



Stardust

Monthly Newsletter
of

**THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
OF CANADA
Edmonton Centre**

February, 1965

MEETING NOTICE :

The regular monthly meeting of the Edmonton Centre, Royal Astronomical Society of Canada will be held Thursday, February 11th, 8:15 pm at the NORTHERN ALBERTA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, 106th Street and Princess Elizabeth Avenue. A sign will be placed at the main entrance directing members to the theatre reserved for the meeting. In keeping with a long established tradition in the Edmonton Centre, the February meeting will be "Vice president's Night" - with Bill Cable in the chair. President Taylor, however, will be called upon to present a 'featurette' - "NEUTRINO ASTRONOMY".

Our guest speaker on this occasion will be Dr. Charles Heath of the Department of Physiology, University of Alberta Faculty of Medicine who will explore "SOME ASPECTS OF SPACE MEDICINE". Dr. Heath joined the U of A staff in 1948 and earned his PhD in 1955 from the University of Minnesota. He was a member of the American Rocket Society one year after its formation, in 1933.

As members will be asked to approve the new constitution distributed at the last general meeting, we are hoping for a good turnout so that a quorum will be present. Proxy votes may be counted; telephone the planetarium for information. Paid-up members who have not yet received OBSERVER'S HANDBOOKS may claim them at the meeting.



Ernest Keeping

It was announced at the January meeting of the Edmonton Centre that Professor E.S. Keeping, Honorary President of the Centre was to be awarded the R.A.S.C. National Service Award. He was nominated by the Edmonton Centre Council, and word had just been received that the nomination was accepted by the National Service Award Committee. Professor Keeping was one of the charter members of the Centre - more than thirty years ago. He has served, in turn, the various positions on the Centre's executive. He was one of the campaigners for the establishment of a planetarium in Edmonton, and, more recently, travelled to the North West Territories to observe the July 20th, 1963 total solar eclipse. Professor Keeping handles the Centre's traditional HANDBOOK TALK each month - based on predictions in the Society's popular OBSERVER'S HANDBOOK.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY EXHIBITS:

A note has been received from the R.A.S.C. General Assembly Planning Committee regarding exhibits from the various Centres across Canada. The Edmonton Centre will once again be setting up an exhibit depicting its many activities, and members having material or suggestions regarding the display are asked to contact Franklin Loehde as soon as possible. The General Assembly will be held in Toronto May 21 - 23. So far, five members of the Edmonton Centre indicate they probably will attend the sessions.

EDMONTON CENTRE COUNCIL MEETING:

A council meeting of the Edmonton Centre, R.A.S.C. was held Sunday, January 24th at the planetarium. The following items were discussed:

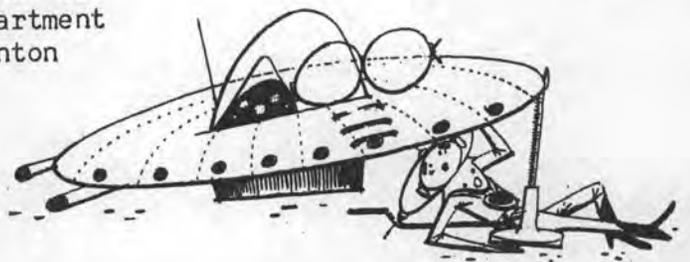
1. R.A.S.C. General Assembly: Travel grant to match that offered from national council be awarded to official delegates of the Centre. A paper, "PLANETARIUM DEVELOPMENTS IN CANADA", by Ian McLennan was approved for consideration of the National Committee on papers, and for presentation May 22nd.
2. Possible Edmonton Centre recipients of the National Society's Membership Certificate were discussed, and a list forwarded to the national office. It is hoped an announcement can be made at the March meeting of the Centre.
3. The council voted in favor of having a second proposed fee structure placed on the national society's election ballots, which will be received in the mails, soon.
4. Arrangements for the February meeting at NAIT (see page one) were reported. Within the next several months, meeting places will be alternated until a location suiting the majority of members is acquired.
5. Council authorized Ian McLennan to reply to a letter of explanation from the Member of Parliament for Edmonton West, Mr. Lambert, on the Centre's failure to acquire Soviet space-age exhibits for STAR NIGHT 1964, through the Canadian Embassy in Moscow.
6. Bill Cable and Robert Allin reported the final construction of the Observers' Group observing shelter located northwest of Edmonton (eight miles from the planetarium); and built at a cost of \$100.00 to the Centre. (see page three.)
7. Council was informed of a tentative possibility of the establishment of a branch of the Royal Canadian Institute in Edmonton. The Institute is Canada's oldest scientific organization, (116 years) and its president is Dr. Helen Sawyer Hogg, a past president of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada.
8. Progress reports were submitted regarding the proposed public observatory for Edmonton, and STAR NIGHT 1965.

RED DEER MEETING:

A meeting was held recently in Red Deer between members of the Calgary and Edmonton Centres regarding a coordinated effort on the groups' 1965 ASTRO/STAR NIGHTS. Those in attendance were John Howell, Sieg Weiser and Jim Wright, (Calgary) and Franklin Loehde, Ian McLennan, Dave Rodger and Gary Shearman, (Edmonton). Few major decisions were reached, as the meeting was largely exploratory in nature. Following replies now pending on major requests for speakers and material, other meetings will be held between representatives of the two Centres.

PROMINENT VISITORS:

Two prominent Toronto visitors to Edmonton, and one from New York, all expected to arrive within the coming week, will have backgrounds of astronomical interest: Dr. Donald Ivy of the Department of Physics, University of Toronto will be in Edmonton for the High School Science Fair February 11th; Dr. Pierre R. Demarque, President of the Toronto Centre, R.A.S.C. will be here around the 15th; and Dr. Roy K. Marshall, one of the world's foremost planetarium authorities, will visit the Queen Elizabeth Planetarium February 9th.



*The Space Exploration
Bureau announces that you
have been selected as
Number One Astronaut in
The First Person On The
Moon Program. You are
requested to report
immediately for Phase 1
of your training on "How
To Scratch An Itch In
Your Space Suit."*



This superb photograph of the full moon was taken by the Centre's vice president, Bill Cable, using his four-inch reflecting telescope, and a $2\frac{1}{4}$ X $3\frac{1}{4}$ homemade cut film camera. Exposure was $1/15$ th of a second, on Kodak Royal Pan film. The picture was taken January 17th.

EDMONTON CENTRE OBSERVING SHELTER:



Dave Rodger
Robert Allin

It's not exactly the observatory our Centre wants to ultimately have established in the area, however, this shelter does represent an opportunity for young observers in the Centre to use their telescopes in relative comfort, and yet away from the direct glare of city lights. Located on farm land northwest of the City of Edmonton, near the south shore of "Big" Lake, the shelter is eight driving miles from the planetarium. Pictured in the shelter (left) are Dave Rodger and Robert Allin, who visited the site January 24th, the day after its erection.

Still in observing news, Bill Cable reports continued activity from the Greisbach Observers' Group which now consists of 20 members with Bob Buckley its president. The group meets every second Friday evening at the School. New subject matter is continually explored during brief talks by the members. When suitable weather prevails, observing programmes are undertaken. Meteor observing will form a major part of the group's future activities.



Lily and Ben Drew with John Hodges
- Edmonton, 1962

NOTE FROM KITCHENER:

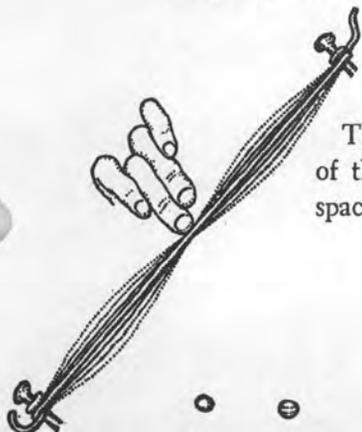
We have received a letter from a valued acquaintance whom Edmonton Centre members first met during the General Assembly held here in 1962. Mr. Ben Drew, formerly of the Regina Astronomical Society, is now retired and is living in Kitchener, Ontario. There, he has made contact with the Kitchener-Waterloo Amateur Astronomical Group, which, incidentally, includes among its members our good friend Dave Marven.

The Group is interested in affiliation with the R.A.S.C., and currently is promoting initiation of a planetarium project for two cities. Miss Ruth J. Northcott, immediate past president of the R.A.S.C., has been extended an invitation to address the organization.

Our best wishes for the success of this worthy and active group.

NEWS NOTES:

- * A distinguished visitor to the Queen Elizabeth Planetarium recently was Mrs. Cyril G. Wates, widow of the almost legendary man who constructed the fine 12½ inch reflecting telescope which is now on display in the planetarium foyer. This telescope, and others were located in the University of Alberta Observatory prior to its demolition due to campus expansion. Mrs. Wates was interested to hear of the Centre's aspirations toward a major public observatory for Edmonton, and was pleased with the success of the planetarium. She was hosted on her visit by Bill Cable. At the Centre's council meeting of January 24th, it was decided to grant Mrs. Wates the privileges of membership in the Edmonton Centre, Royal Astronomical Society of Canada.
- * The February edition of SKY AND TELESCOPE features a brief description of the green flash phenomenon as observed by Ian McLennan and Jim Wright of Calgary while on an Amsterdam - Edmonton flight August 3rd, 1964.
- * While in Toronto for the January 9th national council meeting, Mr. McLennan had an opportunity to chat briefly with Dr. Lynne Trainor, a past president of the Edmonton Centre. Dr. Trainor asked that his greetings be extended to his many friends in the Centre.



There is geometry in the humming
of the strings. There is music in the
spacings of the spheres.

PYTHAGORAS
5th century B.C.

STARDUST,

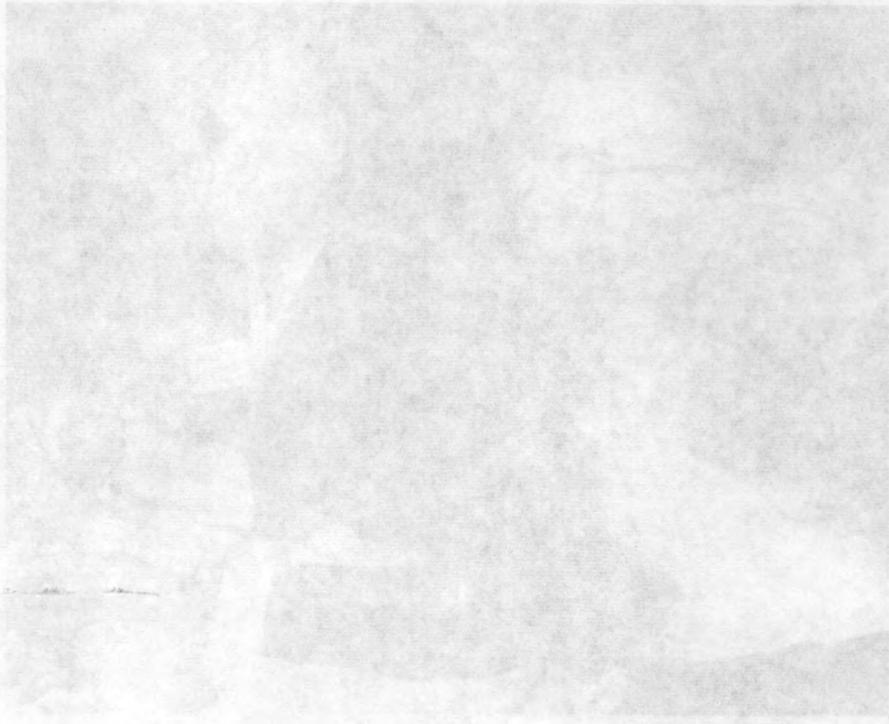
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Lily and Ben Drew with John Hoogas
- Edmonton, 1962

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- * The February edition of the JOURNAL features a brief description of the green flash phenomenon as observed by Dan Holman and Jim Wright of Calgary while on an Antarctic-Edmonton flight August 20, 1962.
- * While in Toronto for the January 20th national council meeting, Mr. McLennan had an opportunity to chat briefly with Dr. Lynn Taylor, a past president of the Edmonton Centre. Dr. Taylor asked that his greetings be extended to his many friends in the C.

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Published monthly by the
Edmonton Centre

Royal Astronomical Society of Canada

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of the stage. There is more to the
speaking of the speaker.
Lynn Taylor
Tip center on

03-10-1963

