



EDITORIAL

The Helm Family

Dr. MacRae recently wrote to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph S. Greer of Vancouver about the rôle played by the bequest of Mrs. Greer's late father, Walter J. Helm in our Chile telescope venture. In a very cordial reply Mr. Greer said, in part:

*"We thought perhaps you might be interested in having the enclosed snapshot of Mary's father, Walter Helm, taken by coincidence in Chile almost fifty years ago during the course of a South American tour. My late father-in-law was indeed a far-sighted man but I am quite sure that when the picture was taken the thought never crossed his mind that nearly a half-century later his estate would be participating in the cost of erecting a telescope on a site no doubt within a comparatively few miles of where he was standing on that long-ago occasion. If he could have looked into the future, however, I am quite certain that nothing would have pleased him more than to know that some day his name would be linked with such a worthwhile project"*

Walter J. Helm had been vice-president and general manager of the Midland Loan and Savings Co. which in 1948 was merged with the Canada Permanent Mortgage Corp. From then until his death in 1959 he served on the Board of Directors of Canada Permanent, making his home in Port Hope, Ont. Although he was a member of the Toronto Centre of the R.A.S.C. he was not known personally to any of us at the Observatory. So, when his will was probated in 1960, it came as a great surprise to us to be informed by his executors that he had included substantial bequests to the David Dunlap Observatory. These bequests were not immediate, inasmuch as Mr. Helm had left the bulk of his estate in trust, life interests of four portions being bequeathed to his children, Mr. John F. Helm of Port Hope, Mrs. Joseph S. Greer of Vancouver, and several grandchildren, including Anne Helm (an actress who has been starred in a number of Hollywood films).

When John Helm died in 1961, his portion was distributed in the form of two trusts, one of \$100,000 to be held by Canada Permanent for the provision of scholarships in astronomy at the U. of T., the other (about \$140,000) to be held by the Royal Astronomical Society

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of Canada for the general support of the David Dunlap Observatory. It interested us to hear, from one of Mr. Helm's business associates, the reason why he did not make the gifts outright to the University. Apparently he had always had a great mistrust of governments, and preferred to have his trust funds administered by groups of individuals such as the Officers of Canada Permanent and the R.A.S.C. rather than by a Provincial University. The R.A.S.C. - held fund is administered by the Society's Trustees who are Mr. C.G. Clark (R.A.S.C. Treasurer), Miss Donna Haley, O.C. and Dr. Heard. The funds are now invested approximately 50% in government bonds, 50% in high grade equities. The observatory uses the income to support its publications, its participation in activities which necessitate travel and for research equipment.

Though the R.A.S.C. has not benefited by Mr. Helm's bequests the Society attempted to express the astronomical community's appreciation to the Helm family by commissioning the portrait of Walter Helm which now hangs in our library. On our part, we have continued to see Mr. and Mrs. Greer from time to time and to keep them informed of the work of the Observatory. In return we have enjoyed always a warm and friendly response on the part of these members of our generous benefactor's family.

J.F.H.

#### COMINGS AND GOINGS

Dr. Kronberg had two observing sessions in February with the three-element synthesis telescope at Green Bank; from Jan. 28 to Feb. 2 and from Feb. 14 to 19. The observations will provide 3.7 - cm. maps of radio sources (mostly quasars) with 1"8 resolution in all Stokes parameters. The weather (important to the success of these observations) was good during both weeks.

Dennis Marks during the early part of March gave colloquia at Dyer Observatory, Valdosta State College (Georgia) and Rensselaer Polytech on the subject of *Dynamics of Rotating Stars*. He also visited Wellesley College.

Dr. Heard will leave tomorrow for England (a few days) and France (a few weeks) to consult and observe regarding radial-velocity programs.

#### SEMINARS

March seminars were as announced except that:

Dr. Barrett was unable to come on March 4 because of a snow storm in New England.

Dr. Sargent had to return to California because of the sudden illness of Mrs. Sargent, so that his talks scheduled for March 10 and 11 were cancelled.

Dr. Narlikar's title was "Mach Principle in Physics and Astronomy".

Dr. MacRae spoke on March 16th on "Observations on Las Campanas".

Nancy Evans is the speaker on March 23. She will review Sandage's studies of globular clusters.

#### APRIL

Thurs. 1st  
McLennan  
Rm. 102, 4:10p.m.

Prof. D.H. Douglass, University of Rochester,  
"Gravitational Waves and Attempts to Detect them".  
(joint with Physics)

Thurs. 8th  
McLennan  
Rm. 102, 4:10p.m.

Prof. A.H. Barrett, M.I.T.,  
"Detection of Interstellar Molecules".  
(joint with Physics)

Tues. 13th  
D.D.O. 4 p.m.

Dr. W.A. Hiltner, University of Michigan,  
Title to be announced.

Tues. 20th  
D.D.O. 4 p.m.

Dr. Seaquist, "Polarization Studies of PLS 1127-14".

Tues. 27th  
D.D.O. 4 p.m.

Prof. S. Goldstein, N.R.C.,  
"The Weakest Known Radio Source".

april 12  
PAPERS SUBMITTED IN MARCH

C.T. Bolton

"Spectral Synthesis Investigations of Low-Dispersion Luminosity Criteria in A- and F-type Stars".

H. Abt, C.T. Bolton  
and S.G. Levy

"IC 4665, A Cluster of Binaries".

J. Winzer and  
J.A. Roberts

"A Radio Photograph of the Cygnus-X Region".

S. van den Bergh

"Are the Maffei Galaxies Members of the Local Group?"

"The Expansion of the Optical Remnant of B Cassiopeiae = 3C10".

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Prof. J.E. Kennedy of the U. of Sask. has written to express his pleasure at Dr. MacRae's communications with the families of our benefactors regarding the Chile venture. (Prof. Kennedy was Secretary of the R.A.S.C. during the time of the establishment of the Helm Trust Fund and the commissioning of the Walter Helm portrait and has since enjoyed a warm friendship with Mr. and Mrs. Greer.)

Former student David Ellis, now in a Ph.D. program at U. of Va. has written to ask for a "subscription" of the Doings for his fellow student Don J. Pearson who has acquired an "unexplainable (radiative transfer?) interest in U. of T.". Dave will be in Toronto April 3-13 and hopes to see us.

BORN

To Dr. and Mrs. E.R. Seaquist on Feb. 27 at the Women's College Hospital, a daughter, Suzanne.

Ph.D. ORAL

On Mar. 12 Mark Naylor successfully defended his thesis "*The Equilibrium Structure of Close Binary Stars*". His degree will be granted at the Spring Convocation. Mark is now at the University of Guelph.

16-INCH PLATE FILE

At a staff meeting on March 16 Dr. Hogg raised the question as to whether we should not regularize the filing of the plates taken with the 16-inch on the campus - mostly by students who now tend to keep them. "Goodness knows", she said, "when something interesting might come up which would call for a careful examination of a field photographed with the 16-inch."

Two days later the IAU Bulletin on Variable Stars, no. 517 arrived, referring to a questionable nova in the Andromeda Nebula noted only on a Konkoly plate of Aug. 19/20 1969, and appealing to observing astronomers to search any plates taken near this time. Our 16-inch observing book records a plate taken on Aug. 20/69 by John Kormendy! Needless to say, we are asking him to return it.

A plate file of 16-inch plates is now being started. Christine Coutts is in charge and will appreciate receiving any plates which students have taken and still have in their possession.

## Une Visite à l'Observatoire

Une visite de la classe de conversation française intermédiaire du lycée de Markham a eu lieu le 12e Mars. Après avoir vu la planète Saturn et le grand télescope, les invités sont allés chez les Heard pour un repas français de fromage et de vin.

### TALK

Dr. Garrison attended the Aerospace Electronics Symposium which was sponsored by the Canadian Aeronautics and Space Institute in collaboration with the NRC Associate Committee on Avionics and the Canadian Resource Satellite and Remote Airborne Sensing Program Planning Office, Sensor and Instrumentation Working Group which was held in Toronto on 15-16 March 1971. He gave a paper entitled "The Use of Image Intensifiers in Astronomy and the Application of Similar Techniques to Other Remote Sensing Problems".

### THE HSH SHOW

Dr. Hogg's astronomy series for ETV on Channel 19 will be transmitted as follows:

Wed. May 5 at 8 p.m. and each Wed. thereafter until June 23; repeated each Friday at 3:30 p.m. commencing May 7.

### CRUCIBLE ARTICLE

An excellent illustrated article by Dr. Hogg on "Lunar Craters Named for Canadians" has appeared in the Feb./71 issue of The Crucible, the journal of the Science Teachers' Association of Ontario.

A copy is in the DDO library.

### SCHOOL LIAISON

John Percy spoke at Harbord Collegiate on Feb. 3 on "Careers in Astronomy", and at Appleby College, Oakville, on Feb. 19, on "Recent Developments in Astronomy". He also attended a meeting of the science co-ordinators of the Department of Education on Mar. 9, to discuss astronomy in the elementary and secondary schools.

John Percy and René Racine gave public lectures at Erindale College, on Feb. 11 on "The Primeval Fireball?" and on Feb. 25 on "The Chemical Evolution of the Universe", respectively.

APRIL "DOINGS"

Dr. Percy has kindly consented to edit volume 4, no. 4 and it is requested that copy for that number be addressed to him, if possible by April 21 .