



NEWS

and VIEWS

Astronomy in Africa

In order to complete a search begun thirty years ago for planetary nebulae and emission B stars in our galaxy, Mt. Wilson Observatory is shipping its small ten-inch refractor telescope (actually a wide-angle camera) to the University of Michigan's Lamont-Hussey Observatory at Bloemfontein, South Africa. Since no more than three quarters of the Milky Way can be seen from Mt. Wilson, the camera is being sent to Africa to photograph the remaining quarter of the galaxy. The survey is expected to take approximately three years and will be made by a University of Michigan graduate student, Karl G. Henize, under the direction of Leo Goldberg, University of Michigan Observatory director.

During the Mt. Wilson survey, astronomers have increased the number of known emission B stars from about one hundred and thirty to more than a thousand, and of known planetary nebulae from about one hundred and thirty to about two hundred and sixty. Both types are rare and can be identified only by the hydrogen in their spectra. The planetary nebulae and emission B stars are of particular interest because they are far less stable than most stars.

Radio UNESCO

A weekly radio news program on developments in the fields of education, science, and culture has been made available to U. S. radio stations by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization. According to present plans, the scripts will contain about ten brief news items and one five or six minute discussion on a major development. Scripts are prepared by the Paris headquarters of UNESCO and transmitted to broadcasting networks and stations throughout the world through cooperating groups in member nations.

Shield

One and a half tons of the lead plates used over fifty years ago in printing the first issues of the *Physical Review*, then published at Cornell University, have been turned over to the University's Laboratory of Nuclear Studies where they will become part of the shielding for high-energy radiation equipment.

Going Well

Recent announcements state the new three hundred million electron volt synchrotron at Berkeley's University of California Radiation Laboratory and the two hundred and fifty million volt cyclotron at the University of Rochester are successfully operating.

Going Ahead

Carnegie Institute of Technology has announced that its four-million-dollar development program, held in abeyance since March 1947 because of high building costs, has been revised to achieve so far as possible the

general space increase originally planned. The program calls for adding a wing onto the Engineering Hall, constructing a power plant and a steam and electricity distribution system, and renovating present buildings in the Margaret Morrison Carnegie College and the colleges of Engineering and Science and of Fine Arts. The Institute has also received a \$35,000 grant from the Buhl Foundation to complete its \$110,000 library book fund drive.

Going Up

California Institute of Technology will increase tuition from \$500 to \$600 a year for all students next fall. This increase, which will bring in an estimated \$120,000 in additional funds (about one third of the estimated budget deficit for 1949-50) will be used, the Institute announced, to maintain faculty salaries, and reduce the estimated deficit. The money will also be used to increase the scholarship funds to help students unable to finance fully this increase.

Physics in Medicine

The American Board of Radiology is conducting, at the time and place of its regular or special meetings, examinations leading toward the granting of certificates as radiation physicists in radiological physics, x-ray and radium physics, or medical nuclear physics. Requests for full information may be addressed to the Secretary of the American Board of Radiology, B. R. Kirklin, M.D., Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota.

AEC News

An Industrial Advisory Group headed by James W. Parker, president of Detroit Edison Co., was appointed by the AEC in October 1947 to study ways to gain the support of private industry for atomic energy development. The committee's findings, reported fourteen months later, showed that industrialists feel not enough confidence has been placed in them. The only field so far open to them, the committee stated—developments associated with radioisotopes—is promising, but there should be many such opportunities. "Greatly expanded industrial participation is needed," the report states, "both for the purpose of giving the Commission maximum assistance in solving its problems in the interest of national security and for the purpose of assuring a rate of technological advance in atomic energy comparable to that which the country has enjoyed in other fields. . . . The essential precondition to increased industrial participation is knowledge of the subject so that industry may recognize opportunities to take part as they arise." To this end, the Committee recommended publication of nonsecret information, further declassification of information, a broad program for clearing technologists and executives in the interested industries, establishment of a general industrial advisory committee, and reorganization of AEC to improve its contract system and to place operations on a geographic basis.

In thanking the Committee for its report, AEC Chairman David E. Lilienthal pointed out two other fields of atomic energy opened to private industry in recent