



EDITORIAL

Toward Better Speech

As in writing, many of us in speaking use faulty forms which reveal a lack of interest in making the best of this important medium of communication.

Perhaps because I come under the influence of some relatives whose business is English, I have a phobia about the increasing misuse of the word "hopefully" in conversation and speeches. In deploring this jargon of the 60's, Follett in "Modern American Usage", says that it has arisen in imitation of the German "hoffentlich". In your German dictionary you will find that this translates into English as "it is to be hoped", not as "hopefully". Some will defend a misuse like this by saying that our language changes and evolves in this way, and there is nothing wrong with that. But, on the other hand, it is in just this way that English often loses the unique meaning of a good word. For example, if I say, "As soon as I open the dome to do some spectroscopy Dave Goddenough will hopefully appear with his photometric program", isn't it true that there is already some doubt about the meaning? If we mean "it is to be hoped" why not use the extra two syllables? Or, for that matter, why not "I hope"? Is it because we have a silly aversion to the first-person pronoun?

Speaking of the first-person pronoun, there is a real mistake in grammar that is very common, particularly among young people. That is, to make such statements as "He invited my wife and I to dinner". I have heard this error from radio announcers (but not, of course, the impeccable CBC announcers!) from politicians, from Tommy Strothers and (heaven help us!) from the Chairman of the Metro Boards of Education. It is easy to see how it has come about: the young have been so nagged at not to say, "my wife and me accepted", that they have come to think that "my wife and I" is invariant with the case.

Winston Churchill used to criticize the use of elegant words and phrases in preference to the simple ones of Anglo-Saxon origin. Such

things as "prior to" for "before". The other day I heard a business man giving a speech in which he never used "now" - it was always "at this point in time". He sounded like a cosmologist!

Then there are the euphemisms. Many people can't use the word "die", especially in reference to a friend or a respected person. It has to be "pass away".

Well, anyway, hopefully these mistakes will never again be made by you and I from this point in time until the day we pass away.

J. F. H.

STRICTLY PROFESSIONAL

The 74-inch

The scanner has been put back on the 74-inch telescope, and David DuPuy has a program to use it for spectral energy distribution studies of standard stars for calibration of a system to be used with Kitt Peak image-tube spectrograms of Seyfert galaxies.

The 24-inch

The panel for the drive has now been received from Holland in repaired condition and installed, so that the 24-inch is again operative.

Papers submitted during March

S.P.S. Anand and
Orest V. Dubas

Models of Rapidly Rotating
White Dwarfs.

J.D. Fernie

On the Interpretation of P Cygni.

J.D. Fernie

Photoelectric Photometers at the
David Dunlap Observatory.

J.D. Fernie, J.O. Hube
and J.L. Schmitt

Remarks concerning HD 209813 (Note).

J.F. Heard and
J.D. Fernie

Spectrographic Orbit and Photoelectric
Observations of HD 217312 in the III
Cephei Association.

Papers will be read at the A.A.S. meeting next week by Dr. Schmitt, Peter Hagen (per Gretchen), Nancy Ramage (co-author), Bob McClure (on his DDO research).

Papers will be presented at the Waterloo Meetings on April 8-9 by the following DDO personnel: Gorza, Heard and Joan Hube; Fernie; Dubas and Anand; Percy; Yen.

April Seminars

Because of the A.A.S. meeting, Waterloo Meeting and the beginning of annual examinations, no Seminars have been scheduled for April. The summer "Countdown" series will begin on May 15; details to be announced in our next issue.

Coming Events

Dr. Heard and Dr. FitzGerald who are arranging the Astronomical Sessions being held at the University of Waterloo on April 8-9 have received titles and abstracts for 28 papers. The list of papers will be received by members of the teaching staff within a few days, and copies will be posted on the bulletin boards. Abstracts will be available at the meeting. The astronomical sessions will be held in Room 145 of the Physics Building at Waterloo as follows: Monday 10:00 - 11:00 a.m., invited address by Prof. Wm. P. Bidelman, University of Michigan, "High Dispersion Stellar Spectroscopy". Session for papers: Monday 2:00 - 5:00 p.m., Tuesday 9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. 1:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. All delegates and guests are invited by the Dean of Arts and Science to a reception and dinner on Monday at 7:00 p.m. in the Laurel Room of the Food Services Building.

On Friday April 19, Dr. Roberts will speak to the Toronto Centre of the R.A.S.C. on "Radio Astronomy in Australia" at 8:00 p.m. in room 1035 of the Wallberg Building.

A mimeogram on the June Institute 1968 has been widely circulated. Any of our out-of-town readers who may have been missed may have a copy by writing to the Department of Astronomy. The guest speakers are Prof. R.F. Christy, Prof. R.P. Kraft, Prof. E.L. Schücking and Prof. E.A. Spiegel. The dates are June 11 to June 14 inclusive. Astronomers and graduate students from other institutions are invited to write to Dr. S.P.S. Anand, Department of Astronomy concerning their intention to participate and their wish to arrange lodging in a University residence. It may be possible to assist some graduate students with the cost of their lodging and sustenance while in Toronto.

The Pulsar

Dr. van den Bergh has located the faint blue star which Ryle and Bailey identify with the "pulsar" on a 48-inch Schmidt plate which he took on July 5-6, 1967. Comparing his red plate with the glass copy of the Palomar Sky Survey plate he finds that:

- (a) The brightness of the blue star has not changed by more than 0.5 mag during the last 17 years.
- (b) The proper motion of the object is smaller than or equal to 0.1 seconds of arc per year indicating that it is probably quite far away.

COMINGS AND GOINGS

Peter Hagen has returned from his observing visit to Kitt Peak, but with a somewhat disappointing amount of data because of poor weather on his nights. Peter reports enthusiastically, however, on the excellent facilities and the friendliness of the staff there. He was particularly impressed with the daily checks of all the telescopes by the maintenance staff and with the excellent instrument manuals provided to the visiting astronomers. At the end of his visit he watched the start of work on the dome of the 150-inch telescope. He reports that Bob and Lyn McClure are renting a house in Tucson just a block from the KPHQ and are very happy. Between observing sessions Peter and Gretchen visited Pasadena where they encountered David Hartwick in his new role of observing astronomer measuring globular cluster plates for colour-magnitude and also saw René and Claudine Racine who are well and happy. René took Peter to Palomar to see the telescopes there.

Dr. Anand is now in Charlottesville attending the International Symposium on Low-luminosity Stars March 27-30. Planning to go to the A.A.S. meetings in Charlottesville next week are: Dr. MacRae, Dr. Hogg, Dr. Heard, Dr. Schmitt and Gretchen Hagen.

Dr. van den Bergh will be in Berkeley April 1-10, giving a series of lectures on galaxies at the University. He expects to spend a day or two at Mount Wilson and Palomar before returning home.

David DuPuy has obtained observing time at Kitt Peak on the 36-inch and 84-inch telescopes to do UBV photometry and image-tube spectroscopy of Seyfert galaxies, commencing about mid-April for six weeks.

VISITOR

Thomas Lutz of the Department of Astronomy of the University of Illinois is with us today.

Resignation

It is with regret that we note that Pauline Gruenberg is leaving her position of assistant departmental secretary this week. We will miss her cheerful help.

Alumni

Serge Demers (Ph.D. 1966) is now at Cerro Tololo where he has been appointed "resident astronomer".

Dave Hartwick (Ph.D. 1966) has been appointed Assistant Professor at the University of Victoria.

Bill Sherwood (M.A. 1967) now at Edinburgh, is observing RU Cam, the "reluctant cepheid", and has enlisted the help of Dr. Fernie. The observed increase of amplitude noted last summer has not lived up to its promise.

MISCELLANEOUS AND PERSONAL

Did you count the total of the recent census of staff and students of the Department? With our spouses and descendants we now number 137. Isn't that Eddington's famous magic number?

Mrs. Hogg was elected to the Board of the Bell Telephone Co. in Montreal last week and is attending another meeting of the Board this week. She will go from there to Charlottesville to visit her son David and to attend the A.A.S. and then spend a week at her home in Dunstable, Mass.

Dr. MacRae addressed the Lions' Club of Unionville and Markham last Thursday, and recalled to them that Dr. Chant had been born in that area in 1865. He spoke to a senior citizen who had known the Chant family there.

Fred Hickey's parents, of Terrytown, N.Y., were in Toronto over the past week-end, partly on a business trip and partly to help Fred celebrate his birthday. They visited the Observatory on Sunday.

Dr. Heard has been re-elected Treasurer of the R.A.S.C. and to the Board of Trustees of York Central Hospital.

Dr. Fernie goes to Waterloo tomorrow to speak at a colloquium.

Dr. Robert Garrison will spend next week-end in Toronto and area house-hunting.

Does anyone know of a three-bedroom house, town-house or apartment for rent in Richmond Hill or Thornhill? If so phone Dr. Clement.

CLASSIFIED SECTION
(Rates on request)

M.Sc. thesis project looking for a student:

Investigation of the intrinsic frequency of supernovae by blinking the edges of the new glass copies of the Sky Survey plates. (Modifications of Blink to accommodate 14 x 14 in. plates will be completed before Apr. 15).

S.v.d.B.

S T O P P R E S S

Well-known Astronomer Cited for Fraud

Authorities have refused to divulge the name of a prominent astronomer who has been arrested for fraud for passing a counterfeit bill in payment of a classified advertisement in this paper. To warn our readers to be on the alert for other such bills we publish this facsimile of the counterfeit bill.

