

STARDUST

Published monthly by the Edmonton Centre,
Royal Astronomical Society of Canada.



This insignia, over a period of many years, has become known throughout the world as the "trademark" of one of North America's most respected organizations -- the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada. The central portion of the design is the figure of Urania, the muse of Astronomy. Above her head, on a starry background, is the motto, "Quo Ducit Urania" -- (Where Urania leads, we follow.) The motto was suggested by Professor John Fletcher of University College, Toronto. The figure of Urania is after a sculpture by John Flaxman, (1755-1826), best known for the illustrations he completed in Italy for 'Homer' and 'Dante.' The Crown is symbolic of the Royal Incorporation of the Society. The sketches from which the seal was cut were made by Mr. John Ellis. Our thanks to Miss Ruth J. Northcott in Toronto for extracting this account of the R.A.S.C. emblem from the Transactions of the Society for 1905.

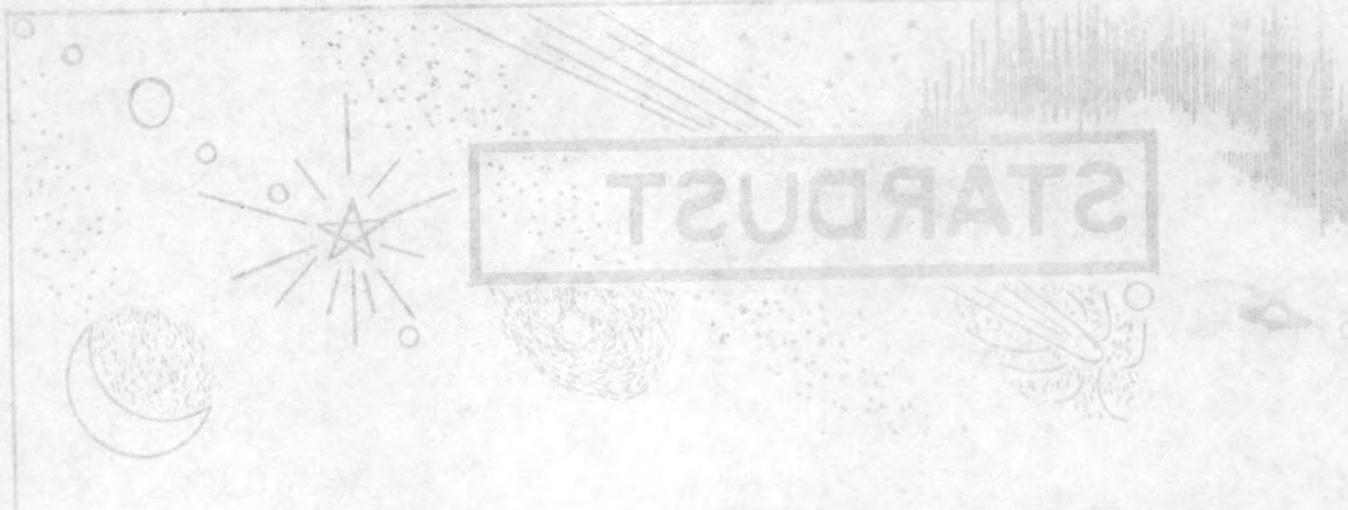
FEBRUARY MEETING: REPORT ON COSMIC RAYS....

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Franklin Loehde, referred to elsewhere in this Stardust -- in an article about photography in the Edmonton Centre, will present another progress report on plans for the National meeting. Latest developments towards the aquisition of an observatory for Edmonton will be reviewed; Professor Keeping will give the traditional Handbook talk; George Williams will expound on the history of Sundials; Bill Cable will report on latest activities in the Observers' Group; and a list of the "fifty-three favourite stars" of Edmonton Centre members will be circulated.

NOTES FROM NATIONAL COUNCIL.... Dr. George Van Biesbroeck, "one of the most beloved astronomers in the world" has been nominated an Honorary Member of the R.A.S.C. The R.A.S.C. recently entered an exhibit in the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the Astronomy Club of the University of Hong Kong. (Rumor has it that Fred Jensen asked to be shipped over as part of the exhibit, but was unsuccessful due to shipping weight.)

Elections for '62 National Officers will be held in Toronto, March 2nd.



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R.A.S.C. GENERAL ASSEMBLY: LATEST AGENDA. (As yet, tentative.)

Friday, May 18th.... delegates arrive; (most in late afternoon.)

7:30 pm: Civic reception, Macdonald Hotel.

4. Address of welcome: Mayor Roper.

5. Presidential address: Dr. Peter M. Millman, "The Frontiers of Space."

6. Presentation to Dr. Millman: Edmonton Centre.

3. Introduction of National Council, distinguished guests.

1. REGISTRATION. - NAME CARDS

Informal meetings.

1. GRACE - WELCOME FROM CENTRE - KEEPING?

Saturday, May 19th.... 1,9 - 12 am: R.A.S.C. Annual Paper Session; Room 126, (amphitheatre), Math-Physics Building, University of Alberta.

Lunch: Your choice. Residence

2. 2 pm: Council meeting at Edmonton House. delegates visit displays, take tours, etc.

Assemble for group photograph.

3. 6:00 pm: Tour of Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium. Provincial reception and dinner in Auditorium.

Address of welcome: Hon. A.R. Patrick, Provincial Secretary.

Film presentation: Edmonton Centre.

4. 8:30 10 pm: Visit to Queen Elizabeth Planetarium, for tours of exhibits, and planetarium presentations.

Sunday, May 20th.... 9:00am: Bus trip to Meanook, Alberta; tour of Meanook Meteor Observatory in late morning.

Box lunch at Meanook.... provided by Edmonton Centre.

return to Edmonton... leave for Calgary and Banff.

Visit Sulphur Mountain Cosmic Ray Observatory, Banff.

-- F.C. Loehde, Chairman,
General Assembly Committee.

PHOTOGRAPHY REPORT:

Well, another month, and another opportunity to report on the latest adventures of the Edmonton Centre's intrepid, fearless, bold, venturesome, courageous, dashing, dauntless Past President, F.C.J.T. Loehde. It seems that Franklin Loehde, Edgar Stong, and Bill Cable set out one evening, fired with enthusiasm, in an attempt to photograph our closest celestial neighbor. The evening was bitterly cold, but that merely added spark to the incentive. Due to the prohibitive weather, the threesome would yield to nature by warming themselves in the car momentarily, then dashing out to brave the elements, attempting to capture the Queen of the Night on film. This procedure continued for a number of hours, with the Moon co-operating beautifully, by presenting a magnificent countenance.

Right now, you are probably asking yourself, "Where's the climax to the story?" Well, it seems that Mr. Loehde was under the impression that Mr. Stong was handling the basic details of loading film in the camera.... while Mr. Stong was equally confident that Mr. Loehde had taken care of the matter. That, Ladies and Gentlemen, is why the fearsome threesome has little to show, but red faces, for their unforgettable expedition to photograph the moon last month.

Believe it or not!

NEW OBSERVATORY:

As reported at our last regular meeting in January, a committee has been established within the Edmonton Centre which will look into ways and means of locating a public observatory within the City of Edmonton.

(continued...)

To date, the committee consists of President Ian C. McLennan; Fred Jensen, Centre Librarian; and J.R. Wright, Director of Parks and Recreation, the City of Edmonton.

The committee is concerned primarily with the financial aspect of relocating the observatory, and will explore all possible means by which funds for this project could be obtained. In turn, the committee will report to the Edmonton Centre Council, where appropriate action may be undertaken.

In the meantime, a reply has been received from Dr. Cragg, vice-president of the University of Alberta, in answer to our request that the 12 1/2" Wates 'scope be made available to the R.A.S.C. if funds were provided for the establishment of an observatory. Dr. Cragg states that he is in agreement with Professor Keeping regarding the desirability of having the telescope in operation again. A decision on our proposal will be made at the next Executive meeting of the University Board of Governors.

8:30 pm: Visit to Queen Elizabeth Planetarium for tours of exhibits, and planetarium presentations.
 8:00 pm: Tour of Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium. Provincial reception and dinner in Auditorium.
 6:00 pm: Luncheon for group photograph.
 5 pm: Council meeting at Edmonton House. Delegates visit displays, take tours, etc.
 Lunch: Your choice.
 4:30 pm: R.A.S.C. Annual Paper Session: Room 126 (amphitheatre).
 3:00 pm: Bus trip to Meenook, Alberta; tour of Meenook Meteor Observatory in late morning.
 Box lunch at Meenook... provided by Edmonton Centre.
 Return to Edmonton... leave for Calgary and Banff.
 Visit Sulphur Mountain Cosmic Ray Observatory, Banff.
 -- T.C. Loebke, Chairman
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