23, 1985, the University of Western Ontario will be hosting a combined historical/contemporary symposium in honor of Henry Draper. For further details contact: Howard Plotkin, Department of History of Medicine and Science, Health Sciences Centre, London, Canada, N6A 5C1.

##### --NEW BOOK

Michael Crowe of Notre Dame proudly announces the birth of a new major work The Extraterrestrial Life Debate 1750 - 1900: The Idea of a Plurality of Worlds from Kant to Lowell, forthcoming possibly in January 1986 via Cambridge University Press.