



# DAVID DUNLAP DOINGS

VOL. 6, NO. 6

JUNE 26, 1973

MENU OF THE CLOSING DINNER

雞茸火腿冬瓜粒湯

梅子鴨

豉油浸雞

牛扒鑊豆鮮菇

豉汁炒蝦

炒丁

禾炒粒

金蘭云吞

揚州炒飯

EDITORIAL

*Recollections of May 31, 1935*

---

On June 16 several of us heard host Mike Filey of CBL's "Our Town" talking to Wyn Baren who had done the radio coverage of the opening of the David Dunlap Observatory on Dr. Chant's 70th birthday in 1935. He described the gala occasion graced by the presence of Prime Minister Mackenzie King, Lieutenant-Governor Dr. Herbert Bruce and such world-famous astronomers as Harlow Shapley, Sir Frank Dyson, V. M. Slipher and W. E. Harper. At a special convocation that evening honorary degrees were conferred upon Mrs. Dunlap, Sir Frank Dyson, Prof. Chant, Dr. Shapley, Dr. Slipher and Mr. Harper.

Among the important participants in the occasions, I believe only Dr. R. K. Young survives. He was the incumbent Director, taking over from Dr. Chant on his retirement that day, and it was he who presented Dr. Slipher for the degree of D. Sc. But a few others of us also remember the events. Helen Hogg was there with her husband Frank (who demonstrated the 74-inch), I had come on staff earlier in that month while the telescope and spectrograph were being assembled and tested, and Don MacRae was an undergraduate who attended the opening.

There is a full account of the opening and the convocation "by F.S.H. and H.S.H." in the *R.A.S.C. Journal*, vol. 29, p. 265, but I remember also a few amusing incidents. During Dr. Shapley's fine address he was standing in a rather gusty cross-wind which kept lifting his for-those-days rather long hair and tossing it in his eyes to his obvious distress. Then, when it came time for Mrs. Dunlap to open the front door with the engraved gold key, there was a minor crisis because the key didn't work! Finally someone had to be sent in by the back way to open the door. Later in the afternoon Dr. Chant took the Prime Minister (who had been a student in M & P during Chant's early years at U. of T.) to see Observatory House, where the P.M. asked for a drink - of water, that is! In his memoirs Dr. Chant recorded with great satisfaction that "Mr. King pronounced the water excellent".

We have a 16-mm. film of the historic event which I suspect we haven't looked at since the 25th Anniversary in 1960. Perhaps we should look at it again.

J. F. H.

OBSERVING

At Las Campanas

Dr. Garrison, who returned to Toronto for the week of the June Institute in order to help several of his graduate students over critical phases of their theses, reports that all is going well in Chile, and that the observing is particularly exciting. He has been able to reach 16.5 mag. stars (112 Å/mm, 0.6 mm wide, 60 inch telescope and his image tube spectrograph) in 3 hours. Walborn's idea of adapting Racine's image tube eyepiece to the spectrograph has made a great deal of difference in the visibility of faint stars on the slit.

COMINGS AND GOINGS

Dr. Martin visited McDonald Observatory for the period 9-14 May to continue measurements of the polarization of diffuse interstellar features with Rojer Angel. He spent the last three weeks of June at the Aspen Centre for Physics participating in the Workshop on Interstellar Physics. During the first three weeks of July he will be attending the Nato Advanced Study Institute on Physics and Astrophysics of Compact Objects in Cambridge, England, and following this will visit the University of Sussex for three weeks.

Dr. Hogg attended the Annual Meeting of the AAVSO at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, May 18-20 and visited the Fan Mountain Observatory there. She was also able to visit her son Dr. David Hogg and his wife Carol.

Dr. Fernie attended the annual General Assembly of the R.A.S.C. in Ottawa May 25-27. He reports a very successful meeting with 240 registered participants and all Centres represented.

Dr. van den Bergh spent May 29-31 visiting Tel-Aviv University at Ramat-Aviv, Israel and had five photometric nights on the 40-inch telescope of the Wise Observatory at Negrev. On June 11 he gave a talk on "Differences between Galaxies" at the Italian Institute for Space Research in Frascati.

Drs. Fernie, Heard, Hogg and MacRae attended the annual meeting of the Royal Society of Canada at Queen's University June 3-6. Dr. Fernie chaired the symposium on "Chemical Evolution in the Universe", Dr. Heard was elected Convener of the Inter-disciplinary Subject Division and Dr. van den Bergh was named the next R.S.C. representative for the IAU National Committee and/or the NRC Advisory Committee.

Serge Pineault and Kayll Lake have recently returned from the Erice Summer School in Sicily.

Dr. Roeder gave a talk entitled "A Proposal for Looking at Nearby Quasars in the Ultraviolet" at the Fourth Annual CRESS Symposium at York University on June 6. Also Dr. Sanyal was co-author (with Jeffers and Weller) of a paper on "Time Resolved Spectroscopy of the Wolf-Rayet Star Gamma 2 Velorum".

Dr. MacRae, as Chairman of its Board of Trustees, attended two meetings in connection with the Universities Space Research Association, one in New York on June 7 and the second in Chicago on June 11. USRA operates the Lunar Science Institute in Houston and the Institute for Computer Applications in Science and Engineering at Langley in Virginia.

Dr. MacRae addressed the Canadian Society for the Study of the History and Philosophy of Science at their annual meeting in Kingston, Ontario, on June 8 on the subject "Since Copernicus: Searching for Centres". This was part of a special symposium on Copernicus, 1473-1973.

Dr. Seaquist is observing between June 18 and July 1 with the Green Bank interferometer on a program to produce synthesis maps at 3.7 cm. and 11 cm. of about a dozen normal galaxies.

Dr. Racine attended meetings, in Montreal on June 18 and in Paris on June 20, of the Scientific Advisory Committee for the Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope Project. The other Canadian members of the committee are Crampton, Walker and Wehlau; the French are Chauvin, Georgelin, Labeyrie and Wlerick; the Hawaiians Cruikshank and Jefferies; and the project officers are Cayrel and Odgers.

## SEMINARS

### JUNE

Dr. J.F.C. Wardle of Brandeis University gave a talk on June 7 on "Structure of Quasars at Large Red Shifts".

### The June Institute

The Seventh Annual June Institute on the 12th to 15th was another standout in the series, both professionally and socially.

The lectures were excellent: Dr. Bok, on the galaxy, was the same spellbinder as of old; Dr. Verschuur, on the hydrogen clouds, presented many challenging ideas; Dr. Mihalas described

new theoretical interpretations of the details of early-type stellar spectra; Dr. Wilson gave a fascinating account of his long-continued studies of stellar chromospheres.

Socially, there was something every evening: the wine and cheese welcoming party of the graduate students in the Huron Street garden, the GASA party in the UC Common Room, the Observatory visit and the party given by Dr. and Mrs. MacRae at Observatory House and finally the dinner, this year at Sai Woo's in Chinatown. On the last afternoon Dave Hanes made presentations to the speakers on behalf of the graduate students: to Dr. Wilson a paper-back "According to Hoyle" to commemorate his unconscious pun and "How to Win at Billiards" to remind him of his mis-spent youth; to Dr. Mihalas a non-LTE whisk-broom and a piece of carpet to sweep things under; to Dr. Verschuur a whistle for refereeing his own papers and a spirograph for drawing his own spiral arms; to Dr. Bok a boomerang for demonstrating his model of the density-wave theory.

Attendance from other institutions was down some (to 44) owing, no doubt, to the tightening of travel money, but it covered a wide geographic range.

Dr. Racine, who was the principal organizer, was strong in his praise of the enthusiastic and untiring help of the graduate students and of the secretarial staff. To all of them we owe our gratitude for a profitable and enjoyable four days.

JULY

On the 17th at the Observatory at 4 p.m. Dr. Brent Tully will speak on "The Whirlpool Galaxy".

PAPERS SUBMITTED IN JUNE

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| <i>S. van den Bergh</i> | <i>The Brightest Red and Blue Stars in Galaxies</i>                     |
| <i>J. Winzer</i>        | <i>A Detailed Photometric Study of the Cepheid RT AUR</i>               |
| <i>P. G. Martin</i>     | <i>Stellar Polarization from a Medium with Changing Grain Alignment</i> |

P O T P O U R R I

Gretchen Hagen, convalescing from recent surgery, was able to attend some June Institute sessions and is back at work now.

Charles Dyer suffered painful burns to his hand and forearm in an accident at his father's farm on May 26th. His final Ph.D. oral had to be postponed for a few weeks on that account.

Dr. Kronberg was the Scarborough College nominee for the 1973 annual OCUFA award for distinguished contributions to undergraduate teaching. He will be on vacation June 25 to July 10.

Dr. MacRae has been appointed as one of four Canadians to the provisional interim Board for the Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope Project. The other Canadians: Dr. W. M. Armstrong, UBC; Dr. L. Kerwin, Laval; Dr. J. L. Locke, NRC.

Nicholas Kasimos from IV Year U. of T. has begun graduate work. Other new graduate students expected in the fall are Martine Simard from U. of M, Simon White from Cambridge, Jose Maza Sancho from U. of Chile and Shyam Jakate from U. of Osmania.

Dr. Helen Hogg is to be among the guests this evening at the Government of Ontario Banquet at the Royal York for Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip.

Alan Irwin's wife Barbara graduated as Bachelor of Library Science in one of the June convocations at U. of T.

According to the Toronto Star, Alumnus Dr. Dick Henry (M.A. 1962) will be a member of an NSF-sponsored expedition to Loiengalani 350 miles north of Nairobi to observe the June 30 solar eclipse. He will use an ultrasensitive television camera to record the shadow bands.

## FINAL ITEM

### *JFWH and the Great Moon Hoax. II*

Richard Locke's opening instalment on Sir John Herschel's supposed work with a fabulous telescope in South Africa evidently attracted a good many readers. *The Sun's* modest circulation of 8000 immediately rose to 12,000, and clearly there was keen anticipation of the revelations to come.

Sir John, it seemed, hesitated. "He was about to crown himself with a diadem of knowledge which would give him a conscious pre-eminence above every individual of his species... He paused ere he broke the seal of the casket which contained it." But courage and Dr. Grant prevailed, and at "about half-past nine o'clock on the night of [January 10th 1835]... the astronomer adjusted his instruments for inspection of [the Moon's] eastern limb. The whole immense power of his telescope was applied..." There was immediately revealed an area of beautiful, greenish brown basaltic rock "profusely covered with a dark red

flower, 'precisely similar,' says Dr. Grant, 'to the... rose-poppy of our sub-lunary cornfields.'" Soon they were "delighted to perceive that novelty, a lunar forest. 'The trees', says Dr. Grant, 'were ... unlike any I have seen, except the largest kind of yews in English churchyards.'"

But this was tame stuff, and soon it was on to examine the shores of Mare Nubium. Here they were met with "a beach of brilliant white sand, girt with wild castellated rocks, apparently of green marble ... feathered and festooned at the summit with the clustering foliage of unknown trees; ... we were speechless with admiration. The water, wherever we obtained a view of it, was nearly as blue as that of the deep ocean, and broke in large white billows upon the strand." Elsewhere there were "monstrous amethysts, of a diluted claret color... They varied in height from sixty to ninety feet", while awash among the waves of another sea was a three mile island of pure sapphire. Indeed, giant sapphires were "blazing in crowded battalions as it were, through a region of hundreds of miles." Not surprisingly, the observers before long came on cliffs where they "frequently saw long lines of some yellow metal hanging from the crevices ... in wild net-work, or straight pendant branches. We of course concluded that this was virgin gold..."

*The Sun's* readers were beside themselves in an ecstasy rivalling Sir David Brewster's. Circulation leapt to 19360 copies, making *The Sun* temporarily the world's largest newspaper, while crowds besieged the paper's offices, clamouring for copies as fast as the steam presses could provide them. While waiting, they were assured by a highly respectable-looking elderly gentleman among them that he had actually seen the telescope being shipped in England, and that the whole thing was undoubtedly true.

But the burning question in everyone's mind was What about animal life on the Moon? Sure enough, it wasn't long before "our magnifiers blest our panting hopes with specimens of conscious existence." There were herds of bison-like quadrupeds, providentially provided with a fleshy appendage over the eyes, lifted and lowered by means of the ears, "to protect the eyes of the animal from the extremes of light and darkness to which all the inhabitants of our side of the moon are periodically subjected." Naturally there were unicorns bounding around in the "acclivitous glades of the woods", and no end of water birds engaged in "pisciverous experiments". Occasionally even Locke's imagination got a little out of hand, as in the case of the bi-ped beaver, which "resembles the beaver of the earth in every other respect than ... its invariable habit of walking upon only two feet. It carries its young in its arms like a human being.... Its huts are constructed better and higher than those of many tribes of human savages, and from the appearance of smoke in nearly all of them, there is no doubt of its being acquainted with fire."

Dared one hope for human-like creatures better than beavers? Locke was not one to deny his readers. Bringing his series to a climax, he had the observers "thrilled with astonishment to perceive four successive flocks of winged creatures, wholly unlike any kind of birds, descend with a slow even motion from the cliffs ... and alight upon the plain.... Certainly they were like human beings, for their wings had now disappeared, and their ... walking was both erect and dignified."

The skin was rather dark, and regrettably the face only "a slight improvement upon that of the orang outang", although Lieut. Drummond, he of the Royal Engineers, was moved to remark that "they would look as well on a parade ground as some of the old cockney militia!" With a neat touch of racism, however, the observers later came on a clearly superior species of whiter complexion, "eminently happy, and even polite", sitting around eating fruit and involved in some arcane ritual of worship. When not so engaged, they were rather racily partaking in "amusements [that] would but ill comport with our terrestrial notions of decorum."

After the "Verspertilio-homo, or man-bat" episodes, it was clearly going to be difficult to keep things going. There was quite a bit about roaring volcanoes and things ("Aristarchus ... awfully rivalling our Mounts Etna and Vesuvius in the most terrible epochs of their reign", etc), but Locke was mainly reduced to falling back on sinister injunctions from Dr. Grant that certain "highly curious passages" were not to be published. Locke had the audacity to add "It is true, the omitted paragraphs contain facts which would be wholly incredible to readers ...."

Next time: reactions to the great Moon hoax.

J.D.F.