

PRAIRIE ASTRONOMY CLUB

Lincoln, Nebraska

February 1963

Dick Hartley, Prog. Dir. -- Dr. John Howe, Treasurer -- Jess Williams, President

Our last meeting was held at the University of Nebraska Planetarium, Morrell Hall, 14th and U St. We had a very good turnout. Harlan Franey gave a talk on TIME IN ASTRONOMY, and Dick Hartley reviewed Mirror Grinding and displayed the tools used.

I think this place for holding our meetings is ideal, from several standpoints. Would be interested in your opinion.

We signed up two new members from Beatrice, Benjamin Rosenbluth and Kennedy Cooper. WELCOME and may our club be the means of bringing good understandable seeing and some of the WHYS to you as well as ourselves. (J.W.)

The highlights for the coming March 6th meeting and program will be a continuation of the discussion of grinding, polishing, and parabolizing a telescope mirror. Walter Erbach will talk on the art of parabolizing. This being the most difficult part of mirror making, those of you who are in the process of telescope making should find this lecture most interesting. Also, on the same program, Warner Klammer, our good member from Seward, Nebraska, will describe his new mirror grinding machine. At our last meeting, he gave us a hint as to his subject and all of us will be most intrigued to hear about his apparatus. Warner will also give us the dope on a new mirror testing instrument which has been mentioned in one of the last Sky and Tel issues. This is a hot wire tester which combines the accuracy of the Foucault test with the Ronchi test, all in one.

Jess Williams has just completed a new portable mount which has proven most successful. He has promised to bring this mount to our meeting. It is a combination Refractor and Photo Astrograph Mount. We will try and have a good movie, if possible.

Let's start this next meeting, a review of the Sun, Moon and all the Planets. Let's all be ready to take part. It's fun and you learn more by doing. (D.H.)

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO YOUR PRESIDENT, 1315 So. 40th Street. 488-2112.

Some deep thinking:

The Cosmos has many dimensions. The number may be infinite. Our physical senses, sight, hearing, touch, etc., are useless as instruments for the observations of other Dimensional Phenomena.

Science, religion and common experience are in complete agreement. Man is mortal. He dies at last (even a Newton) and all he has learned is no more than a pretty shell on the shore of Time, while the vast ocean of truth lies before him.

Modern science boasts of stars in man's service. So might a microscopic creature in the bloodstream of a doomed human boast of its dominance of our world, if we picture the creature as a bacterial organism infecting the human blood, boasting with greater justification and more hope of ultimate success.

Have we given enough thought that we in our plans to land on the moon or any other planet, might contaminate them or they contaminate us?

Just a few notes on the "PUP" SIRIUS Companion. It is only 1/360 the size of the Sun, three times the Earth's size. Its mass is 250,000 times that of the Earth or 9/10th that of the Sun. In other words, it weighs 53,000 times an equal volume of water. A cubic yard of the "Pup" would weigh 40,000 tons. Even with all this density this star glows. Here is a state of matter in which

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Be sure to read the complete story of this companion of SIRIUS, and how Einstein's Theory of Relativity was put to the test and verified. (J.W.)

Next Meeting	Where:	Planetarium - University of Nebraska 14th and U Sts. East Door, Museum Bldg.
	Date:	March 6
	Time:	7:30 P.M.