

Dr. Douglas discusses briefly the new quartz clock which has attained "an accuracy never before dreamed of;" the reopening of the question of the expanding universe by E. P. Hubble; the advances in our understanding of the sources of energy within stars by Gamow and Bethe; positive conclusions about planet-like bodies associated with stars, e.g. 61 Cygni and 70 Ophiuchi; further investigation of the solar corona; and Sir Arthur Eddington's continued investigation of the Quantum theory; as astronomical achievements of the war years.

METEORS. The Naval Observatory is attempting to secure more specific and detailed information from persons who call to report meteors. The present plan is to mail Dr. Olivier's questionnaire for recording meteor observations to those who signify a willingness to fill one out.

FOUR TELESCOPES FOR SALE

- Mr. Leo W. Scott has for sale:
  - 2 inch aperature, 18 inch focal length, 18 power, mounted brass tube, rack and pinion focussing. \$20.
- Mr. Lloyd North has for sale: (Office phone NA 3377)
  - 3 inch astronomical, 15 power, well machined. \$40.
  - 2½ inch terrestrial and astronomical, 20 power, home made. \$25.
  - 3 inch astronomical, 100 power, brass tubing, adjusting knob. \$100.

NEW MEMBERS

- Full Member: Lyle T. Johnson, Box 187, LaPlata, Md. LaPlata 4081
- Junior: Gerald R. Grow, 1412 N. Abingdon St., Arlington, Va.
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- President, Leo W. Scott, 5013 Wakefield Road, Green Acres, Md., Oliver 5013
- Secretary, Mrs. Helen Harris, 4315 Chesapeake St., N. W. (16), Woodley 3284
- Acting Editor, Grace C. Scholz, 4335 Harrison St., N. W. (15), Ordway 5552

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NOTE!!! THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD SATURDAY, JUNE 8

DR. CHARLOTTE M. SITTERLY of the Spectroscopy Section of the National Bureau of Standards will lecture on June 8 at 8 P.M. in the National Museum on "The Spectrum of the Sun." Dr. Sitterly has done research in the fields of astrophysics, astronomy, and spectrum analysis at Princeton University and on the solar spectrum and the sun spot spectrum at Mt. Wilson Observatory. She is now collaborating with H. D. Babcock at Mt. Wilson Observatory on the study of the infra red solar spectrum. Her chief work has been to provide astronomers with all available laboratory material on atomic spectra that they need to interpret the spectra of the stars.

OFFICERS FOR THE COMING YEAR were elected at the May meeting of the Association. They are:

- President: Leo W. Scott
- Vice president: Ray K. Windham
- Treasurer: Eugene S. Henning
- Secretary: Lloyd North
- Trustee: U. Sherman Lyons

SURPLUS ARMY AND NAVY EQUIPMENT useful to amateur astronomers is expected to be made available in the near future. Our association has made application for a special discount on such purchases which will amount to 40 percent. Purchases will be negotiated by Mr. Lloyd North, 805 Mt. Vernon Place, N. W. (1). Mr. North must have in hand in advance of the announcement of sale a statement of your needs with some latitude for purchasing similar equipment.

OUR EDITOR SPEAKS. If you should be in Los Angeles the second Thursday of the month, stop in at the lecture of the Los Angeles Astronomical Society, 2606 $\frac{1}{2}$  West 8th Street. Starting as a group of ATM's, it now includes members interested in many phases of astronomy. A building at the rear of a house has been converted into a lecture hall, work shop, and other rooms for astronomical activities. Back of that is mounted a 10-inch reflector. Besides the monthly lecture, an open forum is held the last Thursday of the month. One hears talk of a more central meeting place and an observatory to be built by the Society when it finds a suitable location. All cities have the same affliction--lights. A large mirror is waiting for the new home and mounting now in blue-print form.

Mt. Wilson is closed to visitors, or rather the domes are, but the drive is well worth while. Rumor has it that if amateur astronomers say the right words, the doors will open. But they won't be admitted in large numbers because that is how the mirrors got so dusty in pre-war days.

Notice the sidewalk in front of Clifton's Cafeteria on Olive Street--circular pattern of the sun, zodiacal signs, and stars, in colors.

--Mabel Sterns

FUTURE TELESCOPES WILL OPERATE ON TELEVISION IDEA. Electronic telescopes of the future that will operate on a television principle are predicted by Dr. O. H. Caldwell, past-president of the Amateur Astronomers Association of New York.

Radar impulses sent through space, much farther than the recent radar signal to the moon and back, would be the basis of these telescopes. This astronomical radar would pick up details of distant planets and these could be translated to visible screens.

Dr. Caldwell said it may be possible also to combine electronic telescopes and television to watch eclipses of the sun regardless of weather conditions.

THE SOLAR ECLIPSE EXPEDITION of the Amateur Astronomers Association of New York in July 1945 was described at the May meeting by Mr. George V. Plachy, one of the participants. The eclipse was observed from a site near Butte, Montana. The expedition was given transportation to Butte and return on one of the flights of an experimental plane of the Sperry Gyroscope Company.

The primary object of the expedition was to secure photographs that would be of a spectacular character, and suitable for the purpose of stimulating public interest in astronomy. The large collection of photographs exhibited at the lecture, and the slides and motion pictures that were shown, many of them in color, were convincing evidence that this object was successfully achieved. The well told narrative of the expedition related by the speaker was an interesting account of both the pleasures and the difficulties encountered on the trip and in observing the eclipse.

--Edgar W. Woolard

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION has begun to issue in separate form the astronomical publications appearing in the Smithsonian Report for 1944.

The first paper to be so published is the address of the president of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, read in January 1944. The title, "Astronomy in a World at War," by A. Vibert Douglas of Queens University, Kingston, Ontario, reviews the astronomical accomplishments during the war years. Dr. Douglas cites the great achievements made in physics, chemistry, medicine, etc., as a direct result of the challenge of war necessities. Astronomy, on the other hand, has advanced in spite of, rather than due to, the conditions of war. It is fortunate that so much of the continuity of astronomical work has been preserved--even in war-torn France, Holland, and England. Important contributions of astronomers to the war have for the most part taken the form of adaptation of astronomical calculations to the problems of air navigation.