



EDITORIAL

Carl Reinhardt

Staff and students are aware of the Carl Reinhardt Fund with which we have been able, three or four times, to send students abroad for observing sessions and other worthy purposes. However, perhaps few know much about the donor.

Carl Reinhardt was a native of Perth, Ontario who took a degree in Mining Engineering from McGill University in the early 1900's and spent most of his working life prospecting in and about the fabulous silver mining town of Cobalt, Ont. He had a very intense interest in astronomy and was an active member of the R.A.S.C. On one of his visits to the Observatory in about 1953 I made his acquaintance and had a certain amount of correspondence with him. When Bev. Oke, Gerry Longworth and I were going to Mattice, Ontario, to observe the eclipse in June of 1954, Mr. Reinhardt invited us to spend a day with him en route at Cobalt. He lived in the hotel there, and he reserved us some rooms for overnight. During the day he showed us around Cobalt, taking us into a number of mines and telling us prospector's yarns of the fabulous wealth that had been taken out of the ground in the form of ore which was nearly pure silver. We saw the famous La Rose "mine" (really just a narrow cut) from which David Dunlap had laid the foundation of his fortune. We learned too, that Mr. Reinhardt owned about one quarter of Cobalt and the mining rights of thousands of acres under the lake.

I was told by a university mining man that Carl Reinhardt was considered to be pretty much of a crank about mining. The "regular" mining people called his properties "moose pasture", and dismissed his theories about ore bodies as crackpot ideas. I must admit that I had similar views about his astronomical ideas, but I was unable to judge who was right about the geology.

Our acquaintance with Mr. Reinhardt grew and when, in 1960, the R.A.S.C. was raising funds to buy 252 College Street, he made a generous donation and lent us a sum of about \$20,000 on a mortgage. He then decided that he would rent one of the apartments at "252" and move to Toronto. He was a member of the R.A.S.C. Council and served as librarian. Everything was not smooth sailing, because he didn't get on well with everyone. He was irascible and stubborn, it is true, but he continued to be generous to the Society and to the Department. He

was writing a treatise on some of his ideas and he wanted me to get this published. I had to be frank with him about my opinion of his theories (one was that he could prove from proper motion data that Antares was the centre of the galaxy), and we had many quarrels. In spite of this, however, we remained good friends.

At this time he was in his eighties and suffering from a serious illness. He refused to have the surgery, which might have prolonged his life, because it would have left him relatively disabled. He was in and out of hospitals and suffered terribly until his death in January 1963.

In his will Mr. Reinhardt left the Society \$10,000 for the beginning of a planetarium fund, provided that the Society had initiated a planetarium project within ten years. This bequest has not been paid as yet, but the Society is still pressing its claim, hoping to use the funds for its workshop in the McLaughlin Planetarium, which, we maintain was a direct outgrowth of the Society's campaign to find another or other donors. Also, he established a sort of foundation based upon his mining properties, stipulating that the funds were to be shared by McGill, Queen's and Toronto for scholarships in mining engineering and (in the case of Toronto) astronomy. Substantial bequests were also made to relatives.

To make a long story short, a few years after Carl Reinhardt's death, his mining properties began to pay off - very handsomely if one can judge by our share. Also I understand that other of his "crackpot" ideas about geology have been independently put forward by others and are pretty well accepted.

I sometimes wonder if Antares could be the centre of the galaxy!

J. F. H.

#### OBSERVING

Gerry Longworth and Co. re-aluminized the 74-inch mirror on May 13-14. As predicted the telescope was "down" for only one night ----a cloudy one at that.

## STATUS REPORT ON "TORCH"

For several years now we have been making increasing use of various telescopes in Chile in our scientific programs. During the present academic year five staff members and students will have made six observing trips to Cerro Tololo. In 1969 a National Research Council Major Equipment Grant made it possible for us to undertake the installation of a Toronto telescope in Chile. Additional funds have been provided from the Chant Fund.

A 24-inch telescope was purchased from Ealing Scientific Limited, 719 Lajoie Avenue, Dorval 760, Quebec, in late December, 1969. It is a classical Cassegrain reflector. Its mounting is of the extended-axle German type with a tracking system capable of being computer controlled at a later date. A modern digital read-out control console is provided. Mechanically the instrument is massive and sturdy, capable of carrying a very heavy load of auxiliary instruments. Plenty of freeway is provided at the focus behind the mirror for mounting and operating these pieces of equipment in all positions.

The optics are to be ready for inspection in Cambridge, Mass., by July 1, 1970. The complete telescope, ready for installation at a latitude of  $30^{\circ}$  south, is to be ready for shipment by August 1, 1970.

A 22-foot diameter steel dome has been ordered from Astro-Tec Mfg., Inc., North Canton, Ohio. Shutters are hand-operated but a motor-operated wind screen is provided in the dome aperture. Rotation takes place on rubber-tired wheels. The dome is designed to be stable in winds to 45 m.p.h. with shutters open, and to 100 m.p.h. when they are closed. The dome will be ready for inspection in the week of July 13, 1970 and will be shipped to Chile immediately thereafter.

A simple cylindrical concrete structure is being designed, the track on which the dome rotates being the level top edge of the cylinder. There will be a wide door but no windows. A small darkroom will be provided, but there will be no heat source in the dome. The floor of the dome will rest directly on the rock foundation. The concrete pier will be isolated from the dome floor and will extend to an adequate depth. The centre of rotation of the telescope will be 12 inches above the dome's bottom edge so that the whole hemisphere of the sky will be accessible to observation. Architect's plans for this structure are now being drawn up in Toronto.

The University was invited to consider installing its telescope on the site being developed by the Carnegie Institution of Washington on top of Cerro Las Campanas (latitude  $29^{\circ}0.2$  south, longitude  $70^{\circ}42.5$  west). This is some 100 km north of the city of La Serena and the port of Coquimbo. The Carnegie Institution is currently preparing to install a 40-inch telescope on Las Campanas during the coming summer.

We have great hopes that this telescope will be operational before the end of the year. The clear and steady sky over Las Campanas will mean that our rate of acquisition of observational material will be very substantially increased. It is also planned, of course, to make this facility available to qualified astronomers at other institutions.

May 1970

Donald A. MacRae

#### COMINGS AND GOINGS

Dr. and Mrs. Heard and Dr. and Mrs. Percy and Carol attended the R.A.S.C. General Assembly in Edmonton May 15-18, where Dr. Heard gave the Ruth Northcott Memorial Lecture on "Stellar Radial Velocities and Spectroscopic Binaries". The Heards will visit their daughter in Powell River B.C. and then spend a few days in Victoria and attend the Royal Society of Canada meeting in Winnipeg May 31 - June 2. The Percys will spend a week holidaying in the Rockies.

#### SEMINARS

MAY seminars were as announced except that there were two additional ones. On May 19th, Dr. van den Bergh spoke on "Optical Observation of the Radio Source Cassiopeia A" and on May 20 Prof. Robert V. Wagoner from Cornell University spoke on "The Source of the Far-Infrared Background Radiation".

#### PAPERS SUBMITTED IN MAY

J.D. Fernie, G. Hagen,  
P. Hagen and L. McClure

The Colour Index of the Sun from the Mg b Triplet.

J.R. Percy

A Photometric Study of Some Early B Stars whose Spectral Lines Vary in Sharpness.

P.P. Kronberg

New Radio Telescopes in Europe.

R. C. Rodder and  
P.P. Kronberg

Canadian Astronomy: A Manpower Problem.

#### TALKS

On March 25, Dr. Kronberg spoke to the Buffalo, N.Y. Chapter of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Section on Antennas and Propagation on "Recent Advances in Radio Astronomy".



Dr. Garrison lectured at Vanderbilt University on May 7-8th. The titles were: "Stellar Associations", "Spectra of Mira Variables" and "Characteristics of the Bp Stars".

Dr. van den Bergh gave talks on "Optical Observations of Cas A" and "The Extra-Galactic Distance Scales" to Columbia University on May 25 and 26, and to the University of Wisconsin on May 27 and 28.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

Mrs. Dave Blyth was bereaved in the death of her mother in Scotland on May 8.

Serge Demers was at the Observatory on May 4.

#### Appointments

Mark McCutcheon commenced work as summer research assistant to Dr. Heard on May 7.

Roslyn Shemilt returned as summer assistant on May 11.