

NEW MEMBERS

- Samuel H. Cress, 1707 Hobart St. N.W. (9) Adams 1562
- Marian E. Haller, 1706 16th St. N.W. Hobart 9390
- Morton Schiff, 5417 7th St. N.W. (10) Georgia 8357
- Arthur Wubnig, 1816 Kalorama Road N.W. (9) CO-2925
- Walter B. Zimmerman, 1025 26th Road South, Arlington, Va. Otis 8489
- \*John Edmonds, Jr., 3512 28th St. N.E. Dupont 3962
- \*Edward Schwartzman, 2829 Woodland Drive N.W. (8) Decatur 1146
- \*Judy Wubnig, 1816 Kalorama Road N.W. (9) CO-2925
- \*Martha Wubnig, 1816 Kalorama Road N.W. (9) CO-2925

OCCULTATION PREDICTION

Morgan Cilley and Edgar W. Woolard

June	Star	Magnitude	Immer.	Hour	Angle
13	1684	7.0	10:10 PM EST	4 W	Dark edge

THE DISCUSSION NIGHT on May 22 was under the control of Leo Carroll, John Lankford, and Miles Davis, who gave a brief history of some of the great astronomers. Leo gave short descriptions of the astronomical theorists from Isaac Newton to George Gamow dealing chiefly with the theories of the formation of the solar system. In the second division of the discussion, John Lankford described the life and times of the great visual astronomers and those who observed through telescopes without the aid of the camera or spectroscope. His subjects ranged from Tycho Brahe to Percival Lowell with his work on the canals of Mars.

Completing the discussions, Miles Davis gave a short history of the development of the spectroscope first made by Bunsen and Kirchhoff, and the photographic camera invented by Daguerre in 1839. Since these instruments superseded visual observation, his talk consisted mainly of the dates and names of men who first made observations with the camera, spectroscope, and spectrograph. Michelson's interferometer also was mentioned briefly.

---Miles Davis

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

STAR DUST

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Date

JUNE SCHEDULE

5 "From the Ground Up," Dr. Homer E. Newell, Jr., 8 p.m. National Museum.

8 5-inch night for regular members. Alternate, Wednesday, June 9. 9:00 P.M.

13 Public observation at Barnard Hill Park adjacent Bunker Hill Road at 26th St. N.E. 8-10 p.m.

25 Junior night at the 5-inch; constellations. Alternate, Saturday the 26th. 9:00 P.M.

Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, telescope making, room 235 McKinley High School, 6:30 to 9:51 p.m. Last class June 17.

"FROM THE GROUND UP" will be a popular discussion of the earth's atmosphere and investigations being carried on by means of rocket instruments. It will include a review of the earlier history of upper atmosphere investigations prior to the advent of the rocket, and a discussion of the unclassified portion of the upper air research conducted by the Naval Research Laboratory.

Dr. Homer E. Newell, Jr., is a theoretical physicist at the Naval Research Laboratory, in charge of the Rocket-Sonde Research Section. He is a member of the Upper Atmosphere Rocket Research Panel, and the Special Subcommittee on the Upper Atmosphere, of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics.

ANNUAL ELECTION RESULTS: G. R. Wright, President; Grote Reber, Vice President; Jewell Boling, Secretary; Abraham Robinson, Treasurer; Irene Warthen, Trustee. They will take office in September.

THE FIRST OF FOUR PUBLIC OBSERVATIONS scheduled by the National Capital Parks for this summer will be Sunday, June 13, 8-10 p.m. at Barnard Hill Park. The Park Service has asked NCA to provide telescopes focused on the moon and planets, or a substitute program in case of clouds. Rain would cancel the event.

Mr. Lyons will be chief observer, Carroll Slemaker will ask for telescopes, and Bob Wright will be responsible for apparatus to show astronomical pictures if skies are cloudy. Sound equipment may be available for running comment, description, questions and answers to interest spectators awaiting their turns.

ASTRONOMICAL LEAGUE CONVENTION, Milwaukee, July 3-5. Summary of program: Saturday, reports of societies' activities, papers, business meeting, visit to Milwaukee Astronomical Society Observatory for picnic supper and observation or alternate program; Sunday, papers, Mr. Halbach's account of Burma eclipse expedition, address, banquet, "American Astronomical Society Meeting at Mt. Palomar" by Mr. Federer, motion pictures, committee meetings, trip to Yerkes Observatory, paper on "Recent Planetary Investigation at McDonald Observatory." Monday, business meeting, convention adjourned at noon.

Arrangements have been made with Concordia College, 3126 West Kilbourn Avenue, Milwaukee, for complete accommodations. Rooms and meals will be available there at \$5 per day per person. Meetings will be held in the school classrooms and lecture halls. Make reservations through Mr. Roy L. Dodd, 7918 Milwaukee Avenue, Milwaukee 13, Wisconsin. Mr. Roy R. Lee, 3168 S. 97th St., Milwaukee 14, will tell you when and where to ship exhibits, upon receipt of a postcard inquiry.

NCA regular members are also members of the League, but the convention is open to anyone interested in astronomy. Please notify the secretary, Miss Böling, 1717 P St. N.W. if you intend to go to Milwaukee. The host society needs to know the number of visitors.

FIVE-INCH TELESCOPE BEING REPAIRED. Mr. McLellan has been requested to put on a new clock drive, offset the scope 4 inches from the pier to prevent damage to the drive, furnish a lunar filter and case for all of the eyepieces, and make other necessary adjustments.

BOOK REVIEW

"The Scientists Speak," ed. by Warren Weaver; Boni and Gaer, N.Y. 1947, 369 pp. \$3.75. A stimulating collection of short radio talks by leading scientists in many fields. Chapter 3, "The Science of the Sky," contains the following: "The Exploration of Space," by Edwin Hubble; "The 200-Inch Camera," by Ira Bowen; "The Utility of Meteors," by Harlow Shapley; and "Are the Planets Habitable," by Henry N. Russell.

---Russell J. Hinckley

REGIONAL CONVENTION AT PITTSBURGH was attended by seven NCAs among 80 registered from seven societies. The exhibit was unusually large and interesting, altho the only society participating, other than Pittsburgh, were Beaver County and NCA: Lyle Johnson, photographs; Irene Warthen, constellations on umbrella; Leroy Benfer, telescope; David Rotbart, photographs of observatory, telescopes, binoculars, star trails; E. C. Johnson, drawings of Mars; Carroll Slemaker, lunar photographs; Walter Gilbert, sunspots; Grace Scholz, NCA history and publicity scrapbooks; Mabel Sterns, "Star Dust" and rare book, "Institutio Astronomica."

Two of the highlights were the Planetarium show, "Forecasting the Weather," and a trip to Allegheny Observatory. Officers elected: Chas. LeRoy of Pittsburgh, Regional Chairman; Mabel Sterns, Vice Chairman; Miss Fazikas, Norfolk, Secretary; Edward Ealey, Philadelphia, Treasurer; G. R. Wright, temporary representative of NCA on Regional Council; Mabel Sterns, regional temporary representative on League Council.

ONLY THOSE MEMBERS WHO MAKE PREVIOUS APPOINTMENTS will be admitted to the 12" or 26" dome at the Naval Observatory.  
---Morgan Cilley