



EDITORIAL

St. John's and the Newfies

Several of us, along with a hundred-odd other "westerners", visited Newfoundland for the first time when the Royal Society of Canada met at Memorial University in St. John's early this month. It was a delightful experience, and most of us, I am sure, hope to see more of Canada's most easterly province another time. (There will be an opportunity in 1974 when the C.A.S. is invited to meet there jointly with the C.A.P.; but if you are thinking of driving, be warned that after driving to North Sydney, N.S., there is a day-long ferry trip to Port-aux-Basques and then a 500-mile drive to St. John's.)

Memorial is a fine University sprawling across a ridge to the north and overlooking the city and the harbour. It dates as a war-memorial college from 1925, as a university from 1949, and at its present site from 1959. We met a number of the teaching staff in Physics, many of whom are old students of Prof. Harry Welsh here. They seem to be an eager and competent group, now just beginning to be engaged in graduate training.

We learned how to pronounce Newfoundland -- the first two syllables slurred together as Newf'n and the last syllable heavily accented with a sort of Irish "e" sound. We also learned that one needn't fear offending the Newf'ndlanders by reference to screech and Newfie jokes; a legal version of screech is sold in the bars, and no one can tell a Newfie joke as a Newfie can. In fact Val, the charmingly ingenuous girl who acted as guide for our sight-seeing bus trip, was a sort of Newfie prototype who explained why she kept such careful count of how many got back in the bus after each stop by saying, "On one tour when we started out the passengers were nearly all women and when we got back they were nearly all men".

We admired the Newfoundlanders' gaiety and hospitality all the more after hearing a symposium on the plight of the fishing industry and the state of the Newfoundland economy. We were told that while the decline of fishing is attributable largely to the big off-shore European factory boats, there are probably irreversible natural causes

as well. Having little else by way of resources (poor land, small trees, worked-out mines) Newfoundland has anything but a bright future, and a recent economic study has indicated that the province cannot support more than 300,000 of its present 500,000 inhabitants. The only solution seen by one speaker was transfer of the other 200,000 to the more richly endowed provinces. But, loving his rugged shores as he does, the Newfoundlander is not at all willing to leave.

J. F. H.

### COMINGS AND GOINGS

By way of a more complete record of our participation in last month's C.A.S. meeting in Montreal - Dr. Hogg gave the first retiring presidential address on "Variable Stars in Globular Clusters"; Dr. Racine was elected 2nd Vice President and Gretchen Hagen to the Council; D.D.O. papers were presented by Drs. Garrison, Bolton, Kronberg and Claude Faubert.

Drs. Fernie, Heard and Hogg attended the meeting of the Royal Society of Canada in St. John's June 4-7. Dr. Fernie gave a paper on "The Historical Development of Ideas on the Nature of Spiral Nebulae", Dr. Heard presided at meetings of the Interdisciplinary Subject Division and Dr. Hogg spoke to the St. John's Centre of the R.A.S.C. on June 3 on "Some Aspects of Canadian Astronomy".

Rick Salmon has returned on leave from a long session as observing assistant at Las Campanas. Dr. Racine is there now, working with Ealing engineers on a tuning-up of the telescope and installing his photometer. Bill Harris and he will return soon and Dr. Christine Coutts will begin a photographic run early in July. En route Dr. Coutts will attend a Dominion Day Reception at the Canadian Embassy in Santiago.

Dr. Kronberg returned June 4 after spending nine days at Jodrell Bank as visiting scientist, two days at the Max-Planck-Institut at Bonn and three days at Leiden Observatory. Dr. Kronberg learned that the 100-metre radio telescope at Bonn has just begun normal observation after the clearing up of drive problems which caused a one-year delay.

Dr. van den Bergh was at Kitt Peak Observatory June 14-21 and at the Hale Observatories June 21-24. He is attending the A.S.P. meeting at Santa Cruz June 25-29.

Dr. Roeder and family are expected to return to Toronto from sabbatical leave early in July.

## SEMINARS

### JUNE

The sixth June Institute of June 13-16 was very successful -- in some opinions the best yet. Dr. Herbig's emphasis on observations set a down-to-earth tone and Dr. Rees' presentations of more theoretical topics were models of clarity and elegance. Drs. Tucker and Gursky brought us up to date on X-ray astronomy and for the first time two of our own people participated formally -- Drs. van den Bergh and Bolton. Participants numbered about 100 as usual. Credit and thanks are owing to Drs. Anand and Clement and, as always to Mrs. Kato and the other secretaries. Special thanks are due also to Mr. A. G. Rankin, Executive Vice-President of the University, who welcomed the delegates with some very pertinent and thought-provoking remarks on the position of science training in Canadian Universities.

### JULY

No seminars are scheduled.

### PAPERS SUBMITTED IN JUNE

Nolan Walborn, "A Nitrogen B-supergiant in a Peculiar Eclipsing System".

-----  
"Some Characteristics of the Eta Carinae Complex".

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

*Dr. M. M. Thomson and Dr. P. M. Millman have written about the phony Julian date affair of which both had already been aware. Dr. Millman seems to have tracked down the source of the error and is taking steps to correct it for future issues of the widely-distributed calendar pad.*

### MISCELLANEOUS

#### Anniversary

The Observatory and Department staff ladies marked the occasion of Joan Topley's tenth anniversary as Observatory Secretary at a bang-up dinner for her at La Chaumiere restaurant on May 31.

D.D.D. takes this occasion to congratulate Mrs. Topley on her near-record length of service as Observatory Secretary, to thank her for these ten years and to wish for many more.

For the record, Mrs. Topley's predecessors in office were Edna Fuller (1935-46), Carson Whelan (1946-48) Barry Gunn (1949-51), Barbara Creeper, now Mrs. Vic Gaizauskas (1951-54), Cecily Mader (1954-56), Margaret Lamb (1956-58) Nancy McKenzie (1958-62).

Spectroscopic Lunch

Dr. Garrison has instituted a weekly lunch-time session for those interested in spectroscopy on Tuesdays from 12-1, the first one having taken place on June 20. So, for those so inclined, make a B-line to the Observatory lecture room and bring your own carbohydrates to keep up your energy level.

Summer Help

Working at the Observatory and in the Department this summer are:

- John Archer, in the Observatory Library and helping Dr. Seaquist,
- Rita Heeringa, helping Dr. van den Bergh,
- Art Skill, helping Dr. van den Bergh,
- Chris Smith, helping Dr. Hogg and checking Observer's Handbook data,
- Gary Wicks, helping Dr. Bolton.

In addition, new graduate students already at work: Mark McCutcheon, Lars Rogers.

SIXTY-FIVE STARS

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| J | O | H | N | F | R | E | D | E | R | I | C | K |   |
| * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | H |
| * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | E |
| * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | A |
| * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | R |
| * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | D |

THE PRODUCTION STAFF OF D D D JOIN WITH EVERYONE AT THE OBSERVATORY AND ON OUR MAILING LIST IN CONGRATULATING AND EXTENDING BEST WISHES TO THE EDITOR ON HIS BIRTHDAY, JUNE 18, 1972.