



EDITORIAL

Two More Spectroscopists

Writing last month about some colourful spectroscopists of the '30's, I didn't mention the then very well known Jackson brothers of England.

Vivian and Derek Jackson were identical twins - you had to know them quite well to tell them apart. Their father and their uncle, Lord Reading, had founded the famous (or infamous) British weekly scandal sheet, *The News of the World*. On the death of Jackson Sr., when the boys were quite young, his share of the very profitable venture passed to the twins who became the wards of Lord Reading. When the boys reached their majority they enjoyed a fabulous income - and enjoyed is the right word! They had palatial country houses, cars, chauffeurs, race horses and all the trappings of the English wealthy class. Both were married - Derek to a daughter of Augustus John, the portrait painter.

Both the brothers had become fascinated with spectroscopy while at University. Neither took a Ph.D. and neither sought a job of any kind, but each one sought out an academic haven (Vivian with Alfred Fowler at Imperial College in London, Derek in the Cavendish Lab. at Cambridge), and each invested thousands of pounds in his own spectroscopic equipment. Vivian specialized in the precise measurement of wavelengths using Fabry-Perot etalons, and Derek in hyperfine structure using echelon gratings. Between horse races (Derek once rode his horse "Spectrograph" in the National Steeplechase and was nearly killed), Alpine climbing, Adriatic cruising and the like, both of them worked very hard and produced a good many excellent research papers for *Phys. Rev.* and *Proc. Roy. Soc.*

I knew Vivian best. At first acquaintance he seemed thoroughly unpleasant, with all the arrogance and rudeness that one sometimes associates with wealthy young Englishmen. Depending upon how new people reacted to his eccentricities he either accepted or rejected them. He accepted three of us graduate students and rejected the rest, along with G.P. Thompson, the then new Director of I.C. Once when "G.P." had

invited the graduate students to tea in his office to meet Lord Rayleigh, Jackson held forth at length upon the inferiority of the English north of the Tyne ("G.P." had come from Newcastle) and then jumped to his feet and said, "Sorry I can't stay and chat, Lord Rayleigh, I have some phone calls to make".

Jackson's sour-faced old chauffeur, "Ruff", drove him in from the country each morning and usually was dismissed for the day. We students ate lunch at a dirty little "Lyons", and on rainy days Ruff would drive us the few blocks and solemnly wait at the curb in the enormous black Bentley while Jackson would raise all kinds of hell with the cashier if he thought he had been overcharged a penny. But about once a year, on a whim, he would order Ruff to take us to his club where he would spend about ten pounds on lunch for the four of us, and we would meet some of his non-scientific friends, such as the character-actress Hermione Baddeley (who was a little tight and kissed us all and said we were "lambs") and a wastrel grandson of Matthew Arnold (who "borrowed" five pounds which Jackson admitted he would never get back, "but he's got nothing and he's a nice fellow and I won't miss it").

In 1933 Hitler was in his ascendancy, and Sir Oswald Mosley with his British Fascist Party was trying to emulate him. For some reason (I suspected just for the effect) Jackson became one of Mosley's followers and on one occasion was arrested at a particularly rowdy meeting and spent the night in jail. Appearing before a magistrate the next morning, he complained loudly and bitterly that the policeman who arrested him "didn't even call me 'Sir'."

Vivian Jackson was killed in 1935 in a sleighing accident in the Alps, and his companion and "fiancée", the notorious, much-married American actress Peggy Hopkins Joyce, was crippled for life. Derek Jackson moved to Dublin to avoid the heavy British income tax. Now I believe he lives in Paris. He continues to work in spectroscopic research.

One conversation sticks in my mind by way of explanation of this curious pair. Vivian Jackson in a rare moment of seeming-sincerity said to me, "Perhaps you wonder why I stay in this dull research field. Well, wavelength metrology, important though it is, is not a field which will profit a student in search of a job - and I'm not really very proud of the source of my income, and, well, I think I owe the world something".

J.F.H.

OBSERVING

Las Campanas

On July 28th Dr. Racine and Gerry Longworth, with a large crate of telescope accessories and other equipment and supplies flew to La Serena and bussed to Las Campanas to install and adjust the 24-inch

telescope. With a crane and operator and a few key words of Spanish they got the telescope mounted in the dome, were able to correct a good many "bugs", but bogged down on a fault of some kind in the electronics which prevented them from completing the adjustment. Gerry returned on August 24, leaving Dr. Racine and Bill Harris awaiting the arrival of a technician from Ealing's. Dr. Racine is expected back this week while Bill will remain for an observing session.

74-inch

The 74-inch has seen much profitable use this summer with lots of clear nights. Mark McCutcheon has measured a number of the new 43 A/mm spectrograms of standard-velocity stars and has produced tables of standard settings for late-type stars which give good velocity measures. His program for computing settings for other wavelengths is available. Gretchen Hagen reports very satisfactory speed of the new dispersion for her faint cluster members.

COMINGS AND GOINGS

Dr. George Mitchell of St. Mary's University was here for two weeks continuing his study of galaxy classification. Dr. Doug Hube of U. of Alta. returned to Edmonton late in July. Dr. Fred West of State University College of Buffalo was here in August for a second short observing session.

Dr. Anand is in Mexico for a short holiday and a research session at the Observatorio Astronomico National in Mexico City; Drs. Fernie and Percy have attended the Variable Star Conference in Bamberg, Germany; Dr. Kronberg is in Charlottesville, Va.; and Dr. Seaquist and Carl Bignell were observing at A.R.O. Aug. 26-29.

Dr. van den Bergh had an observing run at Palomar Aug. 23-31, will be here Sept. 1,2, then will spend a week in Spain, and at Tenerife and three days in Holland, returning again on Sept. 15.

Dr. Dennis Marks and wife Patty have left for Valdosta State College, Valdosta, Georgia, where both have teaching appointments for the coming session. On July 6, Dr. Marks gave a colloquium at U.W.O. on "Differential Rotation of Upper Main Sequence Stars".

Dr. Henry King left in mid-August to attend the 13th Annual Congress for the History of Science in Moscow. Also visiting Leningrad he will try to interest Soviet Planetarium Directors in attending the International Planetarium Conference which is scheduled for next summer in Toronto, Chicago and Rochester.

Alice Kato returned from her holiday in Poland, reporting that the summer there was extremely hot. Because of the heat and the August holiday crowds she didn't attempt the long train journey from Warsaw to Torun.

SEMINARS

None in August, none firmly scheduled as yet for September.

PAPERS SUBMITTED FOR PUBLICATION

- W. Gorza The Spectroscopic Orbits of the Binary Systems HD 91948
 and HD 176318
- M. Clement Meridian Circulation with Rapid Differential Rotation in
 Radiative Stellar Envelopes.
- J.D. Fernie Photometric Data for 139 Supergiants.

Born

To Mark and Lydia McCutcheon at the Wellesley Hospital, on
Friday, August 13th, a daughter, Larissa April.

Departure

Kathie Graham left the secretarial staff on August 13th. Mrs.
Turner will assume full-time duties in mid-September.

Appointment

Dr. Kronberg has been elected to the General Policy Committee
of Scarborough College for 1971-72.

C.A.S. Visitors

Drs. Alan Batten of D.A.O., Bill Shuter of U.B.C., and
Gilles Beaudet of U. of M. visited the Campus on August 26th
to discuss with Dr. Hogg and Dr. MacRae plans for the October
15-16 meeting of C.A.S. in Toronto. Dr. Hogg reports 130
applications for C.A.S. membership.