

(Cont. from page 2)

"Two Telescopes and the New Universe," R. S. Underwood, Sc. Monthly, 7:48 pp. 5/16. A well illustrated article covering our current conception of the universe and the change in outlook which took place between World Wars I and II. Includes a description of the 200-inch, the contributions of the 100-inch to the evolving picture of the universe, and predictions concerning the nature of revelations expected from the new instrument.

EXTRACT FROM TREASURER'S REPORT

Bank balance August 1, 1947		\$129.87	
Receipts Sept. 1, 1947-Aug. 15, 1948			
R. M. McLellan, revolving fund	\$349.73		
Membership dues	294.45		
Sale of handbooks	19.87	<u>664.05</u>	
		<u>\$793.92</u>	
Disbursements 9/1/47-8/15/48			
Mirror class revolving fund	\$341.56		
Expenses of speakers	32.00		
Dues to Astronomical League	9.90		
Mimeographing, publicity, and miscellaneous mailings	15.35		
Star Dust	63.80		
Stationery, postage, etc.	80.33		
Purchase of handbooks	15.47		
Rental of meeting room	36.00		
Repairs to telescope	25.00		
Miscellaneous expense	5.21	<u>\$624.62</u>	
Bank balance August 31, 1948		<u>169.30</u>	
		<u>\$793.92</u>	

CARROLL SLEMAKER has moved to Florida. We shall miss his genial good nature and especially his adroitness in focussing the telescope on elusive objects in the sky.

Mabel Sterns, editor, 2517 K Street N.W. (7) DI-9422

STAR DUST
National Capital Astronomers
Washington, D. C.

October 1948 Vol. 6, No. 2

- Date OCTOBER CALENDAR
- 2 "National Geographic Society Eclipse Expedition to Rebus Jima," Dr. John O'Keefe. 8:15 p.m. Commerce Auditorium, 14th and D Sts. N.W.
 - 8 (9) Observation night for regular members at the 5" telescope, Naval Observatory, 8 p.m. Carl Werntz.
 - 15(22) Junior night at the 5-inch. 8 p.m. John Lankford. ()Alternate night.
 - 16 Discussion group, foyer of Commerce Auditorium, 8 p.m. Mr. Delaney, "The Terrestrial Sphere"--how to flatten it mapwise.
- Mondays and Thursdays, mirror class 8 to 10 p.m., 505 Morse St. N.E. Call Miss Warthen for information.

DR. JOHN O'KEEFE, speaker in October, was in charge of that part of the eclipse expedition which went to Rebus Jima last May. His subject will deal with the theory of and facts to be derived from the eclipse observations collected at seven stations along a 5,320-mile arc from Burma to Adak, Alaska, and with the degree of mathematical precision that can be anticipated from the results. Also interesting will be the story of how the eclipse party at his station fared, incidences during the planning stages, and description of the island itself.

Mathematician at the Army Map Service, Dr. O'Keefe is a graduate of Harvard College and of the University of Chicago where he did graduate work in astronomy. He has taught mathematics, physics, and astronomy.

A LARGER AUDIENCE THAN USUAL attended the opening meeting of the 1948-49 season. Mr. Samuel R. Young introduced Mr. Thomas R. Henry who spoke on "Astronomy During the War." The retiring president called the business meeting to order, asked for reports, and passed the gavel to Mr. Wright, the incoming officer. At that point, Mr. Skirm took the floor, recounted the advancements of the society in recent months, and presented Miss Sterns with an orchid corsage and handsome desk fountain pen as a token of esteem from her "Friends in the N.C.A." Miss Sterns voiced her thanks and inwardly felt bound more closely than ever to those with whom she has been associated among the National Capital Astronomers.

METEOR TRAILS, how they are caused, and how radar finds them were explained in Mr. Little's chalk talk at the September discussion group. Meteors ionize the atmosphere most readily at an altitude of 70 to 50 miles. Trails of the activated gases reflect radio impulses and appear as "pips" on the oscilloscope. With the radar he built himself (see Star Dust Supplement, July-August) he has discovered that meteors are most numerous about 7 a.m. and reach a daily low about 6 p.m. His application for a special license to operate the radar is still pending before the Federal Communications Commission.

RECENT ARTICLES OF INTEREST

R. J. Hinckley

"A Night on Palomar," Albert G. Ingalls, Sc. Am. 8:48 pp. 13/17. Good, technically sound description of the 200-inch in actual operation and use. Points out present operating problems and typical research projects of the future. Considerable attention is given to the serious problem of friction lag in the mirror supports. The lag in response as the mirror assumes new angles of tilt prevents it from keeping within the required 1/200,000 inch of a true paraboloid. Newly designed supports are expected to reduce this lag.

(see page 8)

- von Numers, Sigurd, 1371 Kalmia Road N.W. Randolph 1114
 Wagner, Marion F., 1828 Park Road N.W. (10) CO-8327
 *Walsh, Thomas, 1747 Shepherd St. N.W. (11) RA-0379
 Warthen, Irene, 626 Silver Spring Ave., Silver Spring, Md. Shepherd 9451
 Watkins, Howard B., 3022 Wisconsin Ave. N.W. (16) Ordway 0382
 *Webb, Byron Horton, 2904 Ordway St. N.W. Woodley 1094
 Werntz, Carl W., 620 Nicholson St. N.W. (11) GE-7971
 Willis, Philip A., 2912 Fort Baker Drive S.E. (20) Trinidad 2586
 Windham, Mr. and Mrs. Ray K., 4885 Edgemoor Lane, Bethesda 14, Md. Wisconsin 6342
 Woolard, Edgar W., 1232 30th St. N.W. (7) MI-8287
 Wright, Gilbert R., 9922 Lorain Ave., Silver Spring, Md.
 Wubnig, Arthur, 1816 Kalorama Road N.W. (9) CO-2925
 *Wubnig, Judy, 1816 Kalorama Road N.W. (9) CO-2925
 *Wubnig, Martha, 1816 Kalorama Road N.W. (9) CO-2925
 Young, Samuel R., 1530 16th St. N.W., Apt. 607 (6) Michigan 6565
 Young, Selah P., 828 S. Ivy St., Arlington, Va. CH-1609
 Zimmerman, Walter B., 1025 26th Road South, Arlington, Va. Otis 8489
 *Zupnik, Bobby, 5348 29th St. N.W. Emerson 3000

MORE MIRROR-GRINDERS. Jewell Boling, Virgil Brock, and Janet Perkins have joined the glass pushers; Mr. Brock is finishing an 8" mirror and Perky is starting a 4", at last. Mr. Jinkins is working on a mirror rack for the test bench. Miss Warthen and Messrs. Brock, Evans, and McLellan observed Labor Day in letter and spirit by laboring to improve the class equipment. From what we hear, Irene spends most of her time "fixing up" the place.

OCCULTATIONS

Morgan Gilley and H. E. Burton

Oct.	Object	Magnitude	Immersion	Hour	Angle
6	2364	6.8	6:32 PM	3	W
9	2813	5.9	8:28 PM	2 1/2	W
13	3227	6.4	12:28 PM	4	W

All on the dark edge; eastern standard time.